

**10.01.18**

Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

**PRESENT:-** Parish Councillors, Mrs. Brunsdon, Mr. Gregory, Mrs. Quince, Mr. Polhill, Mr. Slater, Mrs. Dean, Mr. Gurney, Borough Councillor Sheryl Corp the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat, Borough Councillor Sheryl Corp, and nine members of the public.

**1.WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED:** - Cllr. Slater welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending; Parish Councillor Mrs. Gribble, and Borough Councillor Stephen Moon had sent apologies for absence, these were accepted. Cllr. Slater welcomed Darren Rayner, who was due to become a Councillor shortly following an uncontested election for the Spires Ward. It was noted that while he was present, he could not participate in any votes the Council took, until he has officially taken office which will be by the next meeting.

**2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:-**  
There were no declaration of interest received for this meeting.

The Chair adjourned the meeting for the next item.

**3. OPEN FORUM: -**

A resident commented they had noticed a lot of the public footpath signs are missing around Hookhams Lane, the Clerk to report these to Highways Helpdesk. It was also asked what should be done if a landowner has ploughed over a path across a field, this again should be reported to the local authority who can take enforcement action regarding this.

There were concerns that a piece of open grass on the corner of Becher Close and Green End is being used as parking area, which is causing a lot of damage to the grass, this to be forwarded to the Highways Helpdesk who can take action if vehicles are damaging a vergeway.

There had been concerns raised previously regarding motor bikes causing a nuisance to the residents of Cranbourne Gardens, it was added that the police have taken action regarding this issue.

The Chair reconvened the meeting for the next item.

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-** The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November had been circulated. The minutes were discussed, and the document was approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

**5. MATTERS ARISING:-**

The Clerk had previously requested for the Parish Council to receive a paper copy of the full electoral register of the parish, have been informed it was sent to the Ravensden Parish Clerk in error by the Borough Council, so the Clerk will arrange to collect.

The Borough Council have sent through the bin stickers for the Green End bin which show it can take general waste and dog waste, Cllr. Gurney agreed to place these on the bin.

The Clerk had notified the Borough Council to carry out the Cranbourne Gardens bin repair at the quoted cost of £75, Cllr. Brunsdon confirmed this repair has been done.

The Clerk had sought clarification regarding if the Sports Field would be legible for a Dog Control Order until the Borough Council criteria given it is not parish or borough owned. The Borough Council are looking into this.

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The Clerk has notified the Borough Officer of the school bus issues being experienced, copying Borough Councillors in and asking for a positive resolution and discount for students in education on the service in Renhold.

The Clerk has fed back to the school the wish for the Council to continue supporting the school and governing body with the suggestion that a representative has full voting rights.

The Clerk has asked the BATPC what future training opportunities they have planned for the new data protection guidelines, these will be taking place in the near future assurance has been given.

The Ward Fund application for two benches has been made, this was delayed due to the unexpected volume of resident communications regarding this matter. These communications will be dealt with during the meeting.

The Clerk had asked for feedback from the Operation Beneke event held by the Police in December.

The Councillors had received the updated asset register to include the new waste bin now it has been paid for at Church End by the bus shelter.

All other items will be covered during the meeting.

**6. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT:-** Cllr. Moon and Corp had sent a report, which had been circulated.

**7. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY:-**

The most recent Parish Councillor vacancy displayed had resulted in an uncontested election, so the Council welcome, Darren Rayner. Darren will be supplied with the supporting documentation ready for completion and the commencement of office. Contact details for Darren will be placed on the Parish Council website and given to the Village Magazine. It was noted that the cost implications are not fully known at this time, as the Council are awaiting the invoice for the associated work from the Borough Council.

**8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -** The Clerk had circulated to all Councillors a copy of the Hookhams Lane proposed build outs which would act as traffic calming for the lane. There were two different scenarios the Officer had put forward to help with the intention to reduce vehicle speeds. The Parish Council were fully supportive that both these options be costed now to aid the next stage of consideration, and the Clerk to feedback.

The Clerk reported that the latest average speed camera data for December showed three vehicles in excess of the speed limit.

The Highways Officer had confirmed that the concerns raised regarding the missing Hookhams Lane footway areas in front of the Post Office, 2 in front of the bungalow next to 56, and why resurfacing west of Hookhams Lane stopped short of the end of the footway, were all missed in error and a revised drawing has been circulated to all.

The Councilors had received a copy of the Bedford 2020 project which focuses on improving highways infrastructure in the centre of Bedford.

Simon Deards, Borough Officer, has been contacted regarding the enforcement of the Traffic Regulation Order and what support can be provided, it was added that Simon is always happy to support the HGV restriction in Hookhams Lane if residents ever see any vehicles breaking the restriction.

A resident made representations expressing that they felt the Parish Council has no clear plan relating to highways in the parish. It was explained that the local authority are the statutory authority with the responsibility of managing and improving the highways network. The Parish Council continue to pursue improvements to highways for the benefit of residents.

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### 9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) Local Plan 2035 final draft public consultation update – the Clerk has continued to keep Councillors up to date with the latest communications from the local authority regarding this document. A copy of the latest consultation that will be presented to the Executive Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> January showed that Salph End was being recommended for removal from the Plan, and Renhold had been given no housing allocation. At this point of the meeting an update from the Executive Committee was received, which confirmed the draft final document had been approved by the Borough Council to go to public consultation. The Borough Councillors had expressed that resident comments had been listened too during the last public consultation. Residents were thanked for their support and efforts in ensuring a large number of responses objecting to the inclusion of Salph End had been submitted to the last public consultation.

Those present were mindful that Renhold should not feel it is now 'safe', it is vital all residents engage again in this process supporting the final draft plan and the allocation of no housing to Renhold. The Clerk had already begun working through the lengthy consultation document and supplementary policies, intending to have a summary document for the Parish Council to use as a basis for their response. There would also be an information leaflet produced by the Parish Council to be sent to every household to encourage again people to engage in the consultation. The Clerk would update the website and village circulation accordingly as well through the process.

b) 17/03410/LBC and 17/03409/FUL demolition of attached outbuilding and erection of single storey side extension for use as a garden room and utility, conversion and extension of detached outbuilding to form annexe and external alterations at Woodfield Farm, Woodfield Lane – the Parish Council noted the proposals would not be visible from the road and agreed to support the application.

c) 17/03460/FUL one and two storey side extension at Foxdown, 60 Hookhams Lane – the Parish Council agreed to object to the application as it presents an unsatisfactory aspect for the neighbour.

d) 17/03351/EIAWM extraction of sand and gravel installation of mineral processing place at land either side of Willington Lock – this substantial document was reviewed, it details the final stage of the work planned for the quarry. It was felt comments needed to be submitted highlighting that measures need to be in place to ensure that lorry movements do not come through the village and this needs to be enforced by the local authority.

e) 17/03493/FUL new vehicle crossover and dropped kerb in addition to existing at 1 Hookhams Lane – the Parish Council felt that given there is sufficient space to turn a vehicle around, there is no need for this change. Also the Council were concerned about the danger this would create so close to a junction.

f) Other planning matters - 17/02994/FUL demolition of existing dwelling and replacement dwelling at 2 Top End this application has been refused. 17/02691/FUL one and two storey rear extension and changes to raise the roof at 6 Woodfield Lane this application was approved. Oaklands, 60 Ravensden Road was approved and granted permission by the Borough Council at Committee. The application regarding the Norse Road car wash was withdrawn it was noted.

The Council had been notified that from 1<sup>st</sup> April the Borough Council is going paperless with planning applications, the Parish Council felt the quarry application was a great example of how impractical looking at drawings on a screen is. Cllr. Moon to feedback how this is not a sensible approach and urge the Borough Council to reconsider.

### 10. VILLAGE MATTERS:-

There had been a request for a slat bin for the Apsire development as this was not being provided by the developers. It was felt that the Parish Council need to know the cost of such an item for them to consider fully, and the Clerk to ask will the local authority refill the salt bin. It was noted that the purchased bin for Cranbourne Gardens is replenished, so there was a discussion on whether

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there were also other areas within the parish that would be a suitable and sensible location to have such a bin. Once the cost has been confirmed this to be discussed further.

It was reported that there is a constant water logged area in Cranbourne Gardens where there is a dip in the footpath leading to the bridleway at the top of Cranbourne Gardens, this to be reported to the Borough Council. There is also an uneven tree root by one of the play areas which is dangerous to be reported.

There was a discussion on a communication regarding a Barn Dance event and whether the Council could support with securing a community use rate for the hire of the hall. It was noted that there needed to be a formal request of the Council for them to consider this.

There was information on a consultation regarding scraping the early reduced payment charge relating to Dog Control offenses.

It was noted that a new bin had been placed by Water End, it was confirmed this is not related to the Parish Council and has been done by the Borough Council, this to be fed back to the resident. The Councillors noted that although this bin is a long way out from the main village thoroughfare, it is convenient and practical for those motorists that often park up in this area.

The Clerk had updated Councillors with the large amount of street furniture communications from resident, a summary document had been collated and the Clerk had taken no action in light of the sudden public interest. The Ward Fund application for two benches had been made, this was delayed due to the unexpected volume of resident communications regarding this matter. The delay meant the Council missed the deadline for 2017/18 funding but have the required information to make a 2018/19 funding application. The Council discussed all the information and agreed one bench to be purchased and to be installed, with delivery to Cllr. Polhill. The Council were also going to review the suggestion of the location being Becher Close. It was noted there was at present no definite location for the bench.

## 11. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk had circulated the Operation Beneke feedback which had included the Police meeting with a number of residents in Cranbourne Gardens.

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Watch in Aspire is coming together so it was suggested linking them with Spires.

## 12. FINANCE MATTERS: -

The latest transaction report was circulated. The following outstanding invoices were presented  
Barnicoat Ltd clerking service Nov and Dec invoice £1170.31

A R Worboys grass cutting £852.00

It was unanimously agreed to pay the above cheques.

The Anglian Water invoice it was noted they need to be contacted to be told to turn the water off, the Clerk to action.

The Council were in receipt of a cheque for £733 from the Village Magazine returning part of their grant.

The latest financial analysis for 17/18 had been circulated and it was noted there were no concerns. The next item for discussion was an invoice relating to the Green End bus shelter cleaning, and some associated correspondence from a resident. Cllr. Gurney declared an interest in this item so took no part in the discussion. The Council agreed thanks to be given to the resident who has been cleaning the bus shelter and a point of clarity to be sought to enable a clear agreement in place going forwards. The Council also asked the Clerk to collate a response to the resident to address their items.

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**13. BUDGET REVIEW FOR 2018/19 AND PRECEPT APPROVAL**

The Council had received the budget planning information in a new format which gives greater comparison on previous years. The supporting paper regarding the clerking service was also circulated in light of the awareness that it is expected the costs will exceed the budget for 2017/18. The Parish Council were realistic and understood that the Clerk's time had been taken up with a continued high number of resident communications, as well as increasing demands on the Council to respond to consultations and enable information to be readily available to residents. The Council asked for an average to be calculated of the time in hours spent over the last year to ascertain a more reflective level of hours for the Council's workload.

In terms of the budget for 2018/19 it was noted there is an increased grass cutting allocation, and the Council are in the second year of a fixed price contract so there will be no tender review at this stage. The budget information showed that by maintaining the current level of precept this would be adequate, so the Council resolved to request a precept of £19,896. The Clerk to submit request. The budget and reserve allocations were reviewed and agreed with the final budget to be revisited once more information had been received relating to the clerking service.

**14. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -**

NALC Events Bulletin emails  
Age Partnership email promoting services  
BBC Planning weekly list email  
Village newsletter copy  
Online playgrounds promotional information  
BBC letter acknowledging receipt of planning comments  
BRCC e-bulletin newsletter  
CPRE update emails  
Bank statements  
Crime statistics - forwarded to all  
Village circulation list interested residents wishing to join  
ERTA Voluntary Transport email  
Police community newsletter  
BBC communication with the Councillor vacancy  
Village newsletter deadline email  
BBC letter confirming receipt of planning comments  
Beds Bugle BATPC  
BATPC Data Protection Regulations  
BBC email clarification regarding footway resurfacing at Hookhams Lane  
A range of communications with residents regarding the Spires Ward vacancy  
Ravensden Clerk confirming she has the BBC electoral register  
HMRC letter regarding new reference number will be issued regarding VAT reclaim forms  
PC Jones confirming email address  
BBC Precept information email  
BBC information on transporting Bedford 2020 project  
BBC Council Tax reduction for care leavers consultation  
BBC email regarding consultation on littering and associated charges applied for those that break the rules  
Proposed new settlement at Twinwoods information brochure  
Wootton Academy Trust consultation on two points of entry  
CPRE Briefing on Oxford to Cambridge Arc  
BATPC External Auditor update

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BBC email regarding Landowner and Farmers Guide to Rights of Way  
BATPC A1 Strategic Road Study email  
BBC Budget consultation email  
BBC stickers for the bin at Green End  
Further Anglian Water bill invoice now for £53.04  
BATPC Fees for 2018/19 £650  
Bill Peet Christmas card and diary  
BBC letter that Planning Committee resolved to grant permission for 60 Oaklands Ravensden Road  
CPRE Magazine  
Copied into resident raising concerns regarding Hookhams Lane and traffic calming measures needed sent to BBC  
UK Power Networks Storm Eleanor update  
Enquiry regarding use of paths in village for a sponsored walk event  
Susan request for agenda item  
Resident request for salt bin and evidence of need for Aspire development  
Communication regarding variable messaging signs in Renhold

**15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -**

Those that arose.

**16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: -** to be Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 10.40pm

Signed .....

Dated .....