

## MINUTES of meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 at the Harrold Centre (Red Room)

**Present:** Cllr. J Knight (Chairman), Cllrs. N Charsley (Borough Councillor), H Field, P Hickman, A Stuart, C Thacker, J Wingerath.

**In attendance:** PCSO Michael Blass, Harold Chiverall (parishioner).

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr T Storer, N Grout, D Williams, R Tickle.
- 2. Disclosure of interests:** None.
- 3. Approval of minutes from the meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> November :** signed off and approved as a true record of the meeting.
- 4. Matters arising from meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> November:** all matters arising from this meeting will be recorded in these minutes.
- 5. Police report:** crimes numbers are low in Harrold at the present time. Parish Council asked PCSO Michael Blass if extra police patrols could be carried out to deal with the problem of parking around the village green and the illegal parking on double yellow lines along the High Street. Abandoned vehicle in the High Street – Michael will look into the possibility of having this vehicle removed as it is causing a traffic problem. Michael suggested that if more parishioners purchase Smart Water this will act as a deterrent.
- 6. Finance report:** before discussion on Finance, the Chairman invited Harold Chiverall to address the Parish Council. Mr Chiverall lives at the Old School House on the village green and wanted to know if there were any plans for the old hall adjoining his property. The chairman explained that the Parish Council have not carried out any formal investigations into this property at the present time. Mr Chiverall also wanted to advise that when the new Grass Cutting contractor starts work could we make sure that work is not carried out before 7am. The Chairman thanked Mr Chiverall for his comments. **Finance report:** all cheques agreed and signed off, with the addition of the cheque for Harrold Playing Field Association for £1,500 (Rural Grant from Bedford Borough Council). Grass cutting contract for 2010/11 – awarded to Warners of Bedford (Cllr. Thacker and Field were not in favour of this decision) but the majority voted in favour of Warners of Bedford for the contract. Budget for 2010/11 – agreed to include £5,000 for play equipment . Parish Council agreed to make a payment of £250 towards the Harrold lunch club for pensioners (Christmas lunch).
- 7. Borough Councillor's report:** Ward Boundaries – a decision will be made within the first couple of weeks in January – Nick Charsley will advise in due course. Ward members fund – Nick will advise when he has decided on area he will put his funding into.
- 8. Planning:** Podington P.C. may well approach us for a donation towards the solicitor's fees towards the appeal against the Wind turbines at Podington Airfield – more details needed before council agree to any payment. 09/02649/S73 – Podington Airfield – fence to surround storage area – no objections from council. 09/02233/FUL – Harrold Fire Station – road traffic compound – no objections from council. Coleman Properties – recent meeting with Simon James – refer his comments about the old Bridgman site (Roman Paddock) to Cllr. Charsley.

9. **Areas of responsibility reports. Cemetery and Church yard:** hedge needs replanting alongside the playing field – Cllr Thacker will talk to committee. Need to check insurance cover to Church yard wall and the War Memorial. Quotation from Mr Keech needed for another area of church yard wall that needs repointing. **Brook:** details of requirements for a new contract have been sent out to two contractors. **Common land:** Berberis hedging plants to be planted at the lower green and planters need replanting at the Harrold Centre. **Pit run 2010:** to be held on the village green. It will cost £150 to close the High Street, parish council may be able to pay for this. **Footpaths:** no report. **Playgrounds:** new swing unit – Cllr Wingerath is looking into prices for this. **Highways:** meeting with Andy Prigmore this week regarding forecourt at Harrold Garage. **Youth:** youth club running very well, but we need to set up a management committee to help run the club. **Harrold Centre:** no report. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Smart Water – find out if we can get a discount - Cllr Stuart will find out more details.
10. **Reports from Parish Council Representatives: Playing Field Association:** deliver Rural Fund cheque to them. **Harrold on line:** finances are ok. Need to advise local village groups that there are 10 licenses available for their use.
11. **Correspondence:** list of correspondence read out to all councillors – clerk to action where necessary.
12. **Summary of actions:** chairman summarised actions from the meeting.
13. **Date of next meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010 – 7.30pm.

**There being no further business the meeting finished at 22:25.**