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Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL'S VIRTUAL** held on **Thursday 16th April 2020** at 7.30pm

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors: Mrs. Quince (Chair), Mr. Cook (Vice Chair), Mrs. Dean, Mr McIver, Mrs Gribble, Mr. Rayner, Mrs. Brunsdon, Mr. Polhill, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat. Borough Councillors Stephen Moon, Christine McHugh, Phillippa Martin-Moran-Bryant and eight members of the public.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED: - The Chair welcomed all attendees, set the expectations for an online virtual meeting and outlined how to keep the meeting inclusive and efficient. Cllr. McIver was thanked for his support with arranging the online meeting. Borough Councillor Tim Creswell, and Parish Councillor Mr. Warwicker, had sent apologies for absence which were accepted.

It was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7.59pm to show appreciation to the NHS and care staff.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST TO BE DECLARED FOR THE MEETING: - Declarations of interest received for the meeting noted that Cllr. Polhill had an interest on agenda item 9a) and Cllr. McIver for agenda item 7c) The Chair adjourned the meeting for the next item.

3. OPEN FORUM: -
No public statements received.

The Chair reconvened the meeting for the next item.

4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) Further amendments to plans (11th March) for 19/02194/MAO outline application for the demolition of a dwelling and the erection of up to 28 dwellings with all matters reserved except for access at Land East of Hookhams Lane. Planning consultant has started to scrutinise this application. During March, more amendments made to the application. The Councillors voted, unanimously agreeing that the Council's view on this application does not change. Resolution passed for the Clerk to submit a continued objection to this application in light of the proposed changes. Clerk to ensure planning consultant is aware of the amendments to this application. Resident Peter Norris was thanked for work on reviewing this application in depth and for helping local residents with their concerns.

b) Update on 19/01974/MAO outline application with all matters reserved except access for up to 400 dwellings, land for a new primary school, open space, drainage, footpath improvements and vehicular access via 25 Hookhams Lane. A planning consultant, engaged by the Parish Council, has is scrutinising this application. Some of his findings for the application have already been communicated to the Planning Officer. It is possible this application may go to the Borough Council Planning Committee in May.

Cllr. Polhill joined the meeting at this point

c) 20/00289/FUL Demolition of existing timber barn and erection of steel framed store barn and timber framed stable. Change of use of agricultural land to use of land for the keeping of horses incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling at 9 Top End – the Council unanimously agreed they were concerned over the description in the supporting documents to the application which used both the phrase 'equestrian' and 'residential' use. The Council resolved they had no objection to

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the keeping of horses with a condition that equestrian usage be linked to the occupants of the house. The Council would be concerned if there were to be a change to this application to residential use, as this may result in planning gain on this site, which could then lead to permitted development and conversion of the outbuildings to residential use, which is not something that the Council would support.

d) 20/00536/FUL Loft conversion with dormer to rear and 2 dormers to front at 10 Pedley Way – Cllr. McIver gave feedback from site visit. The Council resolved to object to the application with significant concerns that it would overlook the neighbouring properties and it would increase the off-road parking issues in this area. There is currently insufficient off-road parking for the number of bedrooms at this property and, if it were to increase in size internally, the access road would be even more congested. Any further vehicles would lead to problems with the refuse and emergency vehicles access.

e) 20/00424/FUL Erection of single storey garden room to provide recreational area, mini gym, cloakroom and office space at 19 Hookhams Lane. The Parish Council resolved to have no objections. However, it was asked that the Officer be mindful of the neighbour comments and to ensure that if they have any concerns that they be taken into consideration.

