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Chairman: Rev. Robert Tickle
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MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 14th April 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

- 1. Public forum (Names always withheld for Data Protection)**
No members of the public were in attendance.
- 2. Present:** Cllrs R Tickle (Chair), J Peverell, J Calver, E Thompson, B Muller, D Brough (Clerk), R Barrett, F Ross, G Turner, A Bryce, P Pedersen, H Paston, A Littlemore, J Robinson, A Foster (Borough Cllr).
Apologies accepted: None **Absent:** None.
- 3. Disclosure of Interest** – None declared
- 4. Requests to grant dispensations for disclosed interests** – None
- 5. Cooption: Resolved** to coopt Jonathan Robinson to the council (Proposed: RT, Seconded: BM).
- 6. Approval of Minutes** from the Parish Council meeting held 10th March 2021.
Resolved to approve the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 7. Clerk's report:**
Items sat with Bedford BC Highways:
 - Resolving the flooding of the zebra crossing – additional gulleys are planned to be installed. The poor state of the pavement by the Fish bar – works order has been raised and is expected to be carried out in the new financial year. No date yet received.
 - Change to parking signage where additional parking restrictions have been put in place around The Green – expected end of April.
 - New bollard – corner of Orchard Lane/High St. Complete.
 - 20mph speed limit extension towards New Road – Highways are not prioritising this. Requested details of where we are on the list, but this was not confirmed.Items sat with Street Ranger:
 - Fixing broken bollards on The Green – Complete.
 - Pressure washing war memorial – Complete.Other:
 - Streetlights: Pre-planning advice requested from Bedford BC Planning due to conservation area. Install will then be scheduled. Chased Planning department.

- Saxon House Parking: Options are being generated following a discussion at the March council meeting. Quotes for a partition hedge have been received. Quotes for replacement railings are being quoted for.

8. Correspondence (requiring council attention):

- *Parishioner emailed in relation to works being carried out to alter the footpath between Harewelle Way and the fire station.* Bedford BC Rights of Way team have inspected and referred the issue to their legal team for advice.
- *Parishioner called in relation to parking on the corner of New Road, parking on the footpath along the High St, and blocked drains on the High St.* The drains are on the list for Bedford BC to clear.
- *Parishioner approached Cllr Tickle requesting a flagpole for the village – possibly at the junction of Mansion Lane and the High St.* Cllr Tickle has requested this be added as a full agenda item.
- *Parishioner emailed requesting public EV chargers for the village.* Email circulated to councillors and grant information from Highways was also circulated. No further action.
- *Parishioner emailed requesting average speed cameras for the High St.* Email circulated to councillors. No further action.

9. Finance Report

- The following payments were approved.

Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Gross	Income
12 March 2021	VAT Refund received	VAT Refund received		19,995.65
18 March 2021	Staff costs	Salaries HMRC	2,202.85	
29 March 2021	Project: Contingency -> Streetlights	Streetlight upgrade - Zeta Specialists	10,345.52	
30 March 2021	Training: Cllrs	Norfolk PTS - Planning training	275.00	
30 March 2021	Other: Various	ICCM - Cemetery membership	95.00	
06 April 2021	Electricity: Buttermarket EON	EON	89.79	
			24,231.47	19,995.65

10. Planning applications

New

- *APPLICATION NO: 21/00745/FUL Full Planning Application*
PROPOSAL: Erection of detached single garage and store
LOCATION : 89 Odell Road Odell Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7AP
Resolved to comment:
 - It is unclear why the front aspect is not aligned with that of next door
 - It is not clear if the material used for the front elevation will match the existing dwelling and that of next door – a material that matched would be preferred
- *APPLICATION NO: 21/00454/FUL Full Planning Application*
PROPOSAL: Single storey rear extension and open covered timber walkway to link main dwelling and existing outbuilding
LOCATION : Orchard Cottage 18 Orchard Lane Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7BP
Resolved to object on the following grounds and to request the Planning department to investigate the installation of UPVC windows in a Conservation Area:
 - The walkway dominates the development and is likely to be visible from the street, to the detriment of the street scene
 - The walkway roof profile and material are not specified and we would seek clarity
 - The walkway is not in keeping with a conservation area and would detract from the setting of the listed buildings
- *APPLICATION NO: 21/00628/FUL Full Planning Application*
PROPOSAL: Replacement windows and doors, re-roofing, demolish and re-build side wall, conversion of attached two storey side storage area into habitable space, and external alterations.
LOCATION : 3 Brook Lane Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7BW

Resolved to object on the following grounds and to request the Planning department to investigate the commencement of works prior to planning permission being received:

- UPVC windows and composite doors (front and back) are not considered suitable for a conservation area. The parish council would expect timber to be chosen for windows and doors (front and back) in this area. The decision to keep the roof in the original slate was commended.
- Due to its location in the conservation area, the council requests the side elevation (North facing) to be rebuilt in stone (where the corner is visible from the street), with matching brickwork for the remainder where the neighbouring property obscures the view from the street.
- The council notes the application shows “No” has been selected to the question regarding whether parking will be affected, and questions this answer. The application also shows “No” to the question of whether works have already been started, however it appears work has actually started.

Resolved to request Borough Councillor Alison Foster to Call-In this application due to the sensitivity of being sited in a conservation area and the above objections, and to allow consideration of two neighbouring planning applications as a whole.

