

Minutes of meeting held 3rd February 2010 at the Harrold Centre (Red Room) 19:30 hrs.

Present: Cllr. N. Grout (In the Chair), Cllrs: H. Field, P. Hickman, A. Stuart, C. Thacker, R. Tickle, D. Williams, J. Wingerath.

In attendance: Mr H. Chivral, Mr N. Miers, Mr J. Kirkup, Mr R. Sinclair (parishioners) and Peter Martin (Safer Neighbourhood Team).

- 1. Apologies:** Cllrs: N.Charsley, J. Knight, T. Storer.
- 2. Disclosure of interests:** Cllr Thacker regarding point (8) Planning Applications – Tree Preservation Order No:13/2009 – land at Fieldside, Church Walk, Harrold (Application no: 09/02540/TCA).
- 3. Approval of minutes from meeting 6th January 2010:** amend point (3) to read 2nd December 2009. Signed off as a true record of the meeting.
- 4. Matters arising from meeting held on 6th January:** any relevant matters will be recorded further on in these minutes.
- 5. Police report:** Clerk read out the police report sent in from PC Rob Smith. Very quiet in Harrold at the moment – 5 crimes since the beginning of the year. Complaints of illegal parking outside the School/village green and areas of the High Street – Police will look into these problems and liaise with Bedford Borough Council. Parish Council to write to B.B.C. about this matter also. **Peter Martin arrived at 7.45pm** to discuss updates on the ‘No Cold Calling’ scheme. Concerned parishioners can call the hotline number (08454 04 05 06) at any time to reported bogus callers – this line is manned by Trading Standards and the Safer Neighbourhood Team. Distraction burglaries are becoming more common. A new leaflet “Your doorstep, your decision” will soon be published and put through letterboxes. A Councillor remarked that even calling the ‘999’ number obtained a very slow response. Cllr Tickle will bring this matter up at the Police J.A.G. meeting next week. Peter finished his talk at 8.05pm, but stayed on to listen to the rest of the meeting.
- 6. Finance report:** all payments approved and cheques signed. Chase up repayment on Harrold Centre Bottlebank.
- 7. Borough Councillor’s report for Harrold Ward:** no report. Parish Council would like to see additional salt/grit bins, suggested locations at road junctions and on the village green – Nick Charsley to follow up on this. Cllr Wingerath will talk to Cllr Charsley about the road closure for this year’s Pit Run.
- 8. Planning applications:** **10/00052/FUL & 10/00053LBC** – 48 High Street, Harrold – re-thatch main roof and replace tiles with thatch – no objections from Council, but request Highways look at using traffic lights at this location. Suggest work is carried out in a school holiday to minimise traffic problems. **10/00045/FUL** – 10 Church Walk, Harrold – erection of detached garage and domestic workshop in garden. Application to extend the time limit for implementation of planning permission 04/02871/FUL - no objections from Council. **10/00040/FUL** – Well House, The Green, Harrold – one and two storey side/front extension to form granny annexe – Council considered this application too large for the area, views

from the houses adjacent to the lower green will be partially blocked. Highways issue because of increased works traffic through Church Walk, which has already suffered with increased potholes over the past 6 months due to other works traffic at Long Ridge.

10/00054/REM – Land adj. 68A High Street, Harrold – erection of 5 dwellings – approval of reserved matters pursuant to outline planning permission 03/01893/OUT – Council objected on the grounds that 5 properties on this site would be too many, Council would prefer to see 3 bungalow type buildings. Two of the largest properties would face south, this would cause privacy problems to properties nearby in the High Street. Other concerns; green issue, environment issue, noise and access issues, lack of parking space, the excessive height of the properties, impact on traffic in the High Street. **09/02540/TCA** – fell one Sycamore tree – Fieldside, Church Walk, Harrold – Council had no objection.

- 9. Areas of responsibility: Cemetery and Churchyard** – the hedge is dying on the HPF side in the Cemetery, Cllr Thacker suggests that this part of the hedge is removed by Richard Sinclair, then replanted. 9 (i) Resolved – Council in full agreement. Area behind Memorial Wall has been cleared and opened up resulting in a great improvement to the area in general. Cremation of Ashes – heaps of ashes are often just left near to the Memorial Wall, but they should be scattered. Write to local Funeral Directors to request that ashes are scattered behind the Memorial Wall (Clerk/CT). **Brook** maintenance contract had been put out to tender and quotations received from Shalane Garden Services (current contractor) and Richard Sinclair. 9 (ii) Resolved – Council proposed and agreed to accept the quotation from Richard Sinclair. This contract will be for a 12 month period. Contract to be drawn up (Clerk/DW). **Common land:** planters at Harrold Centre need attention (Clerk/HF). **Footpaths:** Cllr Tickle suggested that the old stile on the footpath by the Fire Station is replaced – request visit from B.B.C. Rights of Way Officer (Clerk/RT). **Playgrounds:** Cllr Wingerath will obtain a quotation from Wicksteed for a new Swing unit. **Public Relations:** Fire Chief, James Bayliss will be involved with a new information service to be launched next month sponsored by BRCC). The Fire Station is available for community use, interested parties need to liaise with James at the station. **Highways/Lighting:** most of the reported faulty street lights have been repaired. Missing street road signs for Hall Close and Mowhills have been reported. Concerns over lack of salting/gritting by B.B.C. on the village roads, especially the High Street and school bus route to Sharnbrook – write to B.B.C. (Clerk) Copy to portfolio holder for Highways and MP. A. Burt. Cllr Hickman and Clerk meet with Alex Cattanach (B.B.C. Highways Amey) this morning, to walk the village and draw up a list of work the Parish Council would like to see completed as soon as possible – most will be done in the next financial year. Wellocks footpath urgently requires attention – Alex will charge to Resolution Homes. Illegal parking on High Street and village green outside school entrance – letter to B.B.C. Enforcement Team and Parking Services Manager. Drain by bus stop in High Street requires attention. **Youth Services and Youth Club:** Clerk advised Council (in Cllr Storer's absence) that the Youth Club is well supported by the children, but there is a need for parents to become more involved and help out. **Harrold Centre:** no developments to

date. Cllr Tickle to contact Aiden Lynch – no further action at the moment. Cllr Field asked to be excused from the meeting (9.50pm). **Neighbourhood Watch:** Cllr Stuart will contact the Smart Water manufacturer for best price if a large number of units were ordered – more information at the next meeting. Possibility of selling Smart Water at the Pit Run event.

- 10. Reports form parish council representatives:** HPFA – no report. **Harrold on Line:** next meeting is on 16.2.10. Look at producing new pages for the Youth Club and NHW. **Pit Run 2010** – next meeting is 4.2.10 – Cllr Wingerath hopes to attend.
- 11. Correspondence:** list circulated to all councillors, see appendix (a) – Clerk to action as necessary.
- 12. Summary of actions:** remove old section of hedge in Cemetery, confirm Pit Run road closure, Harrold Centre planters, Smart Water, letters to Police and Bedford Borough Council, Highways – follow up with Alex Cattanach, Youth Club parent helpers, letters to Funeral Directors (ashes).
- 13. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 3rd March 2010 – 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 10.30pm.