Cllr. Phillipa Martin-Moran-Bryant joined the meeting at this point

f) 20/00563/FUL Erection of detached chalet style dwelling and detached garage at 14 Wilden Road Planning site history given. The Council resolved to object to this application as although the site has permission for development since going to appeal, this proposal is out of keeping with the neighbouring bungalow, so it would impact negatively on the street scene due to the high ridge height. There are also concerns that it is over development for the plot size.

g) 20/00585/S73 Variation of Condition Application. Erection of three detached houses all with detached garages and parking. To include variation of approved plans condition 2 attached to 19/00066/FUL to allow for the access to plot 1 to be relocated, amendments to front and side elevations to plots 2 and 3 and the provision of dormers at land at former site of The Three Horseshoes, Top End. Background planning site history given. Parish Council resolved to continue to object strongly to this application for amendments. It is extremely disappointing to see that these dormers have already been built. The Council wishes to object to this application as it impacts negatively on the building line and the overall street scene. In addition to the Parish Council being concerned with the close proximity of the two neighbouring bungalows on either side, the Parish Councillors insist that the windows are removed and returned to the originally permitted design.

Councillors raised great concern over continued retrospective planning applications in the parish. This is frustrating and a clear misuse of the system. Borough Councillors agreed to raise this concern. The Clerk to collate a summary of continuing issues.

h) 20/00672/FUL Erection of 2 dwellings at land adjoining 56 Top End. Planning background on this site was explained. The Council voted two in favour and six against the proposal. It was resolved that the Council objects to application, as they are concerned about setting a precedent outside the Settlement Policy Area as this application is in a rural setting. If the Officer is minded to approve the application, then the Parish Council would prefer to see a maximum of two dwellings on this site, and that they both be of the design as proposed for Plot 1 which is more in keeping with the village setting. The design for Plot 2 is not acceptable.

i) 20/00713/S73A Retrospective planning permission application for retention of annexe building with basement (with amendments to approved scheme) at Greenacres 6A Green End. The residents' concern regarding this application have been noted. Clerk to encourage resident to send their concerns in to engage directly with the Planning Officer. The Parish Council resolved that there was great concern over the constructed annexe, which is causing a significant visual impact with its change in height. It is out of keeping and gives the street scene a look of being over developed and urbanised within a rural countryside environment. The Council objects to the application with a

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raised height as it will also set a precedent for such back land development and the Council would be concerned about it becoming a standalone residential dwelling. The local authority must insist that the annexe is lowered to the correct level.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7.59pm and reconvened it at 8.05pm

Borough Councillor Moon took leave from the meeting

j) 20/00726/FUL Single storey rear extension at 1 West Close. A resident has contacted the Parish Council regarding this application expressing serious concern. The Parish Council unanimously resolved to ask the Borough Councillors to 'call in' this application, as they are objecting to the proximity of the proposal on the neighbouring property and in particular the boundary, as it will have a detrimental impact on both the neighbouring boundary and property.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-It was resolved to approve the minutes of 25th February. Minutes to be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record and returned to Clerk when feasible.

6. LOCAL GOVERNMENT WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW:-

The Parish Council discussed the potential impact on Renhold parish. Community cohesion and greater representation with more Borough Councillors were the two options considered. Councillors voted- three votes for continuing with the present arrangements (with two Ward Councilors from Goldington and two from Great Barford), four votes for having the parish as one in the Great Barford ward, and one abstention. Council resolved to respond reiterating that Renhold must remain united as one parish inside the Great Barford Ward and the southern part of the ward boundary must continue to be defined as houses north of Renhold Brook along Norse Road. This is a natural geographical boundary for the parish and therefore the ward boundary should follow this line as well. In addition, the Norse Road developments look to Renhold for their local services such as using the village primary school, the village shop and the village public house. All these local facilities are linked by footways and/or public footpaths that ensure that the village is well connected. It needs to be recognised that Renhold is a united parish.

It was requested that a future agenda item be to consider ways of identifying the parish alongside possible ward boundary changes - looking to improve community inclusion and cohesion between all parts of the village.

7. FINANCE: -

a) To confirm grass cutting schedule and associated expenditure for 2020 season

It was unanimously resolved for the grass cutting services to be retained for one year. The contract details agreed included an increase of two cuts to the extra grass splays from eight to ten times a year. Cllr. Gribble to be the main contact for the contractor and clarity to be received on the bush/hedge maintenance within the contract.

b) To review quotations received for maintenance

Following a site meeting with potential contractor, the Parish Council resolved to accept the quotation for the installation of the bench at Cranbourne Gardens. Awaiting quotations for village sign repair and replacement of broken war memorial slab.

c) Invoices to be paid

Cllr. McIver declared an interest in this agenda item, Cllr. Dean declared an interest too, so both took no part in the vote.

