

MINUTES of Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 2nd June 2010 at the Harrold Centre (Red Room) - 19:30 start.

Present: J. Knight (Chairman) , B. Cllr N. Charsley, Cllrs. R. Barrett, N Grout, P. Hickman, A. Stuart, D. Williams, R. Tickle.

In attendance: 23 parishioners, Mr Gunnion, Acting Srg. Rob Smith, Sp. Constable Robert Edwards.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr. J Wingerath, T. Storer. Cllrs H. Field and C. Thacker have both tendered their resignation. The Chairman wanted to thank these two councillors for their hard work over the year, especially to C. Thacker who has been on the Parish Council for a number of years.
- 2. Open meeting:** The Chairman opened the meeting to members of the public. The majority of the parishioners present wanted to discuss the Allocations and Designations Consultation proposal for Harrold, in particularly the area AD23 (Land off Peaches Close). The Chairman explained that this was a proposal for Consultation purposes and definitely not a 'done deal'. Questions were asked as to why this area had been re-submitted by the land-owner and if the Borough Council had carried out any investigative plans for building more houses in Harrold. Borough Councillor Charsley read out housing figures from the Bedford Borough Council website and he will find out where these came from. A number of parishioners questioned why the old Bridgman (now Coleman Properties) site had not been chosen as the preferred site if any future development was to take place. Cllr Charsley suggested that everyone filled in a response questionnaire, which is available to download from the B.B.C. website, or wrote to B.B.C. to object to the proposal to develop the AD23 site. Full information has been placed on the Parish Council notice board, together with a map and full details of the Consultation process which runs from 31st May to 13th July 2010. The Parish Council will be objecting to area AD23. This open section of the meeting closed at 20:10.
- 3. Disclosure of interests:** None.
- 4. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 5th May 2010:** the minutes were a true record of the meeting and signed off by the Chairman.
- 5. Matters arising from meeting held 5th May:** these will be covered in these minutes.
- 6. Police Report:** Acting Srg. Rob Smith and Sp. Constable Robert Edwards - since the 1st April there have been twenty crimes reported in the Harrold Parish, which is a slight increase in the same time period since 2009. 5 reports of anti-social behaviour, majority of which are around the schools. Operation Nevis has been launched in the Bedford North Policing Area and this aims to provide dedicated patrols to cover calls of rowdy behaviour. New P.C.S.O., Chris Warmington is now in the Riseley Team and working in the Carlton to Riseley SNT area. Current priorities are anti-social behaviour, rural theft, fear of burglary and Distraction Burglaries, reduce speeding in all Parishes. Rob Smith left the meeting but Sp. Constable Robert stayed on until the end to observe.

7. **Co-option of new Parish Councillor:** Richard Barrett had submitted an application to join the Parish Council and his details had been previously circulated. Cllr N. Grout proposed Richard, all seconded . 7 (i) resolved to co-opt Richard onto the Parish Council.
8. **Gordon Gunnion:** Mr Gunnion will make arrangements to have the two damaged White Beam trees removed. The recommendation from Bedford Borough Council Tree section is to have both trees removed, the stumps ground out and a replacement tree put in. Mr Gunnion will liaise with B.B.C. and the Parish Council.
9. **Harrold Centre** - John Creasey has looked at the present building layout and has drawn up a draft plan which he presented to the Council with supporting documents. The main idea is to keep the main hall and have two other areas on the FHS. Toilets and kitchen would be a complete new build. The overall idea is to keep in sympathy with the current design of the building. This plan will be shown to the Harrold Centre Management Committee at their next meeting.
10. **David Mercer, the Chair of Governors at Harrold Lower School** wanted to talk about the current school's situation, but it was felt that until further information is forthcoming from the Government it would be better to wait a while.
11. **Finance report:** requests for payment were submitted and agreed by the Council. New finance sub-committee has been formed to help the Clerk (Cllr Williams to head this up). BDO, the External Auditors, require end of year accounts for past 3 years. Ask Helen Crabb to carry out internal audit.
12. **Borough Councillor's report:** Draft proposal for Boundary changes - Carlton & Chellington will come the Harrold Ward. Some grants, such as the Bedford Borough Playbuilder scheme will cease - Cllr Charsley will advise further.
13. **Planning applications:** **10/01147/FUL** - 25 Wood Road - 2 m garden wall, railings and gates to front boundary - no objection. **10/00814/FUL** - 85 High Street - 2 m plus wall - no objection. **Allocations and Designation Consultation** - already discussed this issue at point (2). On the response form to B.B.C. questions 5 and 15 must be completed. Request that Peaches Close is included in the Open Green Spaces.
14. **Areas of Responsibility reports:** **Cemetery and Churchyard** - work has now started on the extension to the Memorial Wall. **Brook:** Richard is constantly removing rubbish and currently clearing the section by Church Walk/High Street. **Common land:** Lime trees - Clerk to obtain several quotes for any necessary work on the Lime Trees. **Footpaths** - Cllr Tickle to speak to house owner whose shrubs overhang the Wellocks Footpath. He has also cut back some undergrowth on the footpath Brook Lane to Orchard Lane. **Playgrounds:** no problems in this area. **Public Relations** - ask for information from Paul Vann so that it can be circulated to Councillors. **Highways/lighting** - there are problems at a house in the centre of the village (High Street) which will mean that a section of the highways is closed during the summer holidays to enable repairs to take place. A councillor asked Borough Councillor Charsley if a weight restriction should be in force in the village - he will find out. Another councillor asked if a speed restriction could also be enforced - again Cllr. Charsley will make enquiries. **Youth Services and Youth Club** - parental help is need to keep the Club going. Hannah is still enjoying her role as Youth Leader and the children respond to her. Harrold

Centre - car park has been resurfaced - parish council had previously agreed to pay half the costs. **Neighbourhood Watch** - Cllr Stuart is moving, so regrettably has to resign from the Parish Council. Chairman thanked Cllr Stuart for his work with this area in particular. A NW meeting has been arranged for 8th June, with a Smart Water presentation. Clerk will organise this. St. Peter's Church Clock - repairs are necessary, Cllr Hickman has called Smith of Derby out. Await the verdict.

15. Reports from Parish Council Representatives: Playing Field Association - no report. Need to appoint a Councillor as the representative to attend meetings. **Harold on Line** - plans for a calendar to be printed for 2011 to raise funds. Cllr Barrett suggested they make a 24 month calendar. **Pit Run 2010** - Cllr Wingerath had sent an email in to state that the pit run committee had cleared up rubbish from the green and all was left tidy on Saturday evening. Suggestion that a follow up meeting with the pit run committee in the near future would be a good idea.

16. Correspondence: a list of correspondence was circulated to all councillors. See appendix (i) for actions.

17. Summary of actions: Finance BDO/Helen Crabb, Youth Club parental help, more quotes for Lime trees, Allocations and Designations - Chairman to complete response form.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22:35.