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Chairman:  
Rev. Robert Tickle  
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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 14th February 2018 at 7.30pm at Parish Council Office**

**Present:** R Tickle (Chair), B Muller, B Page, G Lloyd, D Brough, L Duggan, L Hoad, D Mercer  
R Brough (Clerk), S Reger, P Pedersen, J Peverell, A Foster (Bedford Borough Council)

**Apologies:** R Barrett, B Page

**Public forum**

No members of the public attended.

1. **Disclosure of Interest** – members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in any items on the Agenda. No disclosures of interest were made.
2. **Approval of Minutes** from the Parish Council meeting held 10th January 2018  
  
Council approved the minutes unanimously.
3. **Matters arising from meeting held 10th January 2018** – for information only
  - Clerk reported on the latest Action List

**4. Finance Report:**

The following monthly payments were approved:

Ref #	Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Payments			Receipts
				Gross	VAT	Net	Gross
Trans174	18 December 2017	Bottle Bank: Income	Quarter 2- July-Sept 2017				197.94
Trans175	25 September 2017	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		82.80	13.80	69.00	
Trans176	25 January 2018	Clerk Salary: R Brough		912.48	0.00	912.48	
Trans177	01 February 2018	Office: Rent		375.00	0.00	375.00	
Trans178	02 February 2018	Electricity: Buttermarket EON		65.91	3.14	62.77	
Trans179	08 February 2018	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		21.12	3.52	17.60	
Trans180	14 February 2018	Village Maintenance: R Sinclair		90.00	0.00	90.00	
Trans181	14 February 2018	Brook: R Sinclair		250.00	0.00	250.00	
Trans182	14 February 2018	Project: Harrold boundary signage and wall	The Village Sign People - Design sketches	100.00	0.00	100.00	
Trans183	14 February 2018	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees- T Roff	300.00	0.00	300.00	
Trans184	14 February 2018	Plants & Trees: Heritage Arboriculture	Heritage Arboriculture - Eagle Way	450.00	75.00	375.00	
Trans185	14 February 2018	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees- T Roff	250.00	0.00	250.00	
Trans186	14 February 2018	Grass: In Trim		552.00	92.00	460.00	
Trans187	14 February 2018	Cemetery Income:	Wrighton & Barker				168.00
Trans188	14 February 2018	Cemetery Income:	Mr T K Astles				110.00
Trans189	14 February 2018	Cemetery Income:	RGR Memorials LTD				168.00
Trans190	14 February 2018	Cemetery Income:	S Blenkarn monuments				168.00
Trans191	14 February 2018	Cemetery Income:	H.W Mason & Son				168.00
Trans192	14 February 2018	Other: Various	Reimburse D Brough- keys				
				22.80	0.00	22.80	
				3,472.11	187.46	3,284.65	979.94

**7. Police report: Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange  
(Provided to council prior to meeting via email)**

No actions recorded.

**8. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward.  
(Report emailed to council via email prior to meeting)**

Alison Foster provided the highlights of this, which included: That the borough council will be increasing their budget, and council tax, by 1.57%. That the borough had selected the Colworth site (Sharnbrook) for new housing in their development plan. A full update from Alison will follow.

**9. Planning applications**

No applications.

**10. Update from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee.**

Cllr S Reger has taken on the role of Chair of the Steering Committee. Cllr D Mercer has been invaluable in getting the committee to where they are now especially with analyse the data from the resident questionnaire, and the Parish Council would like to thank him for this. The next steering committee meeting will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2018. The steering group has spent the last few months evaluating the village survey results and met with all landowners who had put sites forward for development. The next stage is to develop a number of potential development options. These options will be put to the village for consultation in the next few months. This is the crucial time for the village to think about where future development should take place. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is looking for ways to reach as many villagers as possible to present the options and are planning a series of drop-in sessions and presentations. More information can be found on the Neighbourhood Plan section on the Parish Council's website. The committee will be publishing a series of documentation and the survey results over the next few weeks.

**11. Harrold Centre Grant Request**

A request has been received from the Harrold Centre Committee (HCC) for the Parish Council (PC) to provide annual grant funding of £4k to the Centre in order to cover the shortfall between Centre revenues and costs and cover the repayments of the loan they took out to complete the recent refurbishment. They would also like two members of the Parish Council to join the Harrold Centre Committee.

It was proposed that we grant the request for a one-off payment of £4k this year to ensure the centre does not run into immediate financial difficulties. However, the decision around making this an annual payment will be linked to a satisfactory response to a proposal to be prepared by Cllr Reger. The proposal will look to have answered a number of concerns raised by the council including, but not limited to: understanding the extent of

repairs still needed on the centre (eg the heating system), the centre's detailed financial situation and financial plans, details of the loan agreement that the Centre Committee entered into, whether the annual payment would allow the centre to lower their charge-out rates to remain commercially competitive and details around councillors becoming trustees (conflicts of interest, voting powers and whether the council could become a Corporate Trustee). Cllr Mercer proposed and Cllr Tickle seconded the motion. Council voted and all were in favour of the proposal.

**12. To approve quote for replacement of broken equipment at Saxon House playground**

Quote approved unanimously.

**13. To approve quote for replacing bollard on the Green, for fixing the Harrold Centre playground gate, and to fix the fence by Saxon House playground (wind damage)**

All three quotes approved unanimously.

**14. Any other business:**

- a) A revised plan for the changes to parking restrictions on the High St and The Green has moved into a consultation period.
- b) The 20 mile hour signs coming in from the Country Park and the one from Lavendon directions have been hit. Clerk to speak to A Prigmore (BBC Highways). **Action Clerk**
- c) Centre grant application to be added to March agenda. **Action Clerk**
- d) Village Entrance signs to be added to March Agenda. **Action Clerk**

**15. Correspondence:**

- a) A resident wrote to council to request the lower green bin is regularly emptied. Maintenance team did not have the key to the new bin – this has now been handed over.