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Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wednesday 30th June 2010** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors Mr. Stewardson (Chairman), Mr. Slater (Vice-Chairman), Mr. Gurney, Mr. Bernard, Mrs. Brunsdon, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Leydon, Borough Councillor Ellis, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat & 9 members of the public.

1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN AND APOLOGIES: - Mrs. Dean, and Mr. Stapleton.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST: - None received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 May had been circulated. The minutes were approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. MATTERS ARISING:-

a) External Audit – Clerk noted that contact had been received from BDO requesting some evidence documentation relating back to previous year intermediate audit.

b) Residents correspondence – Clerk noted that matters raised included Charles Church signage, Open Forum during meetings and close time of meetings, stile at Water End, and suspicious individuals seen in Wilden Road. The Chair added that the police had informed the Village Hall Management Committee that Village Hall's are being targeted.

5. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT: - Cllr. Ellis reported on matters including: River Festival, Allocations and Designations consultation, latest regarding gypsy and traveller sites, Electoral Review, school reorganisation and academies, and the potential Police merger.

6. REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:-

a) Highways – Cllr. Gurney reported on the Borough Freight Strategy workshop that he and Cllr. Leydon had attended, detailing the format and discussions of the breakout group, also noted that sadly Cllr. Royden not in attendance and overall the attendance figures were disappointing considering the importance of the topic. Neighbouring counties need to be consulted with as well to ensure that freight routes are workable.

Cllr. Gurney also reported on the first meeting of the Highways Committee, no update received regarding the drainage works along Wilden Road, though Cllr. Gurney had met with Highway representatives to discuss the maintenance along part of Church End due to be carried out shortly, and details of the kerbing were discussed. The funding allocated is £50,000 though Councillors were disappointed that it was not sufficient to complete the extensive repairs needed for this road. The Clerk noted that the Lorry watch meeting between highways, trading standards and the police had been postponed so no feedback to date.

The full Council considered the Committee terms of reference and unanimously agreed to adopt them, resolution passed.

b) Finance – Cllr. Andrews gave details on the recent meeting of the Finance Committee and brought to the attention of the full Council items for consideration: Committee terms of reference, asset register and internal audit documents. It was proposed by Cllr. Slater that these be adopted by the full Council, seconded by Cllr. Gurney, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

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7. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECIDED: -

10/00559/FUL change of use from paddock to paddock for equestrian use, removal of sheep and erection of stable blocks – planning permission granted (email received from Officer regarding Council's submitted comments)

10/00979/FUL two storey front and single storey extensions at 84 Asgard Drive – planning permission granted

10/00847/LDP single storey rear extension at 14 Church End – certificate that submission of planning application not required

10/00700/FUL demolition of porch and erection of single storey front and side extension, including conversion of existing garage at 3 Becher Close – planning permission granted

10/00543/FUL detached double garage to front at 77A Ravensden Road – planning application withdrawn

10/00793/FUL installation of wrought iron balcony to rear of the property at Willowmead, Church End – planning permission granted

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: -

a) Bedford Development Framework Allocations and Designations Plan consultation document for discussion – Cllr. Slater had produced report on extensive document and noted that plans relevant to the village had been displayed on the Ravensden Road and Green End notice boards. The Council went through the report and discussed the items; Cllr Slater was thanked for his time and methodical report. It was proposed by Cllr. Gurney that the report be accepted and used to submit the Council's comments on the consultation document, seconded by Cllr. Brunsdon, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

b) Bedford Borough Waste Strategy Preferred Options – the Clerk gave brief background of the document and it was available for Councillors to view, the Council agreed that they had no comments on the consultation document.

c) Electoral Review of Bedford Borough consideration of draft recommendations from the Boundary Commission – Cllr. Slater had produced report and it was noted that the Boundary Commission did not agree with the Borough's submission. Proposal being now that Renhold belong to two member ward of six parishes in total, Cranbourne Gardens to become part of parish ward, however, the Spires Estate and Norse Road 3 development to be in Goldington Ward and the distribution of the Parish Councillors across the parish wards to be altered. The Council felt it was important that strong representation be made to ensure that Renhold does not find itself split across elected member wards, proposed by Cllr. Andrews and seconded by Cllr. Bernard that the report be used as the basis of the Council's submission to this consultation document, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

d) 10/01146/FUL conversion of existing garage including provision of covered porch and additional parking area at 15 Asgard Drive – the Council considered the application and noted that the proposal would result in a loss of part of the front garden and greenery which is a shame, and although an off road parking space is provided in the plan, if parking on the road starts it would add to the ongoing problems already in existence along this road.

