

16.06.09

Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Tuesday 16th June 2009** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors Mr. Stewardson (Chairman), Mr. Slater (Vice Chairman), Mr. Gurney, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Andrews, Mrs. Brunnsden, Mr. Morgan, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat & 8 members of the public.

1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN AND APOLOGIES:- Mrs. Dean, Borough Cllr. Ellis

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSON AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST: - Cllrs. Stewardson and Stapleton declared a personal interest in item 7. a)

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the Annual General and Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 12th May which had been circulated, were approved by those present and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING:-

a) Mayor's visit – reminder that Mayor to attend next meeting, questions welcomed to be forwarded to him prior to his visit.

b) All Saints Churchyard – Clerk received call from resident raising concern at the condition of the churchyard, Wardens are aware of the issue and it is currently being addressed. Chair had received request for additional funding towards maintenance work, to be referred to Finance sub-committee.

c) Village of the year competition – Clerk has received notice that village magazine would like a Councillor to meet with interested individuals to discuss ways to progress, Cllrs. Slater and Stewardson to attend.

d) Police – speeding in the villages, burglary of outbuildings and vehicle crimes remain police priorities, next police surgery is at post office is 13th July 10am-12pm.

e) Resignation – Clerk received formal resignation from Mrs. Stewart.

f) School Organisation Review – public consultation document received.

g) Dog fouling bins – Cllr. Brunnsden noted that currently only one dog fouling waste bin on Cranbourne Garden estate, to be discussed at next meeting.

5. HIGHWAYS: -

a) Traffic Regulation Order and HGV ban implementation update – Clerk had forwarded Councils comments to Highways, and received confirmation that with concern to the signage being sited on the B660 as previously promised to the Council, that Highways are looking at placing signs at this location and will advise when detail design is complete. In regards to signage being positioned at the Wentworth Drive/Norse Road to deter motorists from entering the village and using that as an alternative route, Highways informed that this location will be monitored following the implementation of the signs/scheme. With the concern over 'Church End' not being a familiar place name to motorists and request that 'bypass' be used Highways responded that legislation does not allow the request to be carried out, and no further action can be taken. Cllr. Andrews noted that confirmation that B660 signage would be done as promised was good progress.

HGV implementation and signage still ongoing, though notice received that funding for signage had been agreed.

b) Relocation of Vehicle Activated Sign in Church End update –

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Cllrs. Slater, Gurney and Stewardson met with Sarah Lister the Watchman in Chief to discuss the relocation. The Council had proposed two sites, one in Green End, and one along Hookhams Lane. The signage can not be amended without incurring additional costs, and overall it was felt the more suitable site is Hookhams Lane. Cllr. Gurney expressed concern over the signage being close to residents and Cllr. Stewardson clarified that residents would be consulted prior to any installation. It was proposed by Cllr. Andrews that the Council agree to pursue the relocation of the signage along Hookhams Lane especially as the TRO will shortly be implemented in another part of the village, seconded by Cllr. Slater, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

Helen Dow of Highways informed Cllr. Stewardson that work requested by Cllr. Stapleton concerning the stretch of the road from the foot-path entrance up to No52 is going to have some kerbing installed, gully's cleared and some patchwork done over the next few weeks

6. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT: - Clerk had received report from Cllr. Ellis stating thank you for the honour of representing the village on the new Unitary Authority. Currently there is a great concern with regards to the consultation on our Schools and the proposed change from 3 to 2 tier, which Cllr. Ellis will be watching very closely and is very concerned about the cost of these changes.

7. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: - PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECIDED:-

09/00338/FUL The Range 69 Ravensden Road replacement garage with loft room - planning permission granted

09/00651/TPO 11 Becher Close shorten limbs on 2 Ash trees and remove 2 dead specimens – consent granted

09/00262/LBC 2 Brook Lane repair lime plaster where necessary, remove wooden plaster where it is causing damp – listed building consent granted

09/00695/TPO 10 Becher Close reduce Ash by 20% - consent granted

PLANNING APPLCATIONS RECEIVED:-

a) **09/00344/COU** change of use of old school building to single dwelling at School House 8 Top End – (as Cllrs. Stewardson and Stapleton had declared an interest in this item they took no part in the discussion) Cllr. Slater explained the application and as no change to exterior the Council resolved that no objection to the application.

b) **Bedford Borough Community Strategy 2009** – circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting, Cllrs. Stapleton and Gurney noted they had already submitted their own comments. Cllr. Andrews noted that individuals would have their own perceptions on the document and therefore difficult to respond as a body. It was agreed that individuals to respond if they so wish.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS: - None

8. LOWER SCHOOL PARKING UPDATE: - Chair had spoken to Highways whom had recently met with the Borough and informed that zig zag lines could be extended up to 45metres either side of the school entrance, along with marking out an 'H' bar at entrance to Church Close and first property to the left of the school. Clerk had received confirmation that funding for this had been agreed. Cllr. Andrews noted that with current school consultation things are likely to change shortly, and by adding additional lineage the issue would just be moved further along the road. Cllr. Gurney expressed clarification over the legality of parking on the zig zags and whether enforceable or not, Cllr. Stewardson added that the current zig zags are the non enforceable kind.

