



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 8th February 2017 at 7.30pm at Parish Council Office

Present: R. Tickle (chair), Cllrs D Brough, B Muller, P Pedersen, J Peverell, A Jones, G Lloyd, S Reger, M Johnston A Jones, D Mercer, R Brough (Clerk), A Foster (Bedford Borough Council)

Apologies – S Holt, R Barrett, B Page

Public forum

Jane Charsley attended the meeting to give the council an update on the changes taking place at Harrold Lower School. The Lower School became an academy from October 2016. The two governing bodies of the lower school and middle school merged together which is now a group of 12-13 people. Graham Russell stepped down as Chair of governors and Jane is now chair. As of September 2017, the middle school will no longer exist. The Lower school will then be called Harrold Primary Academy. A few of the buildings will be going and the security of the site is being looked at. This will involve internal fencing going up to meet the requirements for being a primary school. Staff will be moving around between schools. The head teacher will be Mrs. Royden. Additional support and training is being offered to teaching staff. The current year 6, 7 and 8 year groups will be moving to Sharnbrook together for September 2017. The current year 5 class will be the first year 6 cohort. There will be a year six “bulge” in 2017/2018. In September 2018, the numbers will drop. There will be approximately 280-300 children in September 2017. This will drop to 210 for September 2018. 500 are coming in from both schools currently. Buses in and out of village should drop. Congestion should be a bit easier. Children will be obliged to go to their nearest borough school.

Ms Mitchell attended the meeting bringing resources of books and pictures of Harrold present and past. Ms Mitchell has a Fine Arts background and has grown up in the village. She feels the council should listen to the valuable input of villagers. Ms Mitchell has offered herself as a resource. She suggested the Parish council meeting minutes should be quickly visible to the village and the council should think about having the monthly meetings streamed online. Ms Mitchell suggested the council display photographs, plans and drawings of any changes they would like to make within the village on a noticeboard so the villagers can have input into these changes. She would like council finances diverted to cleaning streets and cemetery. Ms Mitchell suggested the council looked into creating a community land trust organization with Odell and Carlton.

- 1. Disclosure of Interest** – none disclosed
- 2. Approval of Minutes** from the Parish Council meeting held 11th January 2017.
Minutes were approved unanimously.
- 3. Matters arising from meeting held 11th January 2017** – for information only
 - Clerk reported on the months Action List

4. Finance Report: The following payments were approved:

Payments to approve, Receipts for information - February 2016

Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Payments			Receipts Gross
			Gross	VAT	Net	
12 January 2017	Electricity: Street EON		318.42	15.16	303.26	
09 January 2017	Brook: R Sinclair		250.00	0.00	250.00	
09 January 2017	Village Maintenance: R Sinclair		245.00	0.00	245.00	
31 December 2016	Brook: Skip at Town Farm	Paul Riches Skips	178.00	29.67	148.33	
11 January 2017	Cemetary Income:					67.00
11 January 2017	Grant Out: Dancevybz	European Championship travel costs	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	
01 February 2017	Office: Rent		375.00	0.00	375.00	
31 January 2017	Plants & Trees: Heritage Arboriculture	Quarterly maintenance on The Green	240.00	40.00	200.00	
06 January 2017	Grass: In Trim	January	360.00	60.00	300.00	
26 January 2017	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		18.57	3.09	15.48	
25 January 2017	Bottle Bank: Income	Quarter 2 - Jul/Aug/Sept				197.94
02 February 2017	Grant Income: Co-op reimbursement	Harrold Pre-School grant repayment - offsets prior year's loan to Preschool for awning				1,400.00
01 February 2017	Brook: R Sinclair		250.00	0.00	250.00	
01 February 2017	Village Maintenance: R Sinclair		258.00	0.00	258.00	
01 February 2017	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees: Trevor Roff	150.00	0.00	150.00	
02 February 2017	Training: Clerk	R.Brough Cemetary management course through SLCC	174.00	29.00	145.00	
09 February 2017	Grant Out: Harrold Online	Village Website improvements	300.00	0.00	300.00	
09 February 2017	Grant Income: Rural Grant Payment	Harrold Centre Development				25,000.00
31 January 2017	Harrold Centre Development	Invoice #2: The BPL- Building Partnership Ltd	28,504.01	4,750.67	23,754.34	
			33,621	4,928	26,694	26,665

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

6. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward.

(Report provided to council via email prior to meeting. Copy of the report can be found on the noticeboard)

7. Planning applications

Application no: 17/00062/TPO Tree Preservation Order

Proposal: Horse Chestnut- Crown reduce by 20%

Location: 15 Hall Close Harrold, MK43 7DU

No objections

8. Update from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee.

The steering committee had a meeting the previous Wednesday with new members in attendance. The new members were given an update as to where the committee was in the process and they were allocated tasks to help develop reports which needed to be produced. The committee voted Cllr Mercer to be the lead in the process. The committee discussed whether they will continue to need the consultant's services. They are leaning towards 'yes' and would like to continue a monthly retainer for T Roff's services. The committee is currently looking at the next questionnaire to go out to the village. They are making revisions as they feel it is too lengthy at the moment. They are also looking at possibly developing a children's questionnaire and a separate questionnaire for organisations. Their aim is to get as much input from villagers as possible.

9. Council to discuss the privately-owned footpath between Eagle Way and the High Street.

Currently the footpath is full of potholes and could be unsafe for villagers who use it as an access from Eagle Way to the High Street. The council has found this footpath is privately owned by the homeowners of #79. The council cannot repair land which it does not own. This property is managed by a property management agency. The council will make contact with the property residents to inform them of the poor state of their footpath. **Action Cllr Tickle**

10. Council to discuss the current state of the footpaths around the village which are maintained by Harrold Parish Council.

Council discussed the current state of the footpaths around the village. It was agreed by all council members that some of the footpaths were in need of a good clear as they are covered in mud and leaves making them very slippery. The footpaths to be cleared are Wellocks Path, Cemetery paths, Brook Lane footpath, the footpath

running the length of Tustings lake along the back of Harewelle Way estate and the footpath behind Peach's Close estate towards Odell Road. The council would like to instruct R. Sinclair to clear these above noted footpaths.

Action Clerk

11. Council to discuss repairs needed to metal railings between the cemetery and cricket fields.

The HPFA have contacted the Parish Council and requested the council repairs the fence which runs between the playing fields and the cemetery. The council would like to try and use local tradespeople to do the work. Council will contact the Smith family and John Walsh and ask if they would like to quote to do this work. If no local tradesperson can be found the council will ask FL Build to give a quote for the work. **Action Clerk**

12. Grant request from Harrold Twinning Association.

The Harrold Twinning Association applied for a grant of £250 to help cover the costs for the local families hosting visitors during an upcoming exchange with Sainte Pazanne Twinning Association. Cllr Brough proposes the council grants the requested funds using section 137 monies due to the amount of public events the association runs throughout the year, and Cllr Lloyd seconds the motion. The council unanimously voted to give the requested funds. **Action Clerk**

13. Grant request from Harrold Toddler Group.

The Harrold Toddler group applied for a grant of £1000 to help cover the costs of the increase in rent they are having to pay while using the URC as the Harrold Centre is being refurbished. They have had a decrease in the number of attendees with the change in venue. They also need to replace some of their large equipment which has been damaged while in storage. Cllr Tickle proposes the council grants the requested funds using section 137 monies and Cllr Johnston seconds the motion. The council unanimously vote to grant the requested funds. **Action Clerk**

14. Council to review the Harrold Parish Council Risk Assessment for 2016/2017.

Cllr Brough talked through the 2016/2017 Harrold Parish Council Risk assessment. Members of the council agreed with the rating given in all areas and unanimously approved the assessment. Cllr Muller suggested council seek advice from Cllr Holt regarding the assessment of village assets before the next audit. **Action Clerk & Cllr Holt**

15. Any other business –

- Many residents commented about the pothole resurfacing on the High St near Eagle Way. Clerk reported this pothole to BBC reference number 7554. Clerk also spoke to A Prigmore about the large potholes on the Harrold Bridge and as you approach the bridge from the Carlton side. He said these had already been reported and down for repair.
- Cllr A Jones is completing the necessary planning application for replacing the existing metal railings with a stone wall by Harrold Bridge. **Action Cllr Jones**
- BBC Legal team have provided Harrold Parish Council with a draft lease agreement for Harewelle Way Playground. Cllr Reger is looking over the document to ensure the Parish council is happy to move forward with the transfer of ownership of land. **Action Cllr Reger**
- Ms Mitchell would like her comments regarding the toll booth and War memorial refurbishment to be removed from the October 2016 minutes as she feels they were taken out of context. **Action Clerk**
- Cllr Brough to feed back after his meeting with the HPFA working committee.

16. Correspondence –

- A resident emailed regarding the damaged ledge at the end of the footpath by Dove Lane. This was possibly a delivery van. Clerk is looking into the matter and will get quotes for cost of repair. **Action Clerk**
- A resident emailed and would like the lampposts by the cemetery to be cleaned and light changed. **Action Clerk**
- A resident posted a letter outlining his concerns with the development of a 'Peace Garden' in the cemetery. He is concerned there are scattered ashes in the area the council is looking at developing. He would like the council to look at other ways to improve the village like hiring a litter picker rather than changing larger parts of village aesthetics. **Action Cllr Pedersen**

17. Summary of actions

The Chairman summarised the actions required

Meeting Adjourned at 10:10pm

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 8th March 2017

7:30, 72 High Street, Harrold