



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 11th January 2017 at 7.30pm at Parish Council Office

Present: Cllrs R Tickle, R Barrett, D Brough, S Holt, A Jones, G Lloyd, A Jones, B Muller, P Pedersen, J Peverell, R Reger, R Brough (Clerk)

Apologies – M Johnston, B Page, D Mercer, A Foster (Bedford Borough Council)

Public forum

There were no members of public at this meeting.

1. To receive apologies for absence and introductions

2. Disclosure of Interest – No members of the council had any disclosures of interest with any of the agenda items.

3. Approval of Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held 14th December 2016
The minutes from the meeting held on the 14th of December 2016 were approved.

4. Matters arising from meeting held 14th December 2016 – for information only

- Clerk report on the months Action List
 - FL Build will repair the broken bollard on the Village Green. It will be made to be removable to ensure easier access to this portion of The Green during future village events.
 - FL Build have removed the broken bench in the cemetery and have replaced it with the remaining cast iron bench.
 - Heritage Arboriculture will try and fix the issue with the Christmas lights tripping on the 31 January, when they do their annual maintenance work on the Green trees in the near future. The electrician who installed the new electrical sockets on The Green and the Buttermarket will check the tripping is not being caused by any of the new installations.
 - Christmas lights to be taken down on the Buttermarket on Jan 31st by clerk and Cllr Jones. **Action Cllr Jones and Clerk**
 - HPC will contact HPA and suggest setting up a working committee to work on possible developments to the cricket pavilion and grounds. **Action Cllr Holt and Cllr Brough**
 - HPC need to facilitate creating a Flood Response group. Council would like a map of flood zones placed in the HPC office. Cllr Peverell volunteered to be part of this group. Clerk to put notice on physical noticeboard and Harrold facebook noticeboard asking for village volunteers to join. **Action Clerk.**
 - Council would like the clerk to write to the clerk of Carlton parish to ask the stone plaque on the causeway just before the bridge removed as a resident has complained it is a serious trip hazard. **Action Clerk**

6. Finance Report:

Approval for requests for monthly payments. Monthly payments were approved.

Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Payments		
			Gross	VAT	Net
01 January 2017	Office: Rent		375.00	0.00	375.00
30 December 2016	Clerk Salary: R Brough		1,152.35	0.00	1,152.35
20 December 2016	Payroll: Cambridgeshire ACRE		36.00	6.00	30.00
01 January 2017	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees: Trevor Roff	2,350.00	0.00	2,350.00
01 Decmeber 2016	Brook: R Sinclair		250.00	0.00	250.00
01 Decmeber 2016	Village Maintenance: R Sinclair		110.00	0.00	110.00
10 January 2017	Other: Various	Damage to coat from buttermarket painting - Mrs.Vickers	70.00	0.00	70.00
10 January 2017	Membership: BATPC (Beds Assoc Town & Parish Councils) Annual		357.00	0.00	357.00
20 December 2016	Maintenance: Outdoor Gym - Quarterly Maintenance		107.99	0.00	107.99
12 January 2017	Electricity: Buttermarket EON		28.99	1.38	27.61
11 Janaury 2017	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		18.54	3.09	15.45
19 January 2017	Clerk Salary: R Brough Tax NI		240.88	0.00	240.88
			<u>5,096.75</u>		

7. Police report: Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

(Provided to council prior to meeting via email)

Council emailed Kathryn Holloway (Beds Police & Crime Commissioner) for advice on village deterrents for break-in prevention and anti-social behaviour. Constable Laura Hoggart responded. She reviewed the past years' incidents in Harrold. She noted 18 burglaries or attempted burglaries in the past 12 months. They do not feel village cctv will assist in the prevention of break-ins. They recommend home owners invest in their own cctv systems if they are concerned. However, they did advise cctv would be beneficial in preventing the recurring anti-social behaviour which regularly occurs on the Village upper and lower greens. Constable Hoggart will be monitoring the Village Green as part of her rounds and will speak with anyone who is taking part in anti-social activities.

8. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward.

Alison Foster was unable to attend this meeting.

9. Planning applications

None

9. Update from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee.

The steering committee has collated the parishioner comments received (post-it notes) at the Neighbourhood Plan launch event. Trevor Roff has used this information to create the next survey which is due to go out to the village in February. The steering committee need to review the draft survey and approve it for printing. The steering committee is very aware they need to recruit more members from the village. They have had three members of the public get in touch so far. The new members of the council were invited to join the steering committee. All three council members agreed to join the committee. The committee will arrange another meeting for the end of January. Meetings will now need to take place in the evening. **Action Clerk**

10. 2017/2018 budget and precept setting.

Cllr Brough talked the new councillors through the monthly Balance Sheet/Allocation and P&L reports. Cllr Brough then talked the council through the 2016/2017 P&L variance to budget and the 2017/2018 budget proposal which supports the precept amount to be requested from the Borough Council. The council reviewed the proposal and were very impressed with the amount of detail, work and clarity of the finances and thanked Cllr Brough for his efforts in making this happen. Cllr Brough proposed the precept stay the same, Cllr Tickle seconds the proposal. The council voted and all members of the council voted in favour of keeping the precept at the current level of £72,645, despite a 1.5% increase in the number of Band D houses in the village. **Action Cllr Brough & Clerk**

11. Council to decide on dry stone wall near bridge and village signage to be placed at the three entrances into Harrold.

Cllr Jones explained to the new councillors the council's plan to replace the railings next to the bridge with a dry stone wall and to create some form of village sign at the three entrances into Harrold. HPC would like to replace the existing railings with a stone wall leaving access for people to still be able to get down to the river. The vegetation along the riverbank will be tidied and cut back with the possibility of a wild flower garden planted. Council would like to introduce 'Harrold' signs coming into the village from from Lavendon, Carlton and Podington directions. Cllr Jones proposes three signs created from large stones roughly 5 or 6 feet high and a metre square

quarried from Western Underwood Quarry. The stones will have 'Harrold' carved into them. Cllr Tickle seconds the proposal. Council voted. Ten councillors voted in favour of the use of large quarried stone. One councillor, Cllr Reger voted against the proposal as he felt the council should have village input in the design, especially something which is more of a design statement. Cllr Reger would have preferred to suggest various options to the village and get views. Cllr Tickle proposes council replaces the metal railings next to the bridge with a dry stone wall which will be roughly the same height as the current railings. Cllr Jones seconds the proposal. The council voted on the proposal and all were in favour of the new stone wall. Clerk to gain Odell PC approval before actioning. **Action Clerk & Cllr Jones**

12. Grant request from Harrold Twinning Association.

Council had not received the appropriate Harrold Parish Council Grant application form back from the Twinning Association. This item will be placed on February's agenda. **Action Clerk**

13. Grant request from Harrold Online.

Harrold On-line applied for a grant to help them with the costs of recreating their online site. Cllr Tickle proposes we grant the requested £299, Cllr Brough seconds the proposal. The council voted and all were in favour of granting these funds. **Action Clerk**

15. Any other business –

- Paul Pace from BBC Parks and Recreation is looking into the lease and funds owed to HPC for the Harewelle Way playground transfer of ownership. Paul emailed the council and clerk to contact him in a week's time to see where they are in the process. **Action Clerk**

16. Correspondence –

- A resident emailed regarding the concrete which borders the brook along Brook Lane. They felt this was crumbling on the top end and needed repair. Highways have been out to access the road and they see no areas which are of a concern. Council disagree and would like Highways to re-evaluate the condition of the road. **Action Clerk**
- Council will report to Highways the potholes on The Green and on the Bridge. Cllr Barrett advised council members they can report any potholes online through 'fix my street.com'. If done this way they will have the pothole repaired within 7 days. **Action Clerk**

17. Summary of actions

The Chairman summarised the actions required.

Meeting ended at 9:46

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 8th February 2017

7:30pm 72 High Street