

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held 6th October 2010 in the Red Room at the Harrold Centre - 7.30pm start.

Present: Cllr. J. Knight (Chairman), Borough Cllr N. Charsley, Cllrs R. Barrett, P. Hickman, R. Tickle, D. Williams, N. Bransgrove-Knight (Clerk).

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr T. Storer, Bedfordshire Police.
- 2. Disclosure of interest:** None.
- 3. Approval of minutes from the Parish Council meeting held 8th September 2010:** minutes were correct and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
- 4. Matters arising from meeting held 6th September:** see these minutes for any follow up to matters arising.
- 5. Police report:** apologies from Bedfordshire Police. A report had been sent to the Clerk, this was circulated to all Councillors. In the month of September there were seven reported crimes, which is a slight increase over the same month in 2009, when 5 crimes were recorded. Anti social behaviour is still a problem, but it is hoped that when the new security fencing and gates at the school site are completed this will prove to be a long term solution to the problem of nuisance youths in the grounds and on the roof.
- 6. Finance report:** BDO External Audit has been completed for 2009/10 and the comments have been noted by Council. Cllr Williams and the Clerk will meet on the 12th October to discuss financial matters - report back at the next meeting. Clerk put forward requests for payment, these were agreed and signed by two signatories.
- 7. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward:** Nick Charsley reminded Councillors about his Ward Fund - encourage as many groups within the village to apply for funding if needed.
- 8. Planning Applications:** **10/02197/FUL** - Southfields Farm Cottage, Lavendon Road, Harrold - single storey rear extension with flat roof - Council had no objections to this application.
10/02361/FUL - Long Ridge, Church Walk, Harrold - replacement pedestrian garden gate to High Street - Council had no objections to this application.
- 9. Areas of Responsibility Reports:** The Chairman asked Councillors if they would be prepared to take on more areas of responsibility. It was resolved - **9.1** Cllr Barrett will take on the Playgrounds **9.2** Cllr Tickle will take on Common land **9.3** Cllr Knight and the Clerk will be responsible for attending the Harrold Playing Field Association (HPFA) monthly meetings. The meeting proceeded with the monthly reports - Cemetery and Church Yard: quotation for the supply of wildflower seeds and plants (memorial garden and junction of High Street/Church Walk) was agreed. The Clerk will collect the seeds and plants from Clophill Nursery and the village handyman, Richard, will plant them. Request from the HPFA to have the metal railings between the cemetery and the playing field repaired (area near to the Carlton Road) - **9.4** it was resolved that the Clerk should obtain quotations for this repair work. **Brook:** there has been a lot of fly tipping in the brook over the past month. Increased dog fouling on the back path and green track alongside the spur of the brook which runs between the Roman Paddock and Harewelle Estate - **9.5** it was resolved that the

Areas of Responsibility reports (continued /)

Clerk will contact the Borough Council Dog Warden to request a visit. Also more dog notices need to be put up in the area. **Common land:** on the Green, one Highways post has been knocked over, a report has been lodged with Highways department. Harrold Centre car park - fly tipping is still a problem in this area, suggestion that CCTV is installed. The Harrold Centre Committee will need to be consulted on this. Harrold Centre planters - Cllr Knight agreed to replant these. **Footpaths:** Wellocks footpath overgrown at the sides, Richard has been working to improve this area.

Playgrounds: Saxon End playground - the grass is growing back in the football area, need to keep an eye on this. Harrold Centre playground - wooden fence has been vandalised on several occasions.

Discussion took place on the best way to replace the fencing, if at all. Cllr Barrett will inspect the area and report back at the next meeting. **Public relations:** HOCP not very keen on a youth helter in the park. Reminder that Bulky Waste collection are the 9th/10th October with the Community litter pick on 30th October. Highways/Lighting: Cllr Hickman will submit his report at the next meeting.

Clerk has been reporting faulty lights, various potholes etc to the Highways department. **Youth Services and Youth Club:** in Cllr Storer's absence the Clerk reported that the Youth Club will restart this Friday (8th October). Hannah Hibbert will continue to be the Youth Leader, but she must be supported by two adults (if possible) at each of the two sessions each week. Clerk now has a number of parents signed up on the weekly rota and either the Clerk or Cllr Storer are present at each session. **9.6** it was agreed that a new, smaller pool table could be purchased along with other essential equipment for the Youth Club - Clerk will source this items. **Harrold Centre:** no report as Cllr Storer not present. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Quotation received for new combined

NW/SmartWater street signs - **9.7** resolved to accept the quotation from Clan Signs for 12 signs @ £24 each (there will be a joint order of 20 no. placed - 8 of these signs will be for Radwell and Felmersham Parish Council). **St Peter's Church - Village clock** - refurbishment work to the two clock faces is currently being carried out. Additional costs will be incurred for the extra scaffolding on the north face of the tower.

10. Reports from Parish Council Representatives: Harrold Playing field Association - Clerk attended the last meeting held 28th September. Many thanks of the Parish Council's 50% payment of the tree felling work, carried out during the summer. Council still has concerns over the parking of vehicles along the Carlton Road outside the playing fields on a Saturday morning. Clerk will investigate with Bedford Borough Council Highways to see if anything can be done to prevent the verge being parked on. There is also a safety aspect in this area. **Harrold-on-line** - no report. 2011 calendar should soon be ready. **Pit Run 2010/11** - Clerk to ask James Wingerath if he will attend a Parish Council meeting with feedback from the Pit Run committee.

11. Correspondence: a list was circulated to Councillors, refer to appendix (1) for actions taken. Cllr Wingerath has handed in his resignation, due to increased personal work commitments. The Chairman wanted to thank James Wingerath for his time on the Parish Council and the work he has done.

- 12. Summary of actions:** There is a need to recruit new co-opted councillors onto the Parish Council - present councillors and Clerk to talk to parishioners in the village. Cllr Williams and the Clerk will meet on the 12th October. Clerk to log all hours worked over the next month for assessment at the next meeting. Clerk to submit a list of office requirements at the next meeting. Clerk to collect seeds/plants from Clophill Nurseries. Clerk to obtain quotes for cemetery fence repairs. Cllr Barrett to inspect playgrounds and vandalised fence, to come back at next meeting with proposals. The Chairman reminded all councillors that at the December meeting the budget has to be decided for the 2011/12 Precept - he would like all councillors to come to the November meeting with some idea on individual budget areas.
- 13. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 3rd November - 7.30pm at the Harrold Centre.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.10pm