



Harrold Parish Council Clerk:
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Chairman: Rev. Robert Tickle
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MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held 5th May 2021 at 8pm via Zoom

- 1. Present:** Cllrs R Tickle (Chair), J Peverell, J Calver, E Thompson, B Muller, D Brough (Clerk), R Barrett, F Ross, G Turner, P Pedersen, H Paston, A Littlemore, J Robinson, S Reger.
Apologies accepted: Cllrs B Muller, H Paston **Absent:** None.
- 2. Disclosure of Interest** – None.
- 3. Requests to grant dispensations for disclosed interests** – None.
- 4. Election of Chairman**
Resolved to elect Robert Tickle as Chairman (Proposed: Cllr P Pedersen, Seconded: Cllr J Calver)
- 5. Election of Vice Chairman**
To elect the Vice Chairman for the coming year.
No councillors put their name forward for this role.
- 6. Approval of Minutes** from the parish council meeting held 14th April 2021.
Resolved to approve the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 7. To agree dates of council meetings and the Annual Parish meeting for the coming year**
Agreed that the council will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month. The Annual Parish meeting and the Annual Parish Council meeting will be in May.
- 8. Physical meetings**
To consider the options for holding meetings when the legislation allowing remote meetings ends on 7th May 2021.
 - *Option A: Physical meetings*
 - *Option B: Adopt Scheme of Delegation and retain remote meetings*
 - *Option C: Adopt Scheme of Delegation and have a mixture of physical and remote meetings***Resolved** to return to physical meetings.
- 9. Approval of the annual accounts (2020/21) prior to submission for external audit**
To approve the end-of-year accounts and the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) form to be sent for external audit.
Resolved to approve the end-of-year accounts and send them for external audit.

10. 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: Planning advice from Bedford BC Planning has confirmed the streetlights in the Conservatin Area can be replaced. Install is due early June 2021.
- 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.

It was reported that another wooden bollard had been knocked over on The Green (**Action Clerk**).

11. Correspondence (requiring council attention):

- Parishioner emailed requesting picnic benches for the open space at Harewelle Way playground. Email circulated to councillors. Cllr Robinson will provide a proposal for benches and requests an item on the next agenda.
- Parishioner emailed requesting average speed cameras, tidying of the area of the brook area along Church Walk, and repointing of the stone wall at the top of Church Walk. i) Cllr Calver has a proposal on the agenda for cameras. ii) Legal advice taken from the borough council was not to maintain this land. iii) Bedford BC Highways do not own this wall and it appears it could be linked to the unregistered land behind.
- The British Horse Society requested assistance in converting a footpath to a bridleway (RoW 10). Upon investigation with Bedford BC RoW team, this would just require the landowners consent, however there is no interest for this.

12. Finance Report

- The following payments were approved and income noted.

Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Gross	Income
06 April 2021	Electricity: Buttermarket EON	EON	89.79	
09 April 2021	Pension contributions		153.34	
12 April 2021	Grass: In Trim		552.00	
13 April 2021	Electricity: Street EON	Qtrly payment	323.86	
15 April 2021	Precept Income	First Half		40,564.00
16 April 2021	Other: Various	Luke Clarke Bollards	150.00	
19 April 2021	Staff costs	Salaries & PAYE	2,201.47	
19 April 2021	Brook: Skip at Town Farm	Riches Skips	268.00	
26 April 2021	Bottle Bank: Income	Bedford BC		266.29
05 May 2021	Other: Various	Planning maps - Streetlights.	16.79	
			<u>3,755.25</u>	<u>40,830.29</u>

13. Planning applications

New

- **Amended plans:** 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: Previously objected (Material choice/overshadowing).
Resolved to remove the objection and request a “condition” be applied. The council is keen to support the development of this site as it has remained partially constructed for a number of years, and is therefore suggesting a pragmatic solution to avoid objecting against the proposal. The council requests that the materials treatment for the building is dealt with by planning condition rather than being approved based on the plan as submitted. This will allow a more appropriate material to be used in this building: to be agreed with the borough council, Conservation Officer and parish council so as to not unnecessarily slow permission being granted.
- APPLICATION NO: 21/01134/FUL Full Planning Application
PROPOSAL: Single storey rear/side extension and change of external material on part of building.
LOCATION : Southfields Farm Cottage Lavendon Road Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK46 4HX
Resolved not to object.

Previous applications where HPC objected – all noted

- 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: Permission granted
- 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
- 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
HPC: Objected, Bedford BC: Awaiting decision, Investigation
- 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
HPC: Objected, Bedford BC: Awaiting decision, Investigation (works are still ongoing without planning permission)

14. Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

There was no reported crime for April 2021.

15. Average speed cameras and Vehicle Activated Sign

Proposal from Cllr Calver:

- To consider a request to Bedford BC Highways for average speed cameras on the High St.
- To consider the purchase of an additional VAS (Speed Sign) from Morelock signs at £2,795 (solar).

Request to delay the average speed camera decision until feedback has been received from other villages where average speed cameras have been installed: Oakley, Carlton, Pavenham (Action Clerk).

Request to delay decision on VAS (Speed Sign) to consider it alongside other items requiring budget, such as Cllr Turner's proposal for more trees.

16. Bollards on The Green

Proposal from Cllr Calver:

To consider replacing four wooden bollards on The Green with stone alternatives, subject to costs that are yet to be sought.

Request to seek appropriate posts and obtain costings (**Action Cllr Calver and Clerk**).

17. Trees on The Green

Proposal from Cllr Pedersen: To consider a further response to a parishioner who is requesting the parish council to create a plan for the replacement of the Lime trees on The Green.

No further action requested.

18. Church clock repair

To consider a quote from Smiths of Derby for £1,587 to overhaul and repair the autowind unit – requires removal of the unit and offsite repair.

Council requested a quote for replacing the unit entirely rather than a repair (**Action Clerk**).

19. 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. Equipment has been delivered Bedford BC. 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. Waiting for the Environment Agency to approve the Data Privacy aspect.

20. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward

Cllr Foster did not receive the agenda for this meeting, which was brought forward. Report made available on the parish council website.

21. Neighbourhood Plan update

- In accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the six week consultation period started on 1 March 2021 and ended on 6th May 2021.
- The plan, supporting documents and responses will then be sent off to the independent examiner. Bedford BC has appointed IPE (Independent Plans and Examinations) to carry out the Neighbourhood Plan examinations.

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

None

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 9th June 2021 (Harrold Centre)