A R Worboys Ltd grass cutting £192.00

Renhold Chapel Gardening Club February meeting £25.00

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Barnicoat Ltd clerking service £1095.01

Ian McIver reimbursement of Zoom charges £143.88

JCB Printing additional charge for April Village Magazine to be stapled £50.00

JCB Printing A3 posters for forthcoming parish events £16.50

Resolution passed for the payments to be made.

d) Sports Club and Toddler Group grant for financial assistance

The Parish Council unanimously resolved that the contribution towards funding the hire of the village hall costs (£10 per week term time for two terms) for the Renhold Playgroup Group would be carried forward in light of recent government restrictions and the weeks when the group have been unable to meet.

Sports Club communications circulated. It was resolved the Parish Council award a grant of £500.00 towards the maintenance repairs required for the plumbing work required at the facility.

The Council resolved this matter using the previously agreed guidelines. All grant applications received by the Parish Council from April 2020 onwards will focus on supporting those who demonstrate positive village engagement and community involvement for the benefit of Renhold residents. Clerk to circulate guidelines to all current recipients of Parish Council grants. Further promotion to be done to notify other organisations of the Parish Council's grant funding process, and reminding all village groups of the many different external funding opportunities available to them. Information to go in magazine, village circulation list and Parish Council website.

e) Year-end accounts and appointment of internal auditor

Councillors have received a copy of the transaction report for financial year 2019/20. Draft year-end accounts produced. Latest guidance for year-end audit being followed. Councillors resolved to appoint Julie Betts to undertake internal audit.

Cllr. Cook took leave at this point of the meeting

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -

NALC Events Bulletin emails

Age Partnership email promoting services

BBC Planning weekly list email

Online playgrounds promotional information

CPRE update emails

Bank statements

Crime statistics - forwarded

ERTA Voluntary Transport email

Beds Police newsletter – forwarded

CPRE Neighbourhood Plan workshop presentation information

A R Worboys liaison regarding grass cutting

NFP Workshops bid writing information

Continued communications from NALC and BATPC information and updates on the coronavirus situation and how this impacts local councils

BBC Environment Committee request for communication to Parish Councils

Parish Council insurers update on closure period

BBC communications regarding play areas being closed during lockdown in the parish

Clerks and Councils Direct magazine

CPRE Membership card

Beds and MK Waterway magazine

East West Rail public information events and communications regarding preferred Bedford to Cambridge route and changes to consultation period

BBC Oakley Neighbourhood Development Plan latest

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BBC Planning policy guidance on Neighbourhood Plans during this period of lockdown
JPAG Practitioners Guide & L02-20
Information Commissioners Office fee renewal due May 2020
Communications regarding asset inspection of Parish Council items
Communications regarding Cranbourne Gardens highways signage request for children playing
Village magazine article communications
Residents added to the village circulation list
Police Priority Setting meeting communication cancelling 8th April meeting
BATPC Spring/Summer Training changes to programme
BBC Bulky Waster Service postponement
BBC Officer communications regarding Church End pedestrian crossing
War Memorial bench and plaque order communications
The Renhold Village VE Day Fayre communications
BBC email regarding Oakley Neighbourhood Development Plan
Community Priority and Future Community Surgeries
East West Rail consultation acknowledgment of submission made
Resident communication regarding Parish Council's East West Rail response
Resident communication regarding Parish Council's East West Rail response
Renhold Gardening Club communications regarding grant assistance
Renhold Playgroup communications regarding grant assistance
Renhold footpath work by Bedford ramblers information
Planning consultant communications regarding Hookhams Lane planning applications and ongoing associated liaison with Planning Officers
Bench repairs contractor communications
Groundwork promotional information
Resident communications regarding the zebra crossing at Church End
Resident communications regarding zebra crossing at Church End
Morelock communications regarding Vehicle Activated Sign purchase
Resident communication regarding the hedge during the Church End zebra crossing works
Water End bus stop and road signage communications
Resident communication regarding VE Day celebration and Mayor's attendance
Resident communication regarding Parish Council Annual Report delivery
Resident communication regarding Parish Council Annual Report delivery
Resident communication regarding Parish Council Annual Report delivery
BATPC Financial Impact survey
BATPC Training video
Annual parish electors meeting booking communications with Village Hall
May Parish Council meeting booking communications with Fiona Way pavilion
Resident communication regarding Hookhams Lane planning application 19/02194/MAO response
Resident communication regarding Hookhams Lane planning application 19/01974/MAO response
Resident communication regarding Church End zebra crossing
BBC Temporary Road Closure notice for St Neots Road
Resident communication regarding East West Rail consultation public event
Message from Richard Fuller MP- Additional East West Rail events
Came and Company insurance renewal information
Village Agent enquiry of support in parish during Covid-19 lockdown
Resident expression of interest of supporting local residents in need
Resident expression of interest of supporting local residents in need
Resident communication regarding Hookhams Lane planning application 19/02194/MAO response

