

14.04.09

Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Tuesday 14th April 2009** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors Mr. Stewardson (Chairman), Mrs. Dean (Vice Chairman), Mr. Slater, Mr. Gurney, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Andrews, Borough Cllrs. Ellis and Harrison, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat & 11 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES:- Mrs. Brunsdon, Mrs. Stewart

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSON AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST: - Cllr. Stewardson declared an interest in items 3 and 11. c). Cllr. Andrews declared an interest in item 9. b) and Cllr. Stapleton declared an interest in item 11. c).

3. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY CO-OPTION: - Clerk explained the co-option procedure and had circulated correspondence from residents who had expressed an interest in the vacancy. Cllr. Stapleton proposed Mr. Morgan for co-option, and Cllr. Gurney seconded. Cllr. Slater proposed Mr. Leydon for co-option, and Cllr. Andrews seconded. As more than one candidate, vote carried out (Cllr. Stewardson did not participate) 3 votes for Mr. Morgan and 2 votes for Mr. Leydon. Therefore as a majority vote, Mr Morgan co-opted onto the Council. Declaration of acceptance signed and register of interest form signed by Cllr. Morgan.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th March which had been circulated, were approved by those present and signed by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING:-

a) Indemnity Policy query – Clerk received query if it is necessary to purchase an indemnity policy to cover any possible claims from the parish church and the likelihood of such an approach. Council not aware of any reason why policy would need to be taken out.

b) Borough Assembly – information circulated.

c) Request for information – BATPC collecting information in response to proposed new powers for Local Councils.

d) Police Report – no report received.

f) Prohibition of parking on verges and footways –Clerk to awaiting response in regards to signage, confirmation received that areas within Bedford Borough are liable to civil court proceedings.

g) Litter Pick – had been attended by 15 people and between 12 and 15 bags of litter had been collected, considering the unseasonal weather it was considered a success and another date to be arranged for later on in the year.

6. OPEN FORUM:-

The Chair opened with an explanation of the purpose of the Open Forum. Topics raised included school parking issue, Settlement Policy Area, confirmation of Parish Council grants and query regarding legality of co-option.

Proposed by Cllr. Dean and seconded by Cllr. Andrews and unanimously agreed by all to consult with external organisations and ask for clarification in regards to the co-option. Due to the

14.04.09

uncertainty of the co-option the Council asked Mr. Morgan to rejoin the public till formal confirmation had been received stating if the co-option stands or not.

7. HIGHWAYS: -

a) Traffic Regulation Order and HGV ban implementation update – the TRO public notice had been published in Times & Citizen, however, signage and implementation can take up to two months before in effect, and same situation for HGV ban. Highways are still finalising the drawings for signage for the TRO, however, Clerk received notice that signage would be positioned at Church End and Water End displaying a red circular sign with a motorbike and car within, and underneath a time plate and except for access information. Also along Water End to tie in with HGV ban warning signs will be placed to notify drivers in plenty of time before they commit themselves to turning into the village of the restrictions, these will be white text on a blue background. Wilden Road will have signage stating entry to Church End is restricted, and along Ravensden Road prior to the Hookhams Lane junction signage will indicate restricted entry to Church End. Query over signage being sited on the B660, Jon Shortland had previously mentioned this, Clerk to enquire.

The traffic lights now fully installed and early feedback received showed timings not sufficient and adjustments need to be made, query if pressure pads have been installed and also notice received Sarah Lister is the new Watchman in Chief.

b) Highways Maintenance Scheme – input from Parish Councils had been requested by the new unitary authority, stating areas of special need within the parish, Cllrs. Stewardson and Gurney had completed and submitted information.

c) Community Speed watch – Clerk received request from Police to raise the speed watch scheme whereby several parishes purchase a speed device and share the use of it to deter motorists from speeding by indicating the actual speed accompanied by a happy or sad face. Idea being up to 11 parishes share the device and two parishioners man the device, and if a trouble spot is shown then will show it warrants police presence. Cllr. Slater proposed to support the principle of the device and state financial support for funding (which was calculated as £320 including VAT) but raise that the Council hope this will be reduced by other participants, seconded by Cllr.Gurney, all unanimously agreed.

8. COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS:-

Cllr. Harrison reported that the new unitary is now up and running, and it is expected that it will take up to 2 years before everything is moved over. Alarm bells had been reported to be going off overnight from a unit along Norse Road over Easter, causing distress for nearby residents, it is voluntary in Bedford for key holders to be logged but suggested Clerk to log request with Borough. Cllr. Ellis had received a query from a resident in Brookside regarding the pavement and inclusion on programme of works. Information also given that a gypsy site was being considered by the Borough for Meadow Lane.

