

**28.03.11**

Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

**PRESENT:-** Parish Councillors, Mr. Slater (Chairman), Mr Andrews, Mr. Gurney, Mrs. Dean, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. McDougall, Mr. Leydon, Mr. Bernard, Mrs. Brunsten, Borough Councillor Ellis, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and 4 members of the public.

**1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN AND APOLOGIES TO BE RECEIVED:** - Cllr. Slater welcomed everyone to the meeting and no apologies for absence had been received.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

**2. OPEN FORUM:-**

A resident enquired if the Council knew of the reasoning behind an individual in the Hookhams Lane area of the village with a clipboard, it was felt that they may have been possibly counting HGVs. It was also noted that metal thieves had struck at the Church recently and a landowner is concerned regarding litter and dog nuisance.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:** - None received.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February had been circulated. The minutes were approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

**5. MATTERS ARISING:-**

Clerk gave update regarding the historical Council minutes and a reminder that the next litter pick in the village is on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

**6. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT:** - Cllr. Ellis gave an update regarding the traveller and gypsy proposed sites including a possible extension of the site at Meadow Lane, and the provision of a site for travelling show people at Manton Lane. Alban Middle School had recently converted to an academy school and that work and liaison is ongoing with a number of different projects that Cllr. Ellis is involved with, including the hand held speed device which it is hoped will arrive shortly. Cllr. McDougall enquired if the government cuts would be affecting the local bus service, as naturally residents are very concerned about any changes as it would have a huge impact as a large number of people rely on the service. As present Cllr. Ellis is not aware of any changes, it was noted that there had been a slight change regarding the library service but this has not affected the frequency of the service to the village. The recent Rural Transport Road show run by the Borough across the rural parishes it was noted was very well attended by residents in the village, and if such opportunities arise again it would be very good to ensure as many participants as possible.

**7. HIGHWAYS UPDATE:** - The Clerk reported that sadly no updates received to date regarding the gated entrance request, traffic flow data nor the hand held device, but to continue to chase and pursue relevant officers. The final Capital Works Programme announced by the Borough does

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include highways work to be carried out in Church End; Councillors praised this and agreed that other areas in the parish in need of work to continue to be regularly reported and pushed for repairs to be actioned. It was noted receipt of information regarding the recent Borough initiative to de-clutter signage on the roads, any out of date or signs perceived to no longer be relevant to be reported. Also information relating to a speed limit review being undertaken by the Borough and information regarding BT exchanges were circulated.

Cllr. Gurney gave a detailed report on the recent Police Joint Action Group meeting, noting that 13 crimes in the last three month period had been reported in the village, and that anti social behaviour in the Spires has been considerably reduced though the police will continue to patrol this area. In addition, the speed camera van has been in the village and speed check signage has been placed around the village recently too. Other items discussed at the meeting included: environmental crime and information leaflet, and the priorities set for the next three months were speeding, anti social behaviour and general reduction in crime.

### 8. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

**10/03037/FUL** partial demolition, conversion and re-build of existing barns to form one residential dwelling at Harrisons Hill Farm, Water Lane – planning permission granted.

**11/00033/LBC** conversion of existing barns to form single residential dwelling, demolition of two derelict buildings at Harrison Hill Farm, Water Lane – consent granted.

**11/0249/FUL** single storey front and side extension at 35 Becher Close – planning permission granted.

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: -

**a) 11/00501/FUL** infill extension below existing first floor overhang and erection of external stairwell at 17 Brook Lane – the Council considered this application and agreed to raise no objection.

**b) 11/00390/FUL** erection of timber framed conservatory at Hill Grove, Water Lane - the Council considered this application and agreed to raise no objection.

**c) 11/00506/FUL** conversion of barns to form one dwelling at Hill Farm, Water Lane – the Council considered the revised application and agreed that as the original area for offices had been removed, that the Council to respond as previously, though omitting any reference to the offices.

**OTHER PLANNING MATTERS:** - Following the approval of the advertising consent relating to the new Norse Road development it was noted that no letter received to date from Planning Officer explaining the reason for the decision, Clerk has pursued. The correspondence received regarding the Minerals Safeguarding Consultation was noted.

### 9. FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS: -

The Clerk detailed the information received from the Borough regarding the number of various forthcoming elections; adding nomination packs for the Parish Council could be obtained from the Clerk or direct from the Borough.

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**10. BT TELEPHONE BOX SALPH END:**

Clerk has requested the installation of device to allow cash calls, or device for phone to accept cards.

**11. VILLAGE FURNITURE CONSIDERATION OF CURRENT CONDITION OF VILLAGE SEATS:-**

Cllr. Gurney had undertaken a survey of the street furniture in the village and its current condition, the seat near the Church it was felt is in a poor condition and others in the village may be in need of sanding and treating, but otherwise are structurally sound. It was agreed that the Finance Committee at their next meeting to consider cost implications and look at the potential options available.

**12. FINANCE MATTERS: -**

The following outstanding invoices were presented (it was noted that all contained within budget):

E Barnicoat Clerk's expenses January, February, March £172.63

BATPC Membership renewal £417.00 (noted 1% increase)

It was unanimously agreed by all those present to pay the invoices presented, resolution passed.

The Council considered the grass cutting contract, and the quotes received for the work, it was unanimously agreed by all present to award the contract for one year to A Worboys Ltd as they provide best value for money and work has been of a very good standard.

Following guidance recently received from HMRC guidance for Local Councils and Parish Clerks, the Council agreed that this item should be discussed as a closed item after the public have left.

**13. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -**

BBC Current Roadwork Bulletin

NALC Events Bulletin emails

CPRE Campaign email updates, branch review magazine and membership renewal

BBC Standards Committee meeting information

Institute of Groundsmanship email

Village magazine

Age Partnership email promoting services

BBC Rural Affairs meeting information

Whats on at Bedford Museum promotional poster

BBC Town and Parish network meeting information and Clerk's Champions meetings

Komplan play brochure

Age Partnership information email

Dove Traffic and Safety Solutions promotional email

BBC Town and Parish Conference invite email

BATPC update and Beds Bugle

Clerks and Councils Direct magazine

Commontree magazine

Localism Bill Journal of Planning update

HMRC Guidance on employment of Clerk's received

IAC Internal Audit company promotional letter of service

Census information

Bedford Gallery promotional of events literature

BDO Audit briefing received

BBC Alternative Vote Referendum and Mayoral, Borough and Parish Council Elections 5th May 2011 – email forwarded to Councillors regarding polling cards

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NALC Clerk's salary briefing issued  
BBC Environmental Volunteering review presentation invite  
Mineral Safeguarding Consultation  
Bedfordshire Highways letter regarding VAS warranty  
BBC Mobile Library Routes changing poster and letter  
Lloyds bank statements  
Beds Police letter regarding new SNT Sergeant  
BBC litter pick correspondence  
Came and Company insurance spring matters  
Correspondence regarding Asgard Drive with resident and developers  
Resident enquiry regarding tree survey

**14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -**

Matters that arose during meeting to be included, as well as Quality Status, celebration of the Queen's Jubilee and Parish Council Annual Report.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm**

At this point of the meeting Cllr. Slater thanked all the Councillors and residents for their support and work over recent years.

The public were asked to leave to allow the Council to resume consideration and discussion under agenda item 12 relating to the HMRC guidance, all Councillors had received a copy of the guidance. Cllr. Andrews detailed the background information and research undertaken, reporting on the meeting of the Employment Working Group recently. It was proposed by Cllr. Leydon, seconded by Cllr. McDougall, and unanimously agreed by all those present to ensure compliance that the self employed contract with the Clerk be terminated with immediate effect. In the interim period till further guidance or clarification is issued the services of Barnicoat Ltd will be used.

Following the decision above it was unanimously agreed and resolved to pay outstanding monies totaling £275.34 to the Clerk, and the Standing Order to be cancelled, mandate form completed.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed .....

Dated .....