- **APPLICATION NO: 21/00637/S73 Variation of Condition Application**
PROPOSAL: Single storey front, side and rear extensions to include under floor insulation, green roof, increased roof height, canopy, deck, and landscaping scheme. Including variation of approved plans condition 1 attached to 20/01186/FUL to allow for an increase in floor level by 20cm and roof height respectively.
LOCATION : Riverbank Carlton Road Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7DS
Resolved not to object.

- **APPLICATION NO: 21/00657/FUL Full Planning Application**
PROPOSAL: Replace existing corrugated asbestos roof of garage with stainless steel roof of like profile. Repair or replace water-damaged roof timbers as necessary.
LOCATION : 24 High Street Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7DQ
Resolved to object on the following grounds:
 - The parish council is pleased to see the applicant is interested in making an improvement, but is concerned about the material choice in a conservation area: the use of PVC coated stainless steel in such a light colour is deemed unsympathetic.

The council is keen to remove the objection for a change in material and different colour choice, and councillors hope the objection does not deter the applicant. A councillor offers the recommendation of Aluzinc (can be pre-insulated), which would be more environmentally friendly and more sympathetic to the existing building. The council also puts forward the suggestion of a slate grey colour choice and a square profile (simulated tile).

Previous applications where HPC commented or objected

- **APPLICATION NO: 21/00442/FUL Full Planning Application**
PROPOSAL: Erection of residential apartment building comprising 2 two-bed dwellings and 1 one-bed dwelling; and associated car parking and landscaping
LOCATION : Land To The Rear Of 72 High Street Harrold Bedfordshire
HPC: Objected (Material choice/overshadowing). Bedford BC: Awaiting decision
- **APPLICATION No 20/02397/TPO TYPE: Tree Preservation Order Application**
PROPOSAL: Group No. 1: Group consists of Common Beech trees with 33 individual stems. Remove 17 trees tagged with green paint to alleviate risk of causing damage to the foundations to 4 Hall Close and to encourage suitable growth of retained trees. Reduce lateral branches of retained trees extending towards 3 Hall close by 2 metres and lateral branches extending towards 4 Hall Close by 1.5 metres. Tree No. 1 Lime Tree: Reduce crown volume by 30 percent and remove deadwood
LOCATION : 4 Hall Close Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7DU
HPC: Objected (No arboriculturist report). Bedford BC: Awaiting decision
- **APPLICATION NO: 21/00574/FUL Full Planning Application**
PROPOSAL: Replacement windows, re-roofing, and demolish and re-build side wall.
LOCATION : 1 Brook Lane Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7BW
HPC: Objected (UPVC windows in conservation area). Bedford BC: Awaiting decision

11. Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

The crime report for 1st March to 30th March showed one reported case of “Assault” on Orchard Lane. No reported actions.

12. Physical meetings

To consider the options for holding meetings when the legislation allowing remote meetings ends on 7th May 2021.

Resolved to bring the next meeting forward to 5th May 2021 to enable a remote meeting.
Decision on the future location for meetings to be deferred to the May meeting.

13. Dog waste bins

- *To note that all the dog waste bins in Harrold are the maximum size (50 litres), following a request at the last meeting to investigate upsizing them.* Council noted.
- *To review the use of the three newly-installed dog bag dispensers.* No issues put forward.

14. Committee membership

To consider if any new members are required for the Planning Committee and the Finance Committee.

Resolved to accept the following committee memberships:

Finance Committee: Addition of Cllr Turner.

Planning Committee: Addition of Cllrs Robinson, Reger, Calver, Barrett, and Paston.

15. Flooding in Harrold - Update

Flood alleviation channel improvements

The parish council has reallocated and committed funding towards a proposal to improve the flood channel that protects Harrold from surface flooding from the fields to the north. The proposal includes extending the coverage of the channel, speeding the flow of water down it, and increasing the rate at which it empties in the north east. Analysis of the proposal is expected to be included in the Flood investigations report mentioned earlier.

Flood Group

The parish council is partway to having an active Flood Group to assist during flood situations. A Flood Plan has been created, reviewed and approved by the borough council. The next step is for the members to receive training and then they are good to go.

Public Internet Flood Camera

The parish council is supporting a request to the Environment Agency to install a public internet flood camera by the bridge; funding has also been set aside. A camera in this location will: 1. Allow people to plan their journeys around the state of the road before leaving their homes. 2. Provide flood-severity information to the newly-formed Harrold Flood Group to inform their decisions in a flood situation.

Request from councillor to reach out to any parishioners affected by an issue with sewage returning back up the pipes; possibly related to Anglian Water's issues with the pumping station at HOCP (**Action Clerk**).

16. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward

Distributed to councillors and available on the parish council website.

17. Neighbourhood Plan update

- Following the submission of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to Bedford BC, the next stage of the process has commenced. In accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the six week consultation period started on 1 March 2021 and end at 5pm on 6th May 2021. The submission plans and supporting documents are available here: www.bedford.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning.
- After the consultation period has ended, the plan, supporting documents and responses will be sent off to the independent examiner. Bedford BC has appointed IPE (Independent Plans and Examinations) to carry out the Neighbourhood Plan examinations.

18. Noting of items for future agendas – no decisions can be taken

- Proposal for a future agenda from Cllr Tickle for a flag pole on the utility pole next to The Old Smithy on The Green – clerk to seek costs before adding to agenda.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 5th May 2021 – via Zoom

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting