

HARROLD PARISH COUNCIL – Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 1st June 2011 at the Harrold Institute (Centre) 7.30pm

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Present: Cllr J Knight (Chairman), Cllrs R Barrett, N Charsley, L Cordes, P Hickman, R Tickle, J Waller, Borough Councillor Alison Foster. R Phillips (DLP), Mr Hamilton Black, Mrs D Styles and daughter, Mr G West and son in law, Mr Johnston.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr J Osborne, Bedfordshire Police.
2. **Disclosure of interests:** None.
3. **Approval of Minutes of meeting held 4th May 2011:** these minutes were deemed a true record of the meeting held on this date.
4. **Matters arising from meeting held 4th May 2011:** Currently there are 8 members on the Parish Council, there are still several vacancies. Any matters arising will be addressed in these minutes.
5. **Mr Hamilton Black/Robert Phillips (DLP):** Mr Black addressed the Council with his proposal for development to the site in Roman Paddock (right hand side of the road – old Bridgman Offices). No application has been submitted at this time, but Mr Black was very keen to talk to the Council about his proposed Male Hairdressers/Sports Physio business – with a residential unit on the first floor. In general the Council were positive (in principle) and we know await a definite Planning Application to be put in to Bedford Borough Council.
6. **Planning Applications:** review of 11/00394/FUL – 4 Dickens Close, Harrold. The owner of the property (Mr Johnston) was allowed to put his request to the Council for a review on their decision at the May meeting (Council objected to the allowance of proposed ‘garden use’). Mr Johnston confirmed that the garden area would not be used for further build and Council stated that they would review their decision to approval, with a restrictive clause to state that no building would take place on the site. This would be confirmed to the Planning Officer in charge of this case – Mr A. Wren.

Open Public Session A parishioner, Mrs Styles, had a complaint about recent fires and arson next to her property. Council assured Mrs Styles that the Police were dealing with these matters and that she should contact the Police for further assistance. Mrs Styles also suggested that she plants another prickly hedge alongside her property to try to detract criminal damage, the Council were in four of her doing this. The Council, whilst very concerned about these incidents, has little power, but we will also speak to the local Police. Another parishioner, Mr West, is concerned about the lack of lighting along the Wellocks footpath. Council will contact B.B.C. Highways and follow up his concern.

7. **Finance report:** The May report was circulated to parishioners and all payments were agreed.
8. **Borough Councillor's report:** The new Borough Councillor, Alison Foster, was warmly welcomed to the meeting. Alison was able to update the Council on the following issues – B.B.C. Allocations & Designations is still in draft form until the 22nd June. The Podington and Nun's Wood Windfarms appeals are still in progress. Harrold Lower and Middle Schools parking/traffic issues will be followed up Alison. The Chairman thanked Alison for her report. At this point Cllrs Cordes and Waller gave their apologies and left the meeting.
9. **Areas of responsibilities reports:** Councillors were asked to review and agree their areas of responsibilities. Cemetery and Churchyard (Cllr Charsley), Common Lane (Cllr Waller), Footpaths (Cllr Tickle), Planning (all), Playgrounds (Cllr Barrett), PR (Clerk), Grass cutting (Clerk), Highways/Lighting (Cllr Hickman), Youth Services (Cllr Osborne), Church Clock (Cllr Hickman), Harrold Centre (Cllrs Cordes/Barratt), Harrold Playing Field Ass. (Cllr Charsley), N/Watch (Clerk). **Cemetery and Churchyard:** grass cutting much improved although footpath untidy – request clearance. Hope to have quotation for iron fencing (3 panels) by July meeting. **Brook:** build up of algae in some stretches of the brook – request Richard (Contractor) to clear. **Common Land:** the Chairman thanked all parishioners (and Parish Councillors) who recently helped with the Community Litter Pick day. The bench facing the High Street needs cleaning and painting. Hedge on the Wellocks footpath needs cutting back (on common land section). Parishioners to be reminded not to leave skips, builder's materials on the upper green area. **Playgrounds:** several minor repairs needed in playgrounds – Richard Sinclair to do these. New equipment proposals – Cllr Barratt will have a report for the July meeting. **Highways/Lighting:** A number of light columns have been reported for repair. A Highways meeting is scheduled for June 28th (Cllr Hickman and Clerk) to review Highways issues. **Footpaths:** previously reported areas of concern have still not been cleared by Borough Rights of Way Officer. Clerk to contact Adrian Felts again. **Public Relations:** a number of anti-social offences had been reported to the Police. **Youth Services/Club:** no Youth Club at the moment as no further support from Parents. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Clerk is in close contact with Police and will attend the A.G.M. for Bedford Neighbourhood Watch on June 23rd. Police Joint Action Group meeting is on 7th July at the Harrold Centre – 7.30pm start. **St. Peter's Church village clock:** no problems at the moment.
10. **Reports from Parish Council Representatives: Playing Field Ass** – a Planning Application for solar panels on the Cricket Pavilion will shortly be submitted. Dog problem on the field – request B.B.C. Dog Warden visits the village. **Harrold Centre:** Plans are almost ready to go to B.B.C. **Harrold on line:** nothing to report.
11. **Correspondence:** the list of correspondence was circulated to Council – see appendix (i).

12. Summary of Actions: the chairman summarised actions from this meeting:- Police support for parishioners. Dog Warden to visit the village. Various repairs for the

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village handyman, Richard. Rights of Way Officer to inspect footpaths. Brook – clearance of algae. Playground report.

13. Date of next meeting: 6th July at 7.30pm, Harrold Centre. Cllr Tickle to Chair the meeting in Cllr Knight's absence.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10pm.