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Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Thursday 26th July 2012** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors, Mr. Slater, Mr. Gurney, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. McDougall, Mr. Leydon, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and two 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; apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillors Moon and Ellis, Parish Councillors Andrews, Dean and Brunsdon.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:-
No declarations of interest received.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

3. OPEN FORUM: -

Topic raised included concern over parking outside of the school on the corners causing a hazard, an extension to the kerb or bollards needed by the bus shelter, and there was also clarification regarding the Parish Council school governor representative.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 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:-

Cllr. Gurney reported that the WI is happy for the seat to be moved, however, they had suggested writing to the Diocese or Vicar to seek formal approval, so Clerk to action.

6. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: - No report received.

7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -

a) Update regarding Community Speedwatch and other Highways enforcement within the village – a further action day had taken place, however, it was noted that limited activity had taken place relating to enforcement after 9.30am. This had been followed up by Cllr. Slater as this was very disappointing considering the success of the previous action day, Brian Hayward, Highways Officer, had been notified but he could provide no definite answer as to why activity had been limited to only a few hours. It was unfortunate as well that a member of the public had placed a signage on Hookhams Lane warning motorists of the speed check that had been set up.

b) Salph End bridge closure update – this work had now commenced and there was a consensus that as a result of the diversion motorists have increased their speed through the village, and there has been an increase of traffic on Brickfield Road and Hookhams Lane. It was added that a ‘no through road sign’ has now been placed at the entrance to Brickfield Road.

c) Other highways matters – it was noted that the new HGV signage is now in place at the bypass entrance to the village and an additional sign has been installed at Church End. Cllr. Leydon

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reported that he had received a phone call from the Borough Council regarding non attendance at recent Speedwatch training, he had fed back the disappointing relevance of the training felt by colleagues that had attended in regards to the pro-active wishes of the villagers and is awaiting a response from the Borