

**14.01.19**

Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019** at 7.30pm in the Renhold Village Hall, Wilden Road.

**PRESENT:-** Parish Councillors, Mr. Slater, Mr. Gurney, Mr. Polhill, Mr. Cook, Mrs Brunsten, Mrs. Quince and Borough Councillor Stephen Moon, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and four 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; it was noted the Borough Councillors Uko and Forth had sent their apologies for absence. Parish Councillors Mrs. Gribble and Mrs. Dean had sent her apologies and the Council sent their condolences to Mrs. Dean. Cllr. Polhill would be absent from the February meeting.

**2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:-**

There was a declaration of interest received from Cllr. Quince regarding the cheque payments, there were no further declarations of interest received for the meeting.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

**3. OPEN FORUM: -**

There was a point raised that it was disappointing to see the light illuminating the average speed camera had been broken for over a month, even though it had been reported on numerous occasions by multiple individuals.

It was reported that the footway along Hookhams Lane by Crossways continues to be significantly overgrown with brambles. Part of the path is fully covered now and it is a shame to have lost this, so the Clerk to report.

The hedgerow adjacent on the bridleway by the Polhill Arms is also overgrown and there were reports of fly tipping along the location as well. A resident agreed to forward the Clerk some pictures of the issues so they can be reported to the Borough Council.

It was detailed that again the school bus continues to run its engine for long periods of time outside the school, Cllr. Quince agreed to follow this up promptly.

There was feedback sought from a previous meeting about clearer signage for children playing, the clarity was detailed, however, the wrong Norse Road development had been referenced. It was confirmed that such signage is required for Cranbourne Gardens, the Clerk to forward this again to the Borough Council Officers and copy Cllr. Moon in as well.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November had been circulated. The minutes were discussed, the document was approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

**5. MATTERS ARISING:-**

In terms of matters arising it was detailed that the Renhold Remembers thank you letters had been collated and circulated. Cllr. Gurney had informed Mr Chambers to proceed and install the seat on The Green as well as reporting the repair needed to the lamp for the average speed camera not working at 1 Top End. It was added at the meeting that Cllr Slater had reported the lamp out as well as the Clerk and a residents. In addition, the new bench is due to be installed the following

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day it was noted. The Clerk had submitted the planning responses agreed at the last meeting. The Renhold Village Hall letter about the hiring period agreement was signed and returned. Cllrs. Moon and Corp received a copy of the dual purpose bin request communications regarding the need for a bin along the bridleway by the Polhill Arms. The Clerk had sent a letter of thanks to Mr Tarbx for his many years service. All other items will be covered during the meeting.

**6. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT:-**

The Borough Councillor report had been circulated to all ahead of the meeting. The main updates included the Local Plan document submission to the Secretary of State who has appointed inspectors to undertake the public inquiry. Other items covered included the increase in police funding, latest regarding works to Bromham Road bridge and Bedford Hospital.

Cllr. Moon did give detailed feedback from the Officer involved with the monitoring of the dual purpose bin request by the Polhill Arms. There have been four patrols in total to date, two in November and two in December. From the feedback to these it has been graded as not sufficient need to qualify for the installation of a bin, however, given the time of year potentially impacting on usage the Officer has agreed to continue with further patrols in the spring and signs will be placed up in the area reminding users not to litter.

**7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -**

Resident concerns regarding school parking issues, were responded to between meetings by the Clerk and again another request was sent to the Borough Council to seek more enforcement visits. The Clerk had asked Andrew Prigmore to verify the associated costs with some of the different considerations discussed at the last meeting regarding average speed cameras on Ravensden Road, awaiting response.

A request for the white lines to be repainted at the Hookhams Lane and Ravensden Road junction was sent to the Highways Helpdesk and the broken road name sign at Hookhams Lane was also reported.

The Clerk had also asked for an update on the progress of the associated audit works that are being undertaken to look at speed reduction options regarding Hookhams Lane, currently being carried out by the Borough Council. The Clerk had sought clarity from the engineer with no response to date.

The Clerk had circulated further recent updates on the associated work with the Bedford 2020 project, which it was noted did not have any direct impact on the parish.

