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Chairman:
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 10th October 2018 at 7.30pm at the Harrold Centre

Public forum (Parishioner names always withheld for Data Protection)

Parishioner who lives on the High Street was present to discuss the yellow lines/bus stop proposal on the High Street (agenda item 11). Proposal was to place yellow lines (with timings) to stop people parking opposite the school bus stops at school times and narrowing the High Street so much as to cause an obstruction. Parishioner is concerned that this will increase the pressure on parking, on an already limited amount of space. Since the original proposal last year the bus situation has changed, so the parishioner would therefore like us to take into account that no buses are currently using this stop for school dropoff on a daily basis. She feels, therefore, that no lines are needed and the bus stops are now redundant. The headteacher for Harrold Primary Academy was present to confirm the situation with buses and allow a decision to be made (See item 11).

1. **Present:** R Tickle (Chair), B Muller, G Lloyd, R Brough (Clerk), A Foster (Bedford Borough Council), P Pedersen, D Mercer, R Barrett, D Brough (Vice Chair), J Peverell, L Duggan
Apologies: S Reger
2. **Disclosure of Interest** – Cllr Muller disclosed an interest that he had written one of the submissions to the Borough's consultation on agenda item 11.
3. **Approval of Minutes** from the Parish Council meeting held 12th September 2018
Council approved the minutes unanimously and the Chairman signed them.
4. **Matters arising from meeting held 12th September 2018:**
Clerk reported on the latest Action List. The quote for the Lych Gate repair should arrive shortly, with works to start in the new year. The lifebag for the Lower Green has been ordered and BBC Highways should be collecting it from the fire service and installing it over the next few months. The four broken wooden posts on the Green are to be replaced shortly.
5. **Finance Report:**
 - a. Approval for requests for monthly payments
The following monthly payments were approved:

Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Method	Payments			Receipts
				Gross	VAT	Net	Gross
11 September 2018	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		DD	29.47	0.00	29.47	
17 September 2018	Other: External Audit	Mazars - Audit for 2017/18	Int Trf	768.00	128.00	640.00	
13 September 2018	Precept Income	2nd installment	Int Trf				36,322.50
20 September 2018	Clerk Salary: R Brough Tax NI		SO	70.22	0.00	70.22	
20 September 2018	Street Ranger	Luke Clarke	Int Trf	500.00	0.00	500.00	
24 September 2018	Office: Phone & Broadband BT	Qtrly payment	DD	112.44	0.00	112.44	
27 September 2018	Bottle Bank: Income	Quarter 1 Apr - Jun 2018	BACS				237.53
28 September 2018	Clerk Salary: R Brough		SO	918.22	0.00	918.22	
01 October 2018	Office: Rent		SO	375.00	0.00	375.00	
02 October 2018	Cemetery Income:	James - Plaque for wall	Int Trf				48.00
03 October 2018	Electricity: Buttermarket EON		DD	39.60	0.00	39.60	
02 October 2018	Church Clock: Clock Repair	Repair motor mechanism. Smiths of Derby.	Int Trf	180.00	30.00	150.00	
02 October 2018	Payroll: Cambridgeshire ACRE	Jul to Sept payroll	Int Trf	54.00	9.00	45.00	
04 October 2018	Brook: Skip at Town Farm	Riches skips	Int Trf	187.00	31.17	155.83	
04 October 2018	Plants & Trees: Memorial Wreath	Expenses	Int Trf	22.25	0.00	22.25	
19 September 2018	Plants & Trees:	Heritage Arboriculture	Int Trf	288.00	48.00	240.00	
05 October 2018	Clerk Salary: R Brough Pension		DD	42.86	0.00	42.86	
				3,587.06	246.17	3,340.89	36,608.03

b. Profit & Loss report: Variance analysis - Actual spend vs Budget

The second half of the precept has been received (£36k). If you apportion the budget to Apr-Oct then it appears that we have overspent on Miscellaneous by £4k due to the work on the bollards on the Green and the Saxon House fencing replacement. However, this early in the year it is not a cause for concern and should even itself out. No other concerns at this point – the rest is fairly in-line.

c. Balance Sheet: Financial position

Having now allocated £8.5k of playground fixes and an educated guess for the tree project of £8k, the total unallocated reserves is now £16k. Total funds of £199k, due to the receipt of the second half of the precept.

6. Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

Crime report provided to council prior to the meeting.

Two burglaries, one criminal damage, one harassment and one Class B drug possession. No actions recorded.

7. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward

Report to be posted on the physical noticeboard and the website under "Communications" (Action Clerk).

8. Planning Applications for comment

None

9. Update from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Chair of the Steering Group (Cllr Reger) was not present and no update was given other than to confirm a recent group meeting did not happen.

10. Review public responses to the public consultation over the new yellow lines around the Green and on the High Street

Response and approach to the consultation carried out earlier in the year to be agreed and then provided to BBC Highways for action/dismissal/modification.

Introduction: There is currently room on the High Street for 4 buses (in two bus stops), but the stop furthest from the school cannot be used if residents park on the other side of the road as it would block the road completely; the reason the council requested timed yellow lines. People are also parking in front of the school at dropoff time and blocking the line of sight of children crossing the road. Double yellows were planned to assist with this, allow enforcement officers to act, and also allow the parking signs (with timing restrictions) to be removed from the Green. The council was sympathetic to the responses to the consultation (against double yellows) in the June meeting and would like to explore all options. Cllr Tickle had heard from the new

headteacher at HPA (Mrs Brown) that buses might be stopping for the coming school year. This would affect the need for yellow lines opposite the bus stop. The headteacher was invited to the meeting where we would also like to discuss how best to improve parking around the Green.

Meeting discussion: Headteacher Mrs Brown confirmed that no children are being brought in by bus, and that the only time the bus stop would be needed would be infrequently for school trips and when other schools visit. Regarding parking on the Green at the entrance to the school, Mrs Brown confirmed that some parents were parking on the yellow lines and blocking the line of sight of children crossing and that enforcement officers seem not to be able to issue fines in certain situations. She is keen to help us resolve these issues.

Council conversation can be summarised as a request to meet with BBC Highways to discuss:

- A sustained period of visits from enforcement officers for the safety of schoolchildren
- Whether the white lines for the KEEP CLEAR are only advisory and cannot be enforced
- Why the timed restriction sign is on the corner by the memorial when double yellows always mean no parking at any time
- The redundancy of other restriction signs (including the school entrance zigzags)
- Which of the two bus stops is the safest to remove and whether they can also confirm that no buses require use of it
- Investigate the use of parking enforcement by a CCTV camera, as other schools in the area have recently done
- Whether the parish council could fund a traffic warden if enforcement officers are too busy to visit

(Action Clerk)

11. New trees for Harrold as proposed by the Plant & Tree Working Group

To vote on a proposal for new trees created by councillors Lloyd and Duggan.

Proposal not ready yet. Move item to the next meeting agenda. **(Action Clerk)**

12. Any other business

Council discussed the location of the lifebag on the Lower Green and would like it to be against the fence on the east side of the Lower Green, near to where the recent fatality occurred.

Council would like a better projector to use in council meetings to avoid the need for so much printing and consequent waste of paper and ink.

Council would like to fund the tea/cakes/biscuits used at the Remembrance Service on 11th November up to a value of £100.

13. Correspondence:

- a) Parishioner emailed last month with the following requests, but it missed the agenda: For a 40mph section to precede the 30mph limit signs at the Lavendon end of the village; Double yellow lines for the corner of New Road to alleviate bad parking; Use of the portable speed sign at the Lavendon end of the village; Consideration given to the volume of traffic using the High Street as a route from North Bedfordshire villages through to Milton Keynes and Northampton – requests traffic calming or average speed cameras.*

The portable speed sign has since been used at that end of the village. Council would like to investigate the introduction of a 40mph limit on the bend out towards Lavendon in the national speed limit section to slow cars before the 30mph limit, as happens at other entrances to the village. An indicative vote showed 7 councillors in favour, with 3 against. This vote is not binding, as the item was not placed as an item on the agenda, but an investigation with Highways will be carried out in advance. **(Action Clerk)**

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14th November 2018
In the HARROLD CENTRE