9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECIDED:-

09/00419/FUL 10 Becher Close single storey front and rear extensions, two storey extension to side – planning permission granted

09/00348/FUL 33 Becher Close single storey rear extension to garage, porch to front including pitched roof over garage – planning permission granted

09/00136/FUL 78A Ravensden Road demolish existing conservatory, erect two storey rear extension – planning permission granted

14.04.09

08/02951/LDE 4 Green End conversion of loft including roof windows are lawful so no need for retrospective planning

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:-

- a) **09/00262/LBC** repair lime plaster where necessary and remove modern plaster where it is causing damp at 2 Brook Lane – Council acknowledged that as building is Grade II listed and the photos showed the vitalness of the work, no objection.
- b) **09/00695/TPO** reduce Ash tree by 25% at 10 Becher Close – it was agreed that reduction was appropriate, no objection. (Cllr. Andrews took no part in the discussion)
- c) **09/00651/TPO** at 11 Becher Close – it was agreed that reduction was appropriate, noted providing it done professionally, no objection.
- d) **Settlement Policy Area Boundary Review of Renhold** – information had been circulated and historically the Council had suggested no change to the SPA, new proposal showed an area off Green Lane to be included, and a slight change off Woodfield Lane. Proposed by Cllr. Stapleton and seconded by Cllr. Dean that Cllr. Slater look at the document and maps in greater detail and produce report for consideration at next meeting, all unanimously agreed, to be on next meetings agenda.
- e) **Affordable Housing Survey** – correspondence received from Wilden Parish Council that a survey had shown a need for three or four properties, however, as project too small suggestion that a joint scheme be undertaken with an adjoining Parish Council. Discussion centered on the need for affordable housing within the village, currently 75 affordable homes along new Norse Road development. Noted that Renhold charity had put forward two dwellings on a site included in the initial Local Development Framework. The proposal of a joint scheme it was felt would not benefit the village. Clerk to respond outlining there is no evidence at present to suggest a need within Renhold and any needs being met by the Norse Road development.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS: - None

10. FINANCE:-

Current Account £4064.79 Deposit Account £12106.57 Transaction report circulated

a) **Urban Grass Cutting Agreement with Borough Council** – details received from Borough authority that they have taken over the grass cutting and the contribution towards grass cutting during 2009 will be £1,152.48. Form to be completed and signed to accept available monies, proposed by Cllr. Gurney seconded by Cllr. Stapleton, unanimously agreed and resolved that form be completed and information requested be returned, Cllr. Stewardson completed form.

Agreed

b) **Invoice for installation of notice board in Cranbourne Gardens** – invoice totaling £110.92 received for work undertaken, proposed by Cllr. Stapleton seconded by Cllr. Dean that invoice be paid, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

c) **Invoice for hire of Village Hall** – Cllrs. Stewardson and Stapleton left the room for the item, invoice received for £136.00 for hire during financial year 2008/09 and notice that time sheet will be provided in future for time room is in use to be recorded on. Proposed by Cllr. Andrews and seconded by Cllr. Dean that invoice is paid, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

d) **Bank mandate for standing order for Clerk's wages** – Clerk circulated timesheet of hours, proposed by Cllr. Dean and seconded by Cllr. Andrews that wages of £386.96 be paid,

unanimously agreed, resolution passed. Cllr. Stewardson proposed that as Clerk's hours differing from contracted hours that Finance and Employment Working Group reassess the hours, seconded by Cllr. Andrews, all agreed and resolution passed.

14.04.09

Agreed

e) Year End accounts – these were circulated and discussed, it was proposed by Cllr. Andrews that for the insurance quote the new notice board and Vehicle Activated Sign to be included, the excess to be increased to £250, office contents reduced to £500 and the value of the assets to not be increased. Seconded by Cllr. Dean, all agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

Accounts to be discussed at next meeting.

12. CHURCHYARD PROVISION UPDATE: - the rodding had still not been carried out.

13. VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION: - Clerk informed no rule regarding whether residents or Parish Council should collate information, to remain an ongoing agenda item with regard to feedback and coordination.

Cllr. Andrews took leave at this point of the meeting

14. SCHOOL PARKING ISSUE ALONG CHURCH END:- the Council appreciate the inconvenience for the residents along Church End and the concerns they have, Cllr. Stewardson had contacted Highways and alerted them to the issue, discussion about painted lines to draw attention to areas so access can still be gained to properties. Clerk to write and continue to pursue with school.

15. CONDITION OF OPEN NOTICE BOARDS AND BT PHONE BOX: - Cllr. Stewardson had obtained quote for pin cushion material that is currently on Cranbourne Gardens notice board, £82.93 per square metre excluding VAT plus £18 delivery, also for plywood cost is £111.48 per square metre excluding VAT plus £18 delivery. It was agreed that Cllr. Gurney will measure up the open notice boards and calculate an approximate cost to include removing existing backing and a painting of frame. Cllr. Stewardson gave assurance that BT phone box has been cleaned recently and repaired.

16. OPEN FORUM:-

Topics raised included school parking issue, co-option and traffic lights feedback.

17. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED:-

BBC – Letter regarding Renhold Urban Grass Cutting Agreement for 2009

BBC – Letter regarding Settlement Policy Area Boundary Review and Important Open Spaces

BBC – Copy of TRO as published in Times & Citizen

BBC – Replacement Proposals Map for Allocations and Designation Plan Site Selection including Planning Briefing CP14 and Building for Life

Wilden Parish Council letter regarding Affordable Housing

BDO Stoy Hayward Annual Audit pack

BBC Standards Committee report for meeting on Monday 16th March and minutes of meeting

Library times poster for Renhold

BBC Rural Bulky Waste Code of Practice

Town and Parish Council Service Bulletin

Cllr. Wootton's Bulletin

Current Roadwork's Bulletin

Civil Enforcement Area regarding parking regulation enforcement
CPRE AGM meeting agenda and information
CPRE magazine

14.04.09

Parent Partnership posters

18. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:-

Year end accounts
Notice board repairs
School parking issue

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - Tuesday 12th May 2009 at 7.30pm
Meeting closed at 10.40pm

Signed

Dated