

# HARROLD PARISH COUNCIL – Minutes of meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at the Harrold Institute (Centre) 7.30pm 117

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**Present:** Cllr J Knight (Chairman), Cllrs R Barrett, P Hickman, J Osborne, T Storer, R Tickle, D Williams. One parishioner (Lisa Cordes).

1. **Apologies:** Cllr J Waller, Borough Councillor N Charsley, Bedfordshire Police.
2. **Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the next year 2011/12:** Cllr Tickle proposed that Cllr James Knight stands for Chairman for the next year; this was seconded by Cllr R Barrett with full Council support. The position of Vice-Chairman, here Cllr Robert Tickle was proposed by Cllr D Williams and seconded by the full Council. Both Cllr James Knight and Cllr Robert Tickle agreed to take on the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. The Council (as from the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011) will also include Councillors Peter Hickman, Nick Charsley, Johnette Waller. Those Councillors who have indicated that they wish to stay on the Council will be Co-opted – Richard Barrett and Jenny Osborne. Lisa Cordes introduced herself to the Council and was also Co-opted onto the Council. The Areas of Responsibilities for all Councillors will be agreed at the June Council meeting.
3. **Disclosure of interests:** none.
4. **Approval of Minutes of meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> April:** these minutes were deemed a true and correct version of the meeting held on this date.
5. **Matters arising from the meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> April:** any matters arising will be addressed in these minutes.
6. **Finance Report:** Finance report for payments circulated to Council. All payments agreed. The new Nat West Bank Account has been opened and it was agreed to transfer part of the Current Account into this new account, leaving a smaller sum in the Royal Bank of Scotland Account for the next few months. Once the other new Bank Account with Barclays has been opened a further transfer will be made from the RBS Deposit Account.
7. **Police Report:** a copy of the recent crime figures on reported crimes circulated to Councillors. These are still low – with only 5 recorded crimes from 31/3/11 to 3/5/11. Council are concerned because there has been a marked increase of crime in the village over the past week. Letter to Riseley Police Station requesting more support for PCSO Chris Warmington, as PC Rob Smith is no longer working in our SNT area.
8. **Borough Councillor’s Report:** not present at this meeting.

9. **Planning Applications:** 11/00394/FUL – 4 Dickens Close, Harrold – change of land usage and erection of a Conservatory. Council considered this application and objected to the change of land use from agricultural to garden because of the concern over possible additional building on this plot in the future. Council had no objection to the erection of the Conservatory.
10. **Areas of Responsibility: Church yard and Cemetery** – still awaiting quotations from contractors for the fence bordering the Playing Field and the area of grass in front of the Memorial Wall. Clerk to chase up. Cllr Knight will look at the weed problem at the back of the Memorial Wall and advise Richard, the village handyman. Grass cutting in this area much improved. **Brook** – rather too much dog poo in and around the old Bridgman’s site near the Brook – Clerk to contact Bedfordshire Borough Council and ask if the Dog Warden can come out to the village. See if it is possible to get some new notices up. **Common land** - the recent Pit Run was very successful and good clearing up after the event. Congratulations to the Pit Run Team for a very well organised event. **Footpaths** – Wellocks footpath still has a problem with overhanging trees/hedges – property owners to be contacted and asked to cut back the dangerous areas. Clerk to contact the Rights of Way Officer as several of the village footpaths (between Harewelle Estate and the Roman Paddock Estate need cutting back). Signage by the Fire Station footpath needs repairing. **Playgrounds** – Cllr Barrett has identified several areas which need repairs in the Harrold Centre playground – Richard the village handyman will carry out necessary repairs. Cllr Barrett will have an updated report for the next meeting. **Public Relations** – very good feedback from the Pit Run event. Parishioners very positive about walkabouts which PCSO Chris is carrying out around the village. **Highways/Lighting** – parking issues outside the main Schools entrance. Cllr Hickman, Knight and B. Cllr Charsley attended a site meeting this morning. Bedford Borough Council’s Andrew Prigmore has already sent the Council a response to this meeting – yellow markings have already been repainted today. Council await further developments to improve the safety aspect of this area. On the Odell Road near to Westwood Nurseries the 30 mph limit will be extended to just beyond this point. No confirmed date yet from B.B.C. Highways. **Youth Services** – there was no Youth Club during April due to the holiday period. Council agreed that they will not run the Club again until more parents offer to help out on the Friday evenings. Old, broken equipment needs to be disposed of and then replaced when the Club starts up again. Hugh Storer is still willing to run the Club when it starts up again. **Harrold Centre** – John Creasey is

preparing the plans to put forward on a planning application. Council to pay the fees, as planning application fees are reduced if paid for by a Parish Council. Next Centre meeting is 9<sup>th</sup> May – Cllr Knight to attend. The planters outside the Centre need replanting with summer plants – Cllr Knight will see to this. **Neighbourhood Watch** – Clerk to organise a meeting with PCSO Chris and street co-ordinators. It has been brought to the Parish Council’s attention that the dog bin in Church Walk needs replacing. Council agreed to this request and also to another new dog bin by the brook in Roman Paddock.

**11. Reports from Parish Council Representatives: Harrold Playing Field Association –**

Clerk attended the April meeting. Recent burglary at the Cricket Pavilion. Council have offered free Smart Water to HPFA – they are very keen to accept this offer. Recent Car Boot Sale was very successful – another Car Boot Sale will be held in the Autumn. Problems with dog owners allowing dogs onto the playing field, despite the many notices around the area. Solar panels on the Cricket Pavilion are being seriously considered – the Committee hope to obtain funding from WREN and the Mayor’s Climate Fund. **Harrold on Line** – their stall at the recent Pit Run was successful and brought in additional revenue. **Village Clock** – the Chairman thanked Cllr Hickman for his many recent hours trying to sort out St. Peter’s Clock which had been out of action. All the repairs have now been carried out by Smiths of Derby.

**12. Correspondence:** refer to appendix (a).

**13. Summary of actions:** the Chairman summarised the main actions as attention to Police support, dog mess issues, footpaths issues, repairs to Harrold Centre playground, safety and residents parking outside the Schools site, parental help needed to run the Youth Club, planning application to go in to Bedford Borough Council for the new Harrold Centre proposed plans, NW meeting during the Summer, two new dog bins required.

**14. Date of the next meeting:** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 – 7.30pm at the Harrold Centre.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm.