

HARROLD PARISH COUNCIL – Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 7th September 2011 at the Harrold Institute (Centre) 7.30pm

125

Present: Cllr J Knight (JK) (Chairman), Cllrs R Barrett (RB), N Charsley (NC), L Cordes (LC), P Hickman (PH), J Osborne (JO), W Ross (WR), R. Tickle (RT), J Waller (JW), **Borough Councillor** Alison Foster. In attendance: Mike Johnston and Laurie Moore (co-option of Parish Councillors), Jonathan Farr and Mr Palmer (Bus services), Bob Woodward (Harrold Playing Field Association)

- 1. Apologies:** Bedfordshire Police.
- 2. Disclosure of interests:** Cllr Hickman regarding point 11 (Highways) – proposed parking around the village green/High Street – PH resident of Priory Close.
- 3. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 6th July:** these minutes were deemed a true record of the meeting held on this date and signed off by Cllr Knight.
- 4. Matters arising from meeting held 6th July 2011:** Any matters arising will be addressed in these minutes. Co-option of Parish Councillors – Mike Johnston and Laurie Moore had both submitted their profiles prior to this meeting. They both asked Council if they could be considered for co-option onto Harrold Parish Council.
4.1 – it was resolved by Council to co-opt Mike Johnston (proposed by Cllr Charsley and seconded by Cllr Tickle), and Laurie Moore (Cllr Tickle proposed and Cllr Charsley seconded). The rest of Council were unanimous in co-opting both parties.
- 5. Jonathan Farr (Bedford Borough Council Bus Services – Public Transport Team Leader) and Mr Palmer (Grant Palmer Ltd):** Harrold Parish Council had asked that both Mr Farr and Mr Palmer attend the meeting to explain the new bus services which have been operating in the village since 21st August 2011. Council were concerned that there had been no contact from the authorities prior to the change of routes etc. Complaints from users that they were unsure about timetabled services, buses not arriving and general confusion. Council were assured that the services will be reviewed, probably by half term (end of October) and any necessary changes will be looked in to. There has been a recent problem with the Oakley bridges being closed; the bridges are now open. There is a problem with the No. 25 bus having to stop outside QD Stores in Bedford, this will be resolved in the near future. Paper timetables have not been available for bus users, but Mr Farr said that a new print run was about to be published. He would make sure that timetables would be delivered to Harrold Post Office. Mr Farr and Mr Palmer were thanked for attending the meeting and left at 8.10pm.
- 6. Bob Woodward (Harrold Playing Field Association):** the new Solar panels have been installed on the Cricket Pavilion roof, together with the extra wall/roof insulation. The total expenditure on this project is £15,285.00. To date finances include a grant from Bedford Borough Council of £7,214., a grant from WREN of

£6,700. Therefore Bob asked if the Parish Council can pay the two invoices (potential reclaimable VAT through Harrold Parish Council is £371). There is a difference of £1,000.00 to be found. Harrold Parish Council agreed to pay £500 and Alison Foster suggested that Bob applies to her Ward Fund for the balance of £500. – 6.1 – Council resolved to pay the invoices and then invoice back to HPFA. A cheque for £500. will be given to HPFA from Harrold Parish Council.