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Village Hall communication notification that facility is closed
Communications regarding new Parish Council website
BBC Carlton and Chellington Neighbourhood Development Plan information
Annual Parish Council report liaison
Morelack communications regarding Vehicle Activated Signs
Resident communication regarding concerns over a planning application in the parish
Communications with Borough Council Officer regarding average speed data information
Resident concern over speeding in Green End
Resident expression of interest in joining allotment waiting list
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BBC Planning Officer communication regarding Three Horseshoes site work
Resident with concerns over bin not being emptied during lockdown
Resident communication regarding Church End zebra crossing
Resident communication regarding broadband speed issues along Ravensden Road
HMRC Vat reclaim gateway confirmation
Borough Councillor apologies for Parish Council meeting
Churchyard maintenance grant communications
Cranbourne Gardens children playing signage communications

Clerk outlined some items for information only:

- Local Rambler volunteers undertook some clearance of the bridleway to the village school in early March. Thanks were sent.
- Bench repairs previously identified from the regular asset inspection have been completed.
- New bus stop and road signs installed in Water End
- The new Parish Council website is now live. Thanks to Cllr. Ian McIver for his support and expertise with this
- Planning responses submitted
- Working with local volunteers to help co-ordinate access to support for those who are vulnerable and self-isolating during the Covid-19 lockdown
- Collation of the Annual Parish Council report
- Two attendees at CPRE Neighbourhood Plan Workshop training event
- Council received delivery of two purchased vehicle activated signs
- Village sign being reviewed for repair quote
- Remembrance memorial bench made and brass plaque wording agreed. Awaiting plaque to be made. The engraving company is closed at present.
- East West Rail consultation response submitted and circulated to village list
- Parish Council is supporting the work towards a rural grant for improving broadband speeds in Ravensden Road
- Average speed camera data received from the Borough Council. It is available on the Parish Council website
- Communications continue with many Senior Borough Officers regarding the zebra crossing installation at Church End. These have been communicated to residents through the village circulation. No response to date from the local MPs. Clerk to contact Borough Officers with further questions on the current works and second phase works.
- Cranbourne Gardens children playing signage added to the Borough Council's list of works
- May Parish Council future items include to discuss COVID-19 financial support for village groups, to consider use of .gov email addresses for Parish Councillors.

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- Neighbourhood Planning and East West Rail to become standing agenda items on future agenda
- Councillors agreed to include a notice requesting support from individuals to work on forthcoming Neighbourhood Plan. Notice to be included in Parish Council’s Annual Report.

Clerk to write thank you to White Hart Press for volunteer cards produced free of charge.

Cllr. Polhill left the meeting

9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:-

20/00593/TPO Avenue of limes group 1 - remove epicormic growth, crown raise to 4m and deadwood. G2 - 5 ash trees crown raise to 4m. T1- horse chestnut crown raise to 4m. T2 - yew down raise to 4m at suitable points. T4 - Norway maple crow raise to 4m at Howbury Hall, Howbury Hall Estate – Council resolved no objection to this application - as all proposals are designed to improve health and longevity of these precious trees.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - To be held on 20th May 2020 starting at 7pm. Meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed

Dated