

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 1st July 2009 at the Harrold Centre.

Present: Cllr J Knight (Chairman), Cllrs H. Bovis, N. Charsley (late arrival due to Middle Schools meeting), N. Grout, A, Stuart, T. Storer, C. Thacker, J. Wingerath.

In attendance: Heather Field, PCSO Michael Blass.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs P. Hickman, D. Williams, R. Tickle, R. Watts (resigned).
2. **Disclosure of interest:** none.
3. **Approval of minutes:** minutes of Parish Council meeting held 3rd June 2009 approved as a true record of the meeting. Minutes signed off by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising from meeting held 3rd June 2009:** Cllr Storer attended the School Consultation held at Sharnbrook Upper School on 11th June – the overall majority of people who were at this meeting feel that a move to the two tier system would be beneficial for the County of Bedfordshire. A vote was taken at this parish council meeting of Councillors – recording 5 for moving to two tier and 2 against. **4.(i)** resolved: record comments to Bedford Borough Council that Harrold Parish Council are in favour of change to two tier education. **St. Francis Xavier Church:** Cllr Tickle will contact Aidan Lynch, Diocesan Property Services.
5. **Vacancy for co-opted councillor:** Heather Field has applied for this vacancy; her details had already been circulated to councillors prior to this meeting. Cllr Storer proposed Heather and all councillors present seconded her application. The Chairman welcomed Heather to the Council. There was one other applicant, but she had failed to respond to an invitation to attend today's meeting. It was noted that Cllr Wingerath thinks she may have moved, but a new address is unknown.
6. **Police report:** PC Rob Smith had sent a report to the Clerk, and this was distributed to all councillors present. PCSO Michael Blass was warmly welcomed. He will cover the SNT area from Carlton to Riseley, which includes Harrold. He will be working closely with Cllr Stuart over police and NHW matters and concerns in the coming weeks.
7. **Finance report:** At the June meeting it was agreed to pay John Osborn a third of his invoice (Harrold Centre Development), but it was agreed at this meeting to change the percentage to fifty per cent – an additional £127.00 cheque has been drawn for him. All payments presented on finance sheet agreed and signed. Clerk to look into new deposit accounts, as it is considered important to split the current deposit account into several different deposit accounts.
8. **Borough Councillor's report:** Cllr Charsley not available at this point for comment, as he was still at the Middle Schools meeting.
9. **Planning applications:** none.
10. **Areas of Responsibility reports: Cemetery and Church Yard:** various unsafe headstones will shortly be laid down. Wildlife Trust proposal – councillors decided that they would prefer to leave the Church yard as it currently stands. It was felt that by leaving an area uncut, as proposed by the Wildlife Trust, this would cause many problems with maintenance for the Parish Council.

10. (Cont/.....) **Brook:** couple of issues, strimming of bank in Church Walk (resolved, resident is now happy) and general rubbish. Need a start date from Shalane Garden Services for repair work to side of brook by Tennis courts. **Common land:** Cllr Bovis reported that the new flower troughs will be in situ outside the Harrold Centre within the next few days. A request for payment of the invoices from Brian Knight and Cllr Bovis was agreed by Council. These invoices will come in well before 2nd September and it was felt that a period of two months was rather excessive to wait for payment. New bench for village green (in memory of John Smith) – need to check with Bedford Planning department if permission for this. **Footpaths:** Cllr Tickle not present to give report. **Playgrounds:** litter and graffiti problems in Harrold Centre playground, village handyman to clear. Grass left too long on last cut, ask contractor to cut shorter next time. ROSPA report in, passed to Cllr Wingerath to advise Council at the September meeting. Request that village handyman continues to repaint/re-varnish playground equipment as necessary and carry out any minor repairs. **Public relations:** suggestion that a parish council newsletter could be created, to go out to all residents. Cllr Field and clerk to look into this further. The email newsletter will still go out to people who have signed up for it. Cllr Wingerath will find out rates for 'The Phone Box', as this may be another area where information could be placed. Clerk asked councillors if there wanted any particular items included in the next edition of 'The Bridge' – to her by 4th July please. **Highways/lighting:** several areas of the High Street have overhanging trees/hedges, clerk to contact Bedford Borough Highways to ask them to contact landowners. Faulty light at Brook Lane will be repaired shortly. There seem to be a large number of posters going up around the village – clerk to notify various clubs that only locally related events should be put up and they do need to come down after the events. Reminder that resurfacing of the High Street commences w/c 20th July. **Youth:** Cllr Storer confirmed that LUBYA will be managing the new club for teenagers, the launch date will be Friday 18th September, and the proposal is to hold a weekly club. LUBYA will also attend the Rave Bus we have booked for 20th August (Harrold-Odell Country Park) and a meeting for teenagers scheduled for 27th August (Harrold Centre). All councillors are happy with the proposals. Cllr Storer is looking in to running a holiday club throughout the summer holidays, but a venue and actual events has not been confirmed yet. **Harrold Centre Development Plan:** nothing to report. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Cllr Stuart has agreed to take over from the clerk as the Area Co-ordinator for Harrold. He will liaise with PCSO Blass. Cllr Stuart will attend the area NHW A.G.M. at Kempston Police Station on the 2nd July. Two of the new NHW signs have already been vandalised.
11. **Reports from Parish Council Representatives: Playing Field Association** – many thanks for recent assistance from the parish council with relation to grant and tree work (Horse Chestnuts). Quotation required from tree surgeon (P. Stopford) for this work. **Harrold on Line** – problems with the website, recently all parish council data was deleted by unknown body. For the time being it was agreed

11. **(Cont/)** that data will not be entered on website for security reasons. Clerk will liaise with webmasters. All parish council information will be placed on the new Parish Council website www.harrold.org.uk as this website is secure.
12. **Correspondence:** see appendix (i). List circulated to all councillors with actions taken.
13. **Summary of actions:** Clerk will action all necessary correspondence as at point (12). **Youth services** – Cllr Storer. **St. Francis X. Church** – Cllr Tickle. **Highways** – Cllr Charsley to contact Mr Prigmore (Bedford Highways) regarding garage forecourt.
14. **Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2nd September at 7.30pm.** There is no meeting in August.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 21:52.