**8. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -**

a) Bedford Borough Council Local Plan final public consultation update – as already detailed the Inspectors have been appointed.

b) Update on planning applications for proposed new dwellings in the parish:

18/02565/FUL erection of new dwelling with detached garage at land to rear of Wentworth House, Ravensden Road

18/02496/MAF demolition of one dwelling and erection of 14 dwellings at 27 Hookhams Lane and land adjacent

18/02692/OUT Outline application for the erection of 2 dwellings with all matters reserved except access at Land Adjoining 56 Top End

The Clerk had pursued the individual case Officers, however, no items to report at present.

c) 18/0310/FUL single storey front and rear extensions, single storey side extension to link garage and first floor extension to garage to form additional bedrooms at 29 Top End - Renhold Parish Council has reviewed the application and some concerns about the proposal as they feel the double

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garage and garden store area, given the layout could be turned into a separate dwelling at some point. Therefore they seek a planning condition that prevents this future use.

d) 18/03201/S73A change of use from holiday home/recreational chalet to permanent residential dwelling (development already carried out) at Plot B Water Lane - Renhold Parish Council has reviewed the application and object to this application, as there no suitable access for emergency vehicles to get to this chalet. In addition, there is inadequate waste refuse collation for this chalet. The chalet known as Kingfisher Cabin is located much closer the main access road, whereas this chalet is not. This application is planning gain and there is no evidence shown that it is not needed to be retained with its restriction. These chalets have been needed for many years for their use and there is no need to change it. If the chalet became permanent there are concerns over the road maintenance and ownership, which have not been set out in the application.

e) 18/03072/FUL erection of two storey dwelling with basement structure and separate combined equestrian stables and energy centre building at land at Water Lane – the Parish Council reviewed the application and asked Cllr. Moon to call the application in given the significant proposals which are well outside the settlement policy area of the parish. The Parish Council objected to the application on the basis it is on agricultural land, it is clearly over development and out of keeping with the local area. The inclusion of a car showroom as well as many other items which are excessive and over the top for a rural setting were of concern. The Council noted the previous application on this site, application 15/01485/FUL and sought all the same planning principles for refusal then to be applied as there have been no relevant changes to the planning policy rules.

f) Other planning matters to include application decisions – it was noted that the Clerk had circulated more sites that had come forward as part of the Local Plan process, none in the parish it was noted. Also Wyboston Garden Village and Twinwoods developer letters received had been received and circulated to Councillors. The latest from the Officer regarding the Church Farm Barns enforcement query raised is that the removal of the post box was part of a submitted application which has since been approved. With regard to the utility box, that is subject of an ongoing enforcement case. It was noted that the recent application 18/01770/LBC for remove the existing brick panels in barn A and reinstall using lime mortar, as many original bricks as possible and matching the rest. Dismantle, repair and replace where necessary the timber frame to North wall at Church Farm Barn Church End, had been granted permission.

### **9. RAISING AWARENESS OF FORTHCOMING LOCAL ELECTIONS IN MAY:-**

Parish Councillors were keen to highlight to all parishioners the forthcoming elections for the parish this May. There was a discussion on how to do this as widely as possible to enable residents to receive factual and helpful information on what to do regarding standing for election.

It was felt in addition to placing information on Parish Council noticeboards, the Parish Council website and via the village circulation list, it would be useful to have a large display in the village magazine.

Councillors also felt it would be useful to highlight that everyone is welcome to attend meetings and that seeing the Council in action is a good way to find out more about what Parish Councils do.

It was also felt that the Annual Parish Council report could be a further way to highlight the forthcoming elections and that by timing the circulation of the report to again remind people about the election process. Cllr. Slater to commence the drafting of the annual report and the Clerk to arrange for the collation of useful information to be circulated via a range of forums.

The Clerk will also be attending a forthcoming election information session being run by the Borough Council on 14<sup>th</sup> February.

### **10. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY UPDATE:-**

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It was noted that the Parish Council can co-opt to fill the vacancy, as there is no need for a formal notice of vacancy to be displayed as it is within six months of an election. It was agreed to continue to keep this on the agenda.

**11. VILLAGE MATTERS:-**

The dual purpose litter latest had been covered.

It was noted that PC Charlotte Norris was no longer the local police point of contact and PC Kerry Jones is undertaking this role going forwards, the Parish Council website has been updated to reflect this.

There had been a suggestion previously to further commemorate the remembrance celebrations that the parish could have a specific remembrance bench like on the Embankment. Cllr. Quince would locate the price options from the same source which had supplied the Borough Council.

Cllr. Bunsden circulated a suggestion for the location of the new bench to be located at Cranbourne Gardens following liaison with some residents of the development. It was agreed this should go along the intersection of paths at the back of the development off the bridleway as it would serve many users, and therefore the Clerk to seek permission of installation from the landowner. The bench order to be placed in the meantime and once permission granted the local contractor to be asked to install the bench as per the quote previously agreed.

There had been reports of an overgrown hedge in Ravensden Road, it was agreed that the Clerk to send a letter to the property.

It was agreed to nominate Cllr. Quince as the representative to be entered into the BATPC Buckingham Palace Garden Party draw.

The recent communication from the Borough of Bedford Local Access Forum was reviewed and it was agreed Cllr. Gurney to be the point of contact.

