



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 14th December 2016 at 7.30pm at Parish Council Office

Present: Cllrs D Brough, S Holt, A Jones, G Lloyd, D Mercer, B Page, A Jones, R Brough (Clerk), A Foster (Bedford Borough Council), R Barrett

Apologies – S Reger, R Tickle, M Johnston, R Barrett

Public forum

Lucie Hoad and Adam Paulowski store managers of the Harrold Co-op attended the meeting to give the council an update on the refurb of the Co-op. At this point they are hoping to have the store opening some time in January. Adam also wanted the council to be aware since the coop membership relaunch last year 1% of Co-op branded products goes towards a local charity when a member swipes their membership card. The Harrold centre has benefited from the current round. The next round of applications closes January 20th and as of yet no local charities have put in an application.

- 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 9th November 2016
The minutes from the meeting held on the 9th of November 2016 were approved.
- 4. Matters arising from meeting held 9th November 2016** – for information only
 - A resident reported the concrete sides to the brook are beginning to crumble into the brook. Matter was reported to Highways department. They have come and accessed the area and feel there are no areas which need repair.
 - Cllr Brough will create two maps outlining the areas in the village the council would like regular litter picking and sweeping.
 - Place an advert asking for tenders to design and complete the landscaping work to create a 'peace garden' near the memorial wall in the cemetery.

5. Finance Report:

The following requests for monthly payments were approved by council.

Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Gross	VAT	Net
10 November 2016	Plants & Trees: Memorial Wreath	Catherine Elworthy	70.00	0.00	70.00
09 November 2016	Project: Neighbourhood plan	The Colour Shop- launch printing	335.00	50.00	285.00
10 November 2016	Other: New Buttermarket Electrics	Inspection of Butermarket electrics	120.00	0.00	120.00
12 November 2016	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees: Trevor Roff	3,800.00	0.00	3,800.00
12 November 2016	Project: Neighbourhood plan	BRCC - Housing Needs Survey & Report	2,043.27	340.55	1,702.72
20 November 2016	Other: Various	R Brough expense reimbursement: Cables/splitters for Green Xmas lights	177.37	0.00	177.37
30 November 2016	Clerk Salary: R Brough	Overtime	180.00	0.00	180.00
07 December 2016	Other: Various	R Brough expense reimbursement: No.68 Xmas tree lights + Road cable protector	394.32	0.00	394.32
05 December 2016	Grass: In Trim	November	360.00	60.00	300.00
05 December 2016	Grass: In Trim	December	360.00	60.00	300.00
01 December 2016	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees: Trevor Roff	150.00	0.00	150.00
03 December 2016	Project: Smartening village: Cast Iron Bins and Lamppost painting	FL Build Ltd	12,000.00	2,000.00	10,000.00
30 November 2016	Other: Various	R Brough expense reimbursement: No.68 Xmas tree decorations	142.79	0.00	142.79
23 November 2016	Grant Out: Villager Minibus		300.00	0.00	300.00
27 November 2016	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		20.16	3.36	16.80
06 December 2016	Project: Smartening village: Cast Iron Bins and Lamppost painting	FL Build Ltd	1,380.00	230.00	1,150.00
02 December 2016	Harrold Centre Development	Invoice #1: The BPL- Building Partnership Ltd	16,044.41	2,674.07	13,370.34
17 December 2016	Plants & Trees: Heritage Arboriculture	Lower Green Maintenance	1,800.00	300.00	1,500.00
18 November 2016	Other: Insurance	Annual Council Insurance Premium	2,941.80	0.00	2,941.80
01 December 2016	Office: Rent		375.00	0.00	375.00
21 December 2016	Clerk Salary: R Brough Tax NI		210.35	0.00	210.35
13 December 2016	Other: Various	R Brough expense reimbursement: Lockup Power extension + Multiplugs + Food/Drink for labourers	158.50	0.00	158.50
14 December 2016	Membership: SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) Fees		149.00	0.00	149.00
21 December 2016	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		68.27	15.00	53.27
			<u>43,580.24</u>		

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

(Provided to council prior to meeting via email)

7. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward.

Alison Foster explained the current transport consultation which has been put out by BBC. This will have a large impact on many of Harrold's residents with school aged children. Alison would like the council to encourage residents to respond to the consultation. The BBC needs to find £150k or the consultation will go through. Alison agreed to contact Paul Pace from BBC to try and find out who owns the playground in Saxon House and if there was ever land transfer agreement made. **Action Cllr Foster**

8. Planning applications

Application no: 16/03253/FUL

Proposal: Erection of one dwelling and a detached outbuilding

Location: Orchard To East of Dove Lane Harrold Bedfordshire

Parish Council concerned with chosen materials of reconstituted stone for the proposed development. This compares unfavourably with the natural stone used in the construction of the recently built property adjacent to this development. The council would like to urge that permission only be given for limestone materials to be used.

Application no: 16/03498/FUL

Proposal: First floor extension to existing detached outbuilding to form an additional bedroom/en-suite

Location: 8 Orchard Lane Harrold Bedfordshire

The Council has no objections.

9. Update from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee.

The committee felt the recent Neighbourhood Plan launch at the URC had been very successful. The event was attended by approximately 180 residents which resulted in 450 general and site-specific feedback comments on Post-It notes to consider. Residents had many positive responses and provided good input as the direction of growth they would like to see within Harrold. The information gained is being used to create the next village questionnaire which will go out to residents in February.

10. Harrold Playing Field Association Development.

Cllr Mercer reported from the monthly meeting he attends with the HPA. The HPC should be expecting an application from the HPA for the parking area improvements in the near future. The council discussed the importance of this village facility and how they would like to work with the HPA further to discuss plans for a possibly larger development such as major improvements to the cricket pavilion. HPC will invite HPA to create a subcommittee to work together on possible developments. **Action Cllr Mercer, Cllr Brough & Cllr Holt**

11. Update on stonework quotes for village entrance signs.

Council would like this matter placed on January meeting's agenda and would like a vote to be taken on whether the HPC go ahead with the erection of a new stone barrier to replace the existing iron railings at the entrance to the Harrold bridge and new stone 'Welcome to Harrold' signage at the three entrance points to the village. As there were many members of the council missing at this meeting the council felt they would like to wait and vote when most of the members of council were present. **Action Clerk**

12. Discuss works around border of tennis courts.

The council was contacted by Kevin White the chair of the lawn tennis association. He was enquiring as to whether any more attention would be given to the border around the fencing of the tennis courts. In 2015 the council had agreed to make some type of border around the fencing to stop weeds and grass growing through to the courts. The past clerk informed the Tennis Committee that the maintenance contractor would create a border, spray the area with weed killer and possible in the future put some bark or something else more suitable down. The border was created and the maintenance contractor does spray the border with weed killer a couple times a year. The current council feel they have fulfilled the past request for assistance and would like to suggest the Tennis Association contact the Harrold Centre for further assistance as they are the landlords for the tennis courts and own the land which surrounds the courts. **Action Clerk**

13. Review Applications for co-option of new councillors.

The council reviewed the applications of the applicants wishing to join the HPC and reviewed their responses to the questions the council had asked them. The council felt all three applicants would be very strong additions to the council. Cllr Page proposed the council co-opt the three applicants, Cllr Brough seconds the proposal. All members of the council were in favour of the co-option of the three applicants. The new members will be officially co-opted at the beginning of January's meeting. **Action Clerk**

14. Grant Application from Dancevybz Dance Academy.

Dancevybz approached the Parish Council to help fund their travel costs to the European Championships in May 2017. They have estimated it will cost £790 per dancer family to attend the competition. Dancevybz has asked the council for a grant of £2000 pounds. They will also be approaching Sharnbrook Parish Council for the same amount of funding. Cllr Page proposes HPC provide the grant of £2000 to Dancevybz, Cllr Lloyd seconds the proposal but would ask the dance company to ensure the council is recognised for providing a portion of the funding. A vote is taken and 5 members were in favour of providing the grant and one member abstains. HPC will grant the Dancevybz £2000 towards their travel costs. **Action Clerk**

15. Any other business –

- Taylor Wimpey have received quotes from contractors to complete the work needed in Saxon House End. They are also seeking advice from a land expert regarding the land at the back of homes in Roman Paddock which runs near an underground power cable.
- The Parish Council contacted BBC to help with the removal of the large amount of waste left after the Christmas Market.
- A small area of grass on The Green grass was damaged by one of the fair rides from the Christmas Market. A bollard was somehow removed from the grass leaving a hole and bollard with concrete on the base standing next to the hole. This will need to be repaired. The HPC will have this area repaired. Clerk to speak with local contractor to have the work done asap as the open hole is a safety concern. **Action Clerk**
- Council will look at the Buttermarket in summer and possibly have the paint properly stripped back and painted again as it is the area which gets the hardest hit by weather. **Action Clerk**
- Lock up needs repointing. This is a listed building. Cllr Jones will help find contractors. **Action Clerk & Cllr Jones**
- Footbridge bridge on Brook Lane still closed awaiting works. Council would like Clerk to chase BBC as to when this work will be completed. **Action Clerk**

16. Correspondence –

- The council received an email from a villager who would like the zebra crossing on the High St looked at. When it rains the amount of water which pools makes the crossing unusable. Clerk to speak to BBC.
Action Clerk
- The council received an email from a parent whose sons attend Harrold Lower School. The boys leant against the pillars of the Buttermarket which had been painted. There was no sign posted to advise people of wet paint. One of the boys' school jumper and coat has been damaged. Cllr Barrett contacted the contractor doing the work. Contractor didn't put signs up as paint was drying quickly. They apologised to the parent, explained possible ways to get paint off clothing and will compensate for the clothing if it can't be saved. Clerk to compensate the family for the clothing and HPC will hold payment for the works until Cllr Jones provides a snagging list for the works completed on the Buttermarket and the areas of concern are attended to. **Action Clerk & Cllr Jones.**
- A resident who lives on the High Street phoned and left a message. His wife was nearly hit by a parent parking their car on the pavement outside of their home. They would like some action taken regarding the number of parents parking on the pavements when collecting their children. Council will forward the complaint on to school. **Action Clerk**
- A resident emailed with a few matters she would like addressed. The bench in the cemetery is coming apart. I have asked R Sinclair to do a quick fix to make it safe but it likely needs replacing. The cemetery paths are covered in fallen leaves. She would like these cleared. She also mentioned a lamppost was not painted outside 36 High St. Council will replace the existing bench with the remaining cast iron bench. Council would like to instruct FL Build to do this as they will have it done quickly and have installed previous benches for HPC. **Action Clerk**
- A resident emailed HPC to express an interest in getting involved in a project with the council to possibly improve broadband speeds. He would also like to know if there are any grants available to make improvements to the Scout Hut.
- A resident contacted the HPC asking if we could write to BBC And Zurich insurance regarding a claim she has put to them for a puncture to her car tyre from a pothole the clerk had reported to BBC. Council advised clerk that this was not something we can help with. **Action Clerk**
- Residents from Orchard Lane emailed the council to draw attention to the lack of maintenance to the brook. There is too much vegetation and fallen leaves as well as sludge at the bottom of the brook. The members of the council have reviewed the current state of the brook and feel the appropriate amount of silt is being removed from that area.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 11th January 2017

7:30pm 72 High Street