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Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Tuesday 11th October 2011** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors, Mr. Slater (Chair), Mr. Gurney, Mrs. Brunsdon, Mr. Andrews, Mrs. Dean, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. McDougall, Mr Bernard, Borough Councillor Moon, Simon Deards (Borough Officer) the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and five members of the public.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED: - Cllr. Slater welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending, Mr. Leydon and Borough Councillor Ellis, had sent apologies for absence, these were accepted.

2. Simon Deards, Senior Transport Officer from Bedford Borough Council, in attendance to talk about the withdrawal of the HGV ban in the north east of the Borough including Renhold

Cllr Slater gave those present a brief historical background of the former County Council and current Borough Councils work regarding heavy goods vehicles. Cllrs. Slater, Gurney, Dean and the Clerk had met with Simon Deards and Melanie MacLeod from Bedford Borough Council following the recent data collection and subsequent report that had recommended no HGV ban for the north east of the Borough including Renhold.

Simon Deards explained to all Councillors and parishioners present the process that had been used to collect the data which was similar to neighboring authorities. An origin and destination survey had been undertaken within the whole area of north east Bedford Borough with individuals collecting data including size, vehicle details and registration, to track vehicle movements over a set period. The results indicated that 18% were making through journeys, with the remainder appearing to have business in the local area. So, in conclusion it was felt that it would not be an effective approach for a ban to be imposed from a financial aspect or logistical aspect of enforcement. The Borough therefore, is to now look at collecting good local data and then making contact with the goods operator directly, as this would be a more cost effective and practical approach to improving the situation. Details and examples of work that has and is being done on this were explained and this has already taken place in Renhold.

Those present then asked questions in regards to the collection of the data and how the analysis had taken place as well as questions relating to protecting and enforcing the strategically placed bans such as Hookhams Lane. The Officer was happy to work with any data or information a parish could supply and follow it up and added that any existing heavy goods limits would remain in place and enforceable.

The Council thanked Simon Deards very much for his assistance and useful explanations on this matter.

3. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST: - No declarations of interest were received.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

4. OPEN FORUM: -

A resident enquiry was received regarding the change in format to the most recent magazine report the Council made.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

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5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September had been circulated. The minutes were approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

6. MATTERS ARISING:-

The Clerk reminded all that forthcoming bulb planting date confirmed for Monday 24th October between 10am and 12 noon, and that posters are displayed throughout the village.

The overgrown crab apple trees in Beecher Close had been reported to the Borough and the Clerk awaiting feedback.

7. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: -

Cllr. Moon reported that the main focus at present for the Borough is the modernisation programme and looking at ways to reduce spending.

8. OTHER HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -

a) Hand held speed device training and progress update – the Clerk had continued to pursue and updated that individual has very recently returned from sick leave, however no feedback or update received to date unfortunately.

It was noted that some school staff members are parking their cars on the blind bend at Church End which is of increasing concern to some residents as the hedge on the opposite side of the road blocks the natural view of oncoming traffic for motorists.

b) Renhold Lower School and Church End parking update – the Clerk had continued to pursue feedback, it was noted the road closure commences on 24th October for the capital works maintenance to this stretch of road.

c) Traffic management survey report relating to Traffic Regulation Order – the data had been circulated and although evidenced that reduction in through flow traffic following the implementation of the TRO, the number of actual vehicles involved was small.

d) Other highway updates – correspondence had been received from Highways Officer about 43 Green End which was feedback to those present.