e) 10/01499/FUL demolition of existing bungalow and erection of a replacement detached dwelling at 14 Green End – Councillors discussed this application at length and noted that this time the application had a structural report submitted and this time the footprint had not been enlarged beyond the existing dwelling. Councillors were made aware of comments received from neighbouring property and the supporting evidence provided by the neighbour which was circulated. The Council agreed that it would provide a better visual street scene than the bungalow at present, however, were very concerned over the impact on the neighbouring property in relation

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to their garden being overlooked by number 14. It was noted that in all the supporting documentation there

is no rear elevation photo include and this is the area of concern for the Council as the roof line although lower than the first application is still approximately 2 metres higher than the existing bungalow so the skylights at rear will affect the privacy of the neighbours. Recommendation to be made that the application could be further improved if the skylights and window are obscured glazed and non opening at the rear of the property.

f) 10/01002/FUL two storey rear extension to dwelling and replacement resited garage with link roof to existing garden store at 18 Top End – the Council raised no objection as no impact on the street scene.

g) 10/01313/FUL two storey extension and three bay garage at Dairy Farm Cottage – the Council raised no objection as no impact on neighbouring properties.

h) 14B Woodfield Lane – no objection.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS: - CPRE Planning Day on 2nd October noted.

8. REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS: - The Chair explained the Working Group had gone through the document in considerable detail and had tried to reflect the workings of Renhold Parish Council. Cllr. Leydon raised clarification of 4. a) and the Council welcomed the increased public participation included within the document. It was noted that the Code of Conduct, Committee and Working Party terms of reference will be attached to the Standing Orders. Cllr. Gurney proposed that the new revised document be adopted by the Council, seconded by Cllr. Andrews, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

9. RESIGNATION OF THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: - The Chair read out the Clerk's resignation, stating himself and the Vice Chair had spoken to the Clerk about her decision. The Chair detailed the advert that had been placed in the BATPC Bugle and felt it appropriate a Working Party is set up to consider the employment of a new Clerk. Cllr. Leydon proposed that as an employee with a responsibility of duty of care the Council should discuss the Clerk's resignation with the exclusion of the press and public, this was seconded by Cllr. Andrews and it was unanimously agreed that item to continue to be discussed by the Council in a closed session after the remaining Council agenda business has been addressed, resolution passed.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

10. OPEN FORUM: - Topics raised included: fix my street website, broken street sign, Clerk's resignation and Parish Council's website.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

11. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED:-

BBC Rural Affairs agenda for April's meeting

BBC Standards Board Agenda and supporting documents

Insurance documentation from Came and Co

Correspondence with Brian Hayward and Simon Deards regarding Highways matters

BBC Town and Parish Network meeting notification of meeting cancelled for 7th

CPRE campaign update email and CPRE Voice magazine

Local Council Review

Current Roadwork' Bulletin

Wicksteed Play equipment brochure

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- Correspondence with Police
- Steelway Fensecure brochure
- BBC letter regarding Electoral Review of the Borough
- Drink Driving campaign poster
- NALC Events Bulletin email
- Email offering website services for Local Councils
- Email offering printing services for Local Councils
- Traffic and Safety Solutions email
- Resolutions for debate at BATPC AGM email
- National Carers week email
- Play Area Management Seminar email
- BBC Rent Deposit Promotion of Scheme email
- BBC Press release information email
- Graffiti hotline email
- Email from resident regarding suspicious individuals loitering near priority in Widen Road
- Grant application request for Churchyard cutting
- Grit Bin installation email notification in Cranbourne Gardens
- Planning application feedback regarding 18 Top End
- Resident regarding Council meeting agenda

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:-

Cllr. Brunsdn raised that resident had raised concern at the grass at the corner of Becher Close which is not being cut, Cllr. Gurney to liaise and look into.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on Thursday 29th July 7.30pm

The Chair requested that all members of the public and press leave the meeting so agenda item 9. could continue to be discussed.

Councillor’s discussed with the Clerk the resignation, the Clerk then took leave from the meeting. Cllr. Andrews proposed that an Employment Working Group be set up to discuss with the Clerk the employment contract and her concerns, seconded by Cllr. Leydon. It was unanimously agreed that Cllrs. Slater, Andrews and Brunsdn be members of the Employment Working Group, resolution passed.

Meeting closed at 11.05pm

Signed

Dated