



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 13th April 2016 at 7.30pm at Parish Council Office

Present: R. Tickle (chair), Cllrs D Brough, D Mercer, S Holt, B Page, S Reger, M Johnston, A Jones, R Barrett,
R Brough (Clerk), A Foster (Bedford Borough Council)

- 1. Apologies –** G Lloyd

Public forum

No Attendees

- 2. Disclosure of interests –** Cllr A Jones disclosed an interest in two of the planning applications received and did not make comments when these were discussed.
- 3. Approval of minutes of the meeting of 9th March 2016**
Minutes were approved.
- 4. Matters arising from the minutes of 9th March 2016**
 - Grant Palmer have displayed up to date schedule in bus shelter. Villager has provided schedule and fares which clerk has created a timetable with. Purchase a display case to place it in the bus shelter. **Action Clerk**
 - Clerk and A Foster met with A Prigmore to discuss the 20mph concerns. Mr. Prigmore will provide council with a revised designated area which will start closer to Eagle Way. If council decides to do ahead with the change it will need to go back through the consultation period etc.
 - Clerk spoke with A Prigmore regarding possibly improving the railings and land next to the Harrold Bridge. If Harrold Parish Council would like to take over the upkeep of this portion of land Highways will give council a licence to do so. A Prigmore is fine for the railings to be changed at the Parish Council's expense and also had no objections to a 'Welcome to Harrold' sign being placed on the land on either side as long as it does not obstruct the view on oncoming traffic for cars coming out of junctions.
 - A Prigmore is looking into having a single yellow line put on the road next to the memorial where cars currently park during school drop off and pick up times to make the parking restrictions enforceable. **Action Clerk**
 - Officially inform BBC that Harrold would like to be a designated neighbourhood area. **Action Clerk**
 - Cold Calling Area enforcement- Is there a way for the Bedford Borough Council give permission to charities? **Action A Foster** Cllr S Reger will look into the legal standing of being a no cold calling area. The council needs to know what action we can take. **Action S Reger**
 - The dumping of Brook silt in the village is currently a problem. First suggestion would be to ask David Smiths permission to put it at the back of his land. Another option would be to provide R Sinclair with a hippo bag. We need to stop putting silt behind The Centre and find an alternative place to put it. Approach the allotment Committee if they would like the silt. **Action Clerk**

9. Flood Awareness Committee presentation- Melanie Crump, Senior Flood Risk Officer, attended meeting to discuss the possibility of creating a 'Flood Group' in Harrold. By creating a 'Flood Group' residents in Harrold could help improve the current problems with flood warning. Possible improvements provided by the BBC could be automated warning signs or automated message service to Highways who would then contact the Harrold Flood Group. Highways will be able to provide new road closure signs which the Flood Group could use to close the roads. Melanie feels that having a Flood Group helps make communities more resilient. The benefits of having a Flood group are we have local knowledge and know the resources that are available, key holders to village hall and vulnerable residents. The group would need a few people to lead the committee and Melanie and her BBC team will help guide the group through the set up process. The council requested the current water level gauge be replaced with a new one. Melanie will look into having this replaced for us. **Action Clerk**

10. Neighbourhood Planning Committee- Update from the committee.

Cllr D Mercer reported back from a meeting they recently had with the Shaping Communities consultant. The consultant mentioned our plan may not need to be as detailed as we originally thought. Main purpose of plan would be to outline how the council would like the village to evolve.

Committee will meet with another two consultants and come back to council with a recommendation. **Action Clerk**

11. Harewelle Way Playground Ownership Transfer- Council needs to decide if they would like to take on the ownership of Harewelle Way Playground. Cllr David Brough reported Redrow have handed the land over to BBC and paid the required fees. Cllr Brough proposes we take on the offered 99 year lease at £1 for this land. Council voted and all were in favour of taking on the lease of Harewelle Way playground. Next step is to complete the required Land Ownership Application forms and create a business plan to support the application. **Action Cllr Brough**

12. Harrold Bridge Riverbank – Council to discuss possible improvements to the riverbank and railings near Harrold Bridge. Council discussed improving the land on the riverbank and have decided they will create a subcommittee to devise a plan and bring back to the council for approval. It was suggested the subcommittee consult with Neil Smith with regards to planting. Sub Committee to include: Cllr D Brough, Cllr S Holt and Cllr A Jones. Council would like to replace the metal railings with possibly a stone wall. If this is not feasible the next option would be a wooden fence. Council would also like to erect a 'Welcome to Harrold' sign across from the new wall. The housing for the sign to be placed on is to be created using similar materials as the stone wall. i.e stone or wood. **Action Clerk**

13. Grant Application from the Harrold Lawn Tennis Association. Council discussed application and would like to invite Kevin White to the May Parish Council meeting. Council would like more information regarding the need and cost of the new fencing.

14. Review Designated 20 mph Plan- Council to discuss whether they would like to go ahead with the original 20 mph plan. Council has received a letter of concern from a resident who would like the 20 mph speed limit moved further up the High Street towards Eagle Way due to concerns that it may affect the foundations of their house. Council has since met with A Prigmore who did not think placing a speed enforcement sign at the suggested location would affect the foundations of the concerned resident's house. Council feels Highways gave advice as to where the signage should go and we will follow their recommendation. The consultation period has ended and work has already begun to implement the 20 mph speed limit. Council would like the work to restart and be completed as soon as possible. Council feels it is important to immediately slow the speed of cars travelling on the portion of the High Street nearest the school as it is a safety concern. Council will review the issue of speed on the High Street in the future and if necessary apply to have the 20 mph limit extended further along the High street. **Action Clerk**

15. Lampposts in the Village – Council to discuss the condition of the lampposts in Harrold. There are approximately 100 lampposts in the village. Many of the lampposts look tatty with peeling paint. Cllr Brough proposes we have all the lampposts in the village painted. The proposed cost to the council for having this done is £8000.00. The council voted and all in favour of having the lampposts painted and approved spending to the amount of £8000.00. Before work begins council would like to check with BBC that there are no plans for changing the lampposts in the future. **Action Clerk**

15. Correspondence – for information only

List of correspondences received during the past month

Correspondence since March 9th Meeting:

- Norman Froggatt emailed to ask if the Harrold Centre Committee could use our meeting room for their monthly meeting while the Harrold Centre is having works done.
- Nick Charsley emailed to ask the Parish Council to replace the damaged mirror at the end of Church Walk.
- Roger Johnson emailed as to why a small section of the footpath between Peach's Close and Dove Lane was not fixed with the rest of the footpaths in Harrold.
- Stephen Meadowcroft emailed to the council and Alison with concerns of the placement of the new 20 mph sign outside his house.
- Roger Johnson emailed concerned with the two gentlemen canvassing for Great Ormond Street.
- Jacquie Allen phoned to ask permission for the use of The Village Green to host a celebration in honour of the Queen's 90th Birthday. It will be a fundraiser for the Harrold Centre Refurbishment.
- John Saul emailed with concerns about the state of a section of pavement between his property 1 Carlton Road and the High Street. He feels this section of the pavement needs repair.
- Magpas Air Ambulance sent a letter to council requesting financial support from the council. Council would like to look into Magpas providing a first aid training event in Harrold for the residents? How much will this cost? **Action Clerk**

16. Summary of actions

The Chairman will summarise the actions required

Meeting ended at 10:17pm

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 11th May 2016–

7.30pm 72 High Street