

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 2nd February 2011 – start time 7.30pm

Present: J. Knight (Chairman), Cllrs. R.Tickle, T. Storer.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllrs. R. Barrett, P. Hickman, D. Williams, Borough Cllr. N Charsely.
- 2. Disclosure of interests:** none.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2011 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed off by the Chairman.
- 4. Matters arising from the meeting held 5th January:** these will be discussed at this meeting with any further actions to be finalised.
- 5. Co-option of new Parish Councillor:** there is one applicant, who attended the January meeting, who has applied to the Parish Council to join as a co-opted member. **5.1** It was decided at this meeting that a decision will be made at the March meeting, when it is hoped a full Parish Council Committee will be present.
- 6. Police report:** no Bedfordshire Police present at this meeting. The Clerk had received a Crime stat sheet which indicated 6 reported crimes for Harrold between 31/12/10 – 1/2/2011. The Police continue to send out extra patrols for our village and encourage all parishioners to report any unusual activity in the village to the Police.
- 7. Finance Report:** all payment requests agreed and cheques were signed by two signatories. Invoice to be sent to the Harrold Playing Field Association for the work carried out by Stumpbusters. A £100 donation to Harrold Women's Fellowship was agreed. Harrold Twinning association have asked for a donation towards the June visit from the French visitors – the Clerk will contact the group to find out more before a decision is made at the March P.C. meeting. Change of Banks: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Tickle and Williams to finalise.
- 8. Borough Councillor's Report:** Nick Charsley was unable to attend the meeting.
- 9. Planning applications:** none.
- 10. Areas of responsibility reports:** **Cemetery:** still waiting on fencing quote for small section of new fencing near to the Cricket Pavilion. Also waiting on a quotation from G. Steer Gardening Services for work on lawn area in front of the Memorial Wall. **Brook:** Richard continues to do great maintenance work. Request from Richard to ask David Smith to supply a quotation for clearing silt **10.1** this was agreed by Council @ £200. + VAT. **Common Land:** provision of extra salt/grit bins, Clerk to contact Andrew Prigmore again. Bench on the village green (near the path) considerable damage to grass from seated occupants **10.2** Council agreed to inserting paving slabs just in front of the bench, the village handyman to do this as soon as possible. **Footpaths:** Cllr Tickle will take another look at the wooden stiles on several footpaths around the village. Also to follow up on contacting parishioners whose hedges are overhanging the Wellocks footpath. It was agreed that two new rubbish bins (one at the junction of Church Walk/High Street and one between the Harrold Institute and village green) will be installed by Bedford Borough Council (the Parish Council will have to pay for these new bins). Agreed that a dual recycling bin will be installed at Church Walk and a normal 'Plaza' style bin in the High Street. **Playgrounds:** no report from Cllr Barrett.

Richard (village handyman) has repaired the wooden, green posted fence in the Harrold Centre playground. **Public Relations:** Clerk has received many complaints about litter, especially on the village green. The village handyman picks up litter on a regular basis twice a week. **Highways:** Council have agreed to option (3) involving the culvert work at Church Walk/High Street/Dove Lane junctions. The necessary work will be carried out by Amey, on behalf of Bedford Borough Council. The Parish Council have agreed to put £2,000. towards the work as it was felt that additional traffic 'waiting' restrictions are necessary in this section of the main road. **Youth Club:** over the past months there has been little help from parents of the first session at Youth Club (Years 5, 6 and 8), therefore it was decided to close this session. Clerk will produce a letter for these parents to advise them that this session will cease after the 4th February. However, the second older session (Year 8 and above) will still continue from 7pm – 9pm. Parent help is still needed at this session, but to date parents in this group have been far more supportive. Hugh Storer has taken over as Youth Club Leader and paid for two sessions to date (14th and 28th January 2011). No sessions were held on 7th and 21st January (no parental help). PCSO Chris Warmington attended the last session and it was very good to see him interacting with the youngsters. Cllr Storer advised Council that a possible 'Film Night' would be arranged in Harrold at the beginning of March – more details to follow. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Harrold still needs street co-ordinators for several areas around the village – Nina will arrange a Spring/early Summer NW meeting in the near future. Smart Water is still available for parishioners @ £10 per unit – contact the Clerk if interested. A Smart Water unit and sign have been given to Harrold Allotments FOC.

11. **Reports from Parish Councillor Representatives: Harrold Playing Field Association -**
The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 22nd February and will be the Annual General Meeting. Cllr Knight or the Clerk will attend this meeting. Harrold Centre Management Committee – the next meeting is scheduled for Monday 14th February, Cllr Knight hopes to attend this meeting. Harrold on Line: the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 15th February – Cllrs Charsley, Tickle and Hickman to attend. Cllr Tickle was asked by Council to find out what support is required for HOL from Harrold P.C. Pit Run 2011 – Clerk advised Council that at the moment no road closure has been applied for at this year's event on 30th April. The event is to be held with a 'Royal' flavour (as the Royal Wedding is on the 29th April).
12. Correspondence: see appendix (1) for list of received information and any actions taken from this meeting.
13. Summary of Actions: Clerk to gain quotations for various works. Bank changes to be finalised. Youth Club – new session time. Councillors/Clerk to attend meeting as outlined at point (11).
14. **Date of next meeting – Wednesday 2nd March – 7.30pm** at Harrold Institute, Red Room. There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 9.30pm.