

MINUTES of Parish Council meeting held 3rd June 2009 in the Red Room, Harrold Centre. Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr. J Knight (Chairman) Cllrs. N. Charsley, P. Hickman, N. Grout, T. Storer, C. Thacker, R. Tickle, D. Williams.

In attendance: Andy Stuart, Julie Lawson (arrived 19:50)

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs. H. Bovis, R. Watts, J. Wingerath. Sp. Constable R. Edwards
2. **Disclosure of interests:** None.
3. **Approval of minutes:** minutes of parish council meeting held 6th May 2009 approved as a true record of the meeting. Minutes signed off by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising from meeting held 6th May 2009:** The Chairman reported on the meeting he attended on 9th April with MP Alistair Burt (all local parish councils were invited) – there was not a great deal to say because most of the meeting was taken up with recent Parliament expenses announcements. Co-option of new Parish Councillor – Andy Stuart’s details and application had been circulated to the Council before the meeting. Cllr Charsley proposed that Andy Stuart be co-opted onto the Parish Council, seconded by Cllr Hickman and the rest of the councillors present at the meeting. **4 (i) resolved: Andy Stuart was co-opted onto the parish council with immediate effect.**
5. **Julie Lawson (Ext. Services Cluster Co-ordinator – N. Bedfordshire Schools trust):** the Chairman welcomed Julie to the meeting. Julie explained her role in Extended Services for schools. This involves ‘wrap around care’ which covers before and after schools clubs etc. She promoted the Harrold Community Family Fun Day on Saturday 20th June, to be held at HPMS, an event funded by the schools in the Harrold Cluster Group and Extended Services. There are a variety of companies attending, a Market place and educational workshops. The Parish Council agreed to attend the event. Julie is keen to work with the Parish Council on all youth related matters – Cllr Storer will contact Julie to arrange a further meeting. The Chairman thanked Julie for attending and she left the meeting at 20:10.
6. **Police report:** no police report received. The clerk explained the Speed Watch scheme to parish councillors. The police are expecting to obtain the machine shortly, so we need to recruit volunteers from the parish to be trained in using the equipment.
7. **Finance report:** requests for payment were approved and cheques signed. J. Osborn’s invoice – parish council agreed to pay one third of the total invoice (less VAT). Parish Council insurance from Zurich is incomplete, clerk to obtain new quotation from them. Clerk to also contact Odell Parish Council to find out who their insurers are and obtain a comparison quote for Harrold. Parish Council agreed Clerk can purchase a new “Local Council Administration” manual, as an updated copy is required.
8. **Borough Councillor’s report for Harrold ward:** Cllr Charsley discussed the proposed School Consultation for two tier/3 tier. This matter is also on ‘Correspondence’ at this meeting. A decision from the Parish Council will be made at the July meeting. There is an information evening at Sharnbrook Upper School on 11th June – 7pm if any councillor wants to attend.
9. **Planning applications:** **09/00932/COU** – Friday Cottage, 9 The Green, Harrold – change of use of outbuilding to 1 no. dwelling. Council objections: access to building, vehicle parking, proximity to existing dwellings, lack of amenity space. **09/01154/FUL** – 38 Brook Lane, Harrold – extension to front of building (this is a new application, previously refused by Parish and Borough Councils). No objections to this application, but recommend site visit by Borough Planning department. **St. Peter’s Cemetery Memorial Wall – proposed extension.** Plans have been drawn up by John Creasey. Council approved the plans, the next step is to

(planning applications cont /.....)

obtain several quotations for the work (clerk will contact John Creasey for these).

10. Areas of Responsibility reports:

Cemetery and Church yard: Cllr Thacker will attend to the laying down of any old, unsafe gravestones. Grass cutting and strimming in these areas not satisfactory. Letter to A J Fencing of complaint. CT/ Clerk

Brook: quantities of rubbish and silt need clearing. Parish Council accepted quotation from Shalane Garden Services for work to brook by tennis courts (quotation dated 2nd February).

Common Land: quotation from Brian Knight (2/6/09) for planters outside of Harrold Centre accepted by the Parish Council – Cllr Bovis provided photographs and detailed plans for the planters (previously circulated to councillors). Cllr Bovis to organise planting up of containers. July meeting – discuss new bench for village green (in memory of the late John Smith). Post Pit Run meeting between Pit Run committee representative, Harrold Centre and Parish Council to be arranged, as a follow up to the 2009 event. Several problems reported including traffic congestion, need for extra litter bins on the green, missing link chain and connection bolt missing from one section of chain-link fencing around the green, which the parish council had to replace. The weathervane is now fully complete – our thanks to David Manley for attending to this. HB/Clerk

Footpaths: Cllr Tickle will look at footpaths leading off of Brook Lane – several footpaths overgrown and the stile needs attention. RT

Playgrounds: Harrold Centre playground – several posts missing from green wooden fence – Richard Sinclair to replace. Graffiti on top of slide needs removing. Clerk to talk to RS.

Public relations: Harrold on line website problems with updating our parish council information – contact Dick Mills.

Highways/lighting: main High Street resurfacing is scheduled for w/c 20th July. This will also include the footpaths in the same area. Dove Lane/Church Walk/High Street – parish council are still waiting for a date for corrections to be made.

Youth: advertisement for a youth leader is in the June/July edition of 'The Bridge' – no response yet. Cllr Storer will contact Luby for further advice. TS

Harrold Centre: Open morning held 9th May – poorly attended. Suggested that the next open meeting is held in an evening slot. Cllr Tickle will contact Aiden Lynch regarding St. Francis Xavier Church. RT

Neighbourhood Watch: forthcoming J.A.G. police meeting on the 24th June – Cllr Tickle will chair this meeting and will report the parish council's concerns over lack of police presence in the village. Extra 4 NHW road signs needed for Roman Paddock Estate. Clerk

11. Reports from Parish Council representatives: Playing Field Association – one Horse Chestnut tree needs felling (disease) the other 5 need reducing. Parish Council resolved to pay for all of the tree work, a quotation is needed from P. Stopford for the work. The large hedge between the playing fields and the cemetery needs cutting both sides, arrange for Richard Sinclair to carry out this work. Harrold Playing Field Association has taken ownership of the 'Village marquee'. **Harrold on line** – no report. Clerk

12. Correspondence: list of correspondence was circulated to all councillors, see appendix (i) for actions taken. Clerk

13. Summary of actions: Clerk to action, as necessary from point (12).

14. Date of next meeting: 1st July 2009

Meeting closed at 22:13