9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) Local Development Framework Allocations and Designations Plan consultation document – Cllr Slater gave an overview of the changes within the document which directly impact on the parish, including some positive changes to the settlement policy area at Green End and Salph End and local area gaps being defined. It was agreed that the changes are of benefit to the village, and due to the formal process and stage the document it is at, it was felt appropriate not to make any formal representation.

b) 11/02032/FUL part conversion of attached garage to living accommodation at 72 Thor Drive – the Council considered this application and although are aware of parking difficulties in general within this area which are to be noted, had no objection to the application.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS: - 11/01370/LBC, 21 Ravensden Road, Renhold, this application had been received between meetings, and comments submitted were: There are no external changes to the property - with the exception of a chimney pot, and raise no objection. 11/01889/FUL, 87 Ravensden Road, Renhold, this application had been received between meetings, and comments submitted were: The last garage approved was at 77a Ravensden Road, and we had reservations about this. The double garage at 77a is partially hidden by a tall conifer

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hedge, and is located close to the house itself. This is important because it reduces the dominance of a large double garage when viewed from 77 and from the road. The garage at 77a is useful as it shows how large a double garage with a pitched roof is. Nos 77 - 95 Ravensden Road have long front gardens, and none has a garage in front of the house fronts. The garage proposed at 87 is right at the road end of the long front garden. It will not be obscured by the existing planting, although this could be allowed to grow up, and will be highly visible from the road. The garage will be dominant when viewed from 83, 85, 87, 89 and 91, and also probably from 80 and 82 Ravensden Road. I would suggest we object to this application, on the grounds that it will be unduly prominent when seen from Ravensden Road, and will be likely to dominate the view from nos 83 - 91 and 80 and 82 Ravensden Road.

10. REPORTS FROM EVENTS COUNCILLORS HAVE ATTENDED:-

- a) Town and Parish Network meeting – Cllr Slater attended and reported that sadly attendance levels were not as high as usual, matters discussed included budget reduction, Borough Assembly, gypsy and traveller sites document, and arrangements for the Jubilee celebrations.
- b) Bedford Waterspace Launch event – Cllr Gurney attended this informative event which was well attended and represented, it discussed the few schemes that would be implemented to further encourage the use of the river. The river in general is used more than expected and has a diverse range of uses as well it was noted.

11. FINANCE MATTERS: -

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

A R Worboys	grass cutting £111.24
BDO Stoy Hayward	external audit fee £198.00
Barnicoat Ltd	clerking service (September) £431.06

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

The Council had received feedback from the external auditors who had raised no matters to which to draw to the Council's attention and the Clerk had displayed the conclusion of audit notice within the village.

The Finance Committee had met to discuss grants for parish organisations and feedback was given to full Council, Cllr McDougall proposed that a donation of £150 be made to Good Neighbours, following further discussion on this matter Cllr McDougall withdrew his proposal and a quote to be received from the organisation for consideration, was agreed as the best approach.

12. QUALITY STATUS APPLICATION UPDATE: -

The Clerk had received confirmation that the Council had been successful with their application and is now a Quality Status Parish Council. A resident made some enquires regarding the status and benefits it was felt to have.

13. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -

BBC Current Roadwork Bulletin
NALC Events Bulletin emails
CPRE Campaign email updates
BBC Standards Committee meeting information
Age Partnership email promoting services
BBC Rural Affairs meeting information
Clerk's Champion meeting correspondence
Lloyds bank statements

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- BBC Planning weekly list email
- BBC Town and Parish Network meeting information
- Journal of Local Planning update and localism email updates
- BBC Events in 2012 letter asking for information on village events
- BBC Borough News in Brief poster
- Beds and MK Waterway magazine
- Review of Parliamentary constituencies in England consultation
- National Planning Policy Framework document
- Skate park promotional email
- Email regarding disbanding of Audit Commission
- BBC School Transportation consultation
- BBC Budget consultation document
- Borough Assembly 2012 date email
- BBC request for Parish Council electoral pro forma information
- Email correspondence relating to 43 Green End
- Member of the public memorial enquiry
- Promotional email regarding cold weather preparation
- Quality Status email correspondences including new logo
- Promotional letter from a stonemasons
- Village Magazine edition
- BDO Conclusion of External Audit
- BRCC letter of thank you following membership renewal
- CPRE guide on how to respond to planning applications
- BATPC AGM documentation
- Bus shelter promotional leaflet
- Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacon information leaflet

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

Matters that arose during meeting to be included, Queen's Jubilee celebrations and request crime reporting figures and police attendance.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on Wednesday 23rd November 2011 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed

Dated