7. **Police Report:** apologies from PCSO Warmington and PC Hawkey – both were unable to attend today’s meeting. A police report from Harrold was circulated to Council. This will go into the October/November edition of ‘The Bridge’ magazine. Crime has increased over the past couple of months, extra patrols have been implemented. From the 1st October there will be a new structure to rural policing, due to financial cutbacks. We will still have the PCSO’s in our rural area and there will be a team of 50 Police Officers whose shifts will be in line with the Response Sections, the team from Bedford will come out to Harrold when necessary.
8. **Planning Applications: 11/01836/FUL – Harrold Centre (revised) – rear/side extensions & internal alteration** – no objections from Council. Request from the Borough Officer in charge of this planning application for the metal ‘Ad Hoc’ container to be removed when the new development has been completed. This was agreed, providing sufficient storage space is allocated to ‘Ad Hoc’. **11/01266/FUL** – 137 Odell Road, Odell (but this is still within Harrold Parish) - single storey side extension following demolition of garage. New roof to dormer and erection of new detached timber garage in front garden – no objections from Council. See attachment (a) for other applications dealt with by Council (and the decisions from B.B.C.) over the past two months.
9. **Finance Report:** requests for payment were agreed. Concern from Council regarding on going invoices from the Harrold Centre architect, John Creasey. In future his invoices must be agreed with the Parish Council – Cllr Cordes to attend the next Harrold Centre monthly meeting to advise the Harrold Centre Committee.
10. **Borough Councillor’s Report:** Alison Foster confirmed that the new Allocations & Designations Plan (ADP) for Submission Consultation documents will be sent out to Parish Council by the end of September. Note that Peaches Close area has been removed from initial consultation and designated an open space. A parishioner has approached Alison regarding reinstating the Harrold Centre Bus Shelter. Note that Harrold Centre is not a designated bus stop and therefore does not have a shelter. Advised Alison that the best person to deal with this would be Jonathan Farr (B.B.C.).
11. **Areas of Responsibility Reports: Church yard & Cemetery** – need more fencing quotes for repair of iron boundary fence. Action: Clerk
Brook: sewage problem into Brook – Church Walk area. Anglian Water to investigate. **Common Land:** some wear on the ground in front of the new paving slabs/bench was reported. Discussion as to whether to install a new rubbish bin on the Lower Green – Council decided not to do this as evidence points to the people who drop litter will not use it. Buttermarket – quotation for repairs to roof accepted (Broadbent Roofing - £285.00) **Footpaths:** Stile on Brook Lane footpath needs

repair. Fire Station footpath needs clearing – Action Cllr Tickle.

Playgrounds: Harrold Centre Playground – climbing frame damaged, repairs required. **PR:** next article for the Oct/Nov ‘Bridge’ has been submitted.

Highways/lighting: Bridgman Bowls Club has requested the provision of a street sign (High Street/Eagle Way) – Clerk to contact Highways. New sign also needed for ‘13th Century Church’ at Church Walk/High Street. Brook Lane resident wants improved residential parking in the Lane. Council could not come up with a suitable solution and whatever is suggested will be very difficult to endorse. Perhaps the resident could carry out a survey within the Lane to see what other residents think would be a good idea? Proposed restrictions for parking around the village green and High Street – consultation documents have been sent to all residents in the area who would be affected. Consultation period ends at the end of September. Cllr Hickman will provide a full report on street lights at the next meeting. A councillor reported that both BT phone boxes were not working – Clerk to speak to BT. **Youth Services/Youth Club:** No youth club at present as not enough parental assistance. Letter to go out to previous users of the Youth Club to try to obtain more interest and commitment. An offer from the Chellington Centre for occasional free usage of their premises by the Youth Club – to be looked in to. **Neighbourhood Watch:** waiting for Police to come back with possible dates for a meeting of NW. **St. Peter’s Church:** Cllr Hickman confirmed that Smiths would be out this Friday to look at the problem with the quarter strike.

12. **Reports from Parish Council representatives: Harrold Playing Field Ass** - Car Boot Sale will be on 9th October. Quiz is on 18th November. **Harrold Centre:** Revised plans have been submitted. Cllr Cordes to attend next meeting on the 12th September. **Harrold on Line:** 2012 Calendar will go on sale early November. New software purchased. Re-launch the site to the public in the near future.
13. **Correspondence:** a list of correspondence was circulated to Council for information. See attachment (b).
14. **Summary of actions:** the Chairman summarised actions from the above reported items.
15. **Date of next meeting** – Wednesday 5th October 2011 7.30pm.
There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.10 pm.