**12. FINANCE MATTERS: -**

The latest transaction report was circulated and it was noted the Clerk to attend a VAT refresher training course shortly. Letters of thanks had been received from the Village Magazine and the Churchyard maintenance who recently received donations. The Clerk had been notified the Borough Council would be transferring the outstanding grass cutting contribution shortly.

a) Invoices to be paid (Cllr. Quince declared an interest in the following so took no part in the discussion)

The following outstanding invoices were presented

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service December invoice £715.18

BATPC Cllr training £25.00

A R Worboys Ltd grass cutting £692.16

Anglian Water water charges £14.36

Renhold Village Hall Trust hall hire £72.00

Amanda Quince reimbursement of associated Renhold Remembers expenditure £100.30

Nicky Gribble reimbursement of tree for Memorial area £42.00

It was unanimously agreed to pay the above cheques.

b) Financial analysis of budget against expenditure 2018/19 – this was circulated and there were no items of concern to be noted.

It was agreed that following recent feedback from the Borough Council Rural Grant Scheme that the Parish Council level of support be at £250, with the Chapel funding input to also be at £250.

**13. BUDGET REVIEW FOR 2019/20 AND PRECEPT APPROVAL FOR 2019/20:-**

The Council had received the budget planning information in the improved format which gives greater comparison on previous years.

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In terms of the budget for 2019/20 it was noted there is an increased allocation, in light of the forthcoming elections and the commitment to highways road safety works for Hookhams Lane. The Council reviewed the budget information and felt that given the levels of allocated funds towards average speed cameras, road calming measures, churchyard provision, funds for fighting development as well as general reserves, this all needs to be taken into consideration. Given as the budget for 2019/20 needed to again increase for some of the items discussed, in addition to technology improvements planned and the need to factor in election costs now on a regular basis after the recent elections being called by residents, that as the budget continues to increase, therefore so should the Council precept. So the Council resolved to request a precept of £21,292 for 2019/20. The Clerk to submit the request.

The Council also reviewed the clerking service proposals presented and agreed to continue to engage the services of Barnicoat Ltd.

### **14. CORRESPONDENCE 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

ERTA Voluntary Transport email

Village newsletter deadline email

Clerks and Councils Direct magazine

Beds Police newsletter

Beds Bugle

CPRE magazine and newsletter

Renhold Churchyard thank you letter for their grant

Renhold Chapel grant application for Rural Grant and communication with Officers about the Ward Fund grant

Update that Local Plan submission to Secretary of State and appointment of Inspectors

BBC Grass cutting contributions communications

BATPC New Councillor Induction Training for RC

Resident copied Clerk into concerns sent to Borough Councillors about shopping trolleys abandoned along Norse Road

BBC Budget Consultation

Resident copied into street lamp not working report sent to Orbit Homes

Copied into Watch Scheme meeting information

Reported street light not working by average speed camera to the Borough Council

Resident concerns about an escaped bull when walking their child to school

Information Event re Wootton Vale Retirement Living Rental opportunities Jan 2019

Alzheimer's Society's new service in Bedford Borough

Resident report of overgrown hedge at 23 Ravensden Road

BATPC Buckingham Palace Garden Party invite

BATPC Council Tax Precept information

BOBLAF letter to Parish Council

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Email to say PC Norris has left her position supporting the parish  
Thank you communication from Village Magazine for the Council grant  
Seasons Greetings from the Police Crime Commissioner  
BBC Local Plan submission to Secretary of State confirmation  
BATPC LGA S137 expenditure level for 2019/20 confirmed  
Beds Fire Service views on budget and council tax  
BATPC Training Courses information Jan  
Resident copied Clerk into communication with Mayor of Bedford regarding average speed cameras  
Resident enquiry regarding removal of Councillor on Parish Council website  
Renhold Remembers communications  
BATPC email regarding MHC&LG consultation  
Invite to Renhold School concert  
Salary scales from BATPC for 2019/20  
Julian's apologies for the February meeting  
Resident concerns regarding school parking issues  
Resident enquiry regarding the Local Plan sites  
Communications regarding the new post box in Church End  
BBC Officer response to planning enforcement query reported  
Consultant offering neighbourhood planning and planning support  
BBC Officer communications regarding the Councillor vacancy  
BBC Local Plan new sites submitted  
Resident concern regarding traffic in Hookhams Lane  
BATPC information on accessible websites  
Wyboston Garden Village letter  
Twinwoods developers letter  
BBC letter and poster about self build and custom housebuilding register  
Renhold Village Hall letter about hiring period  
BATPC fees for 2019/20 confirmed  
Bill Peet and Son diary

**15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -**

Those that arose.

**16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: -** this was agreed to be Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm, meeting closed at 10.00pm

Signed .....

Dated .....