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9. MAINTENANCE OF BRIDLEWAY: - Cllr. Brunsdon received letter from resident of Wilden raising concern at condition of bridleway along Renhold Woods. Cllr. Stewardson had contacted Rights of Way Officer and received clarification that if owner does not maintain then the Borough can take action, Clerk to report.

10. POLICIES:-

a) Guidelines for Councillors and prospective candidates of the co-option process – the Clerk tabled draft documents following the resolution at the previous meeting to produce guidelines, it was agreed to for Councillors to feedback thoughts to Clerk to allow time for individuals to have detailed look over, and to be discussed at next meeting.

b) Grievance policy – draft policy circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting, Cllr. Gurney had read through in detail and proposed that the policy be adopted by the Council and reviewed annually, seconded by Cllr. Slater, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

c) Disciplinary policy – draft policy circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting, Cllr. Gurney had read through in detail and proposed that the policy be adopted by the Council and reviewed annually, seconded by Cllr. Morgan, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

d) Complaints procedure – draft procedure circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting, Cllr. Gurney had read through in detail and proposed that the policy be adopted by the Council and reviewed annually, seconded by Cllr. Morgan, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

11. PLAYBUILDER PROJECT AND VILLAGE SOS INITIATIVE:-

Clerk outlined details of the Village SOS initiative and information regarding the Play builder project which is being awarded by the Borough to 22 sites over the next two years to develop or improve the play experience with grants ranging from £20,000 to £50,000, expression of interest required and pieces of land with potential to be fed back. It was noted that currently there are no play areas in the old village for children, whereas in Cranbourne Gardens and the new estate the play areas are well developed. It was proposed by Cllr. Andrews, and seconded by Cllr. Gurney that the Clerk to express interest in the funding.

12. PARISH PLAN: - this is expected to be an important document for a village in the future to aid funding applications, informative evenings run by BRCC free of charge. This was discussed and it was proposed by Cllr. Andrews for the Clerk to organise an informative evening, seconded by Cllr. Gurney, unanimously agreed. Cllr. Andrews also proposed that the Council pay for the hire of the village hall to hold the event, seconded by Cllr. Stapleton, unanimously agreed, resolution passed. Date and time to be agreed and advertised in the newsletter to raise awareness for residents that wish to attend.

13. PARISH WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT:- Clerk looking to progress site and ideas/input welcomed, Cllr. Andrews felt research by asking residents what they would like to see on the site would be a useful tool. Working Group to meet and discuss progress.

14. OPEN FORUM:- Topics raised included school parking, open forum amendment, policy clarification, Ravensden Road notice board, school governors, co-option, relocation of vehicle activated sign and usage of land at Top End.

15. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED:-

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It was proposed by Cllr. Andrews that the Clerk write to the Village Hall Management Committee, and the Lower School, arranging another meeting with a Councillor in attendance to facilitate, in order for discussion regarding a temporary measure to alleviate the parking issue. (Cllrs. Stewardson and Stapleton declared a personal interest, so took no part in the discussion or vote) Cllr. Gurney seconded the proposal, and unanimously agreed the Clerk to write to both parties.

Transition Bedford - 22nd June the first Transition Bedford meeting being held at the Bunyan Museum in Mill Street, Bedford starting at 7pm, it is a partnership initiative that seeks to engage all sectors of the community in addressing the great transition from oil dependency to a low energy future. CPRE Bedfordshire Planning Training Day – being held on 28th September at Rufus Centre, Flitwick. Town and Parish Council Network on 25th June 2009 7-9pm at Borough Hall regarding Sustainable Community Strategy. NALC Annual Conference ‘putting people first’ on 4 & 5 September in London

- Village SOS information
- Town and Parish Council Service Bulletin
- Current Roadwork’s Bulletin
- Countryside Voice magazine
- School Organisation review – public consultation
- Bedford Borough Community Strategy 2009-11
- Bedford Green Wheel master plan
- COMMA Community Aggregate Levy Funding
- Rural Affairs Committee minutes for 28th April 2009
- Woburn Big Bike Ride posters

16. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:-

Dog fouling bin in Cranbourne Gardens

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - Wednesday 29th July 2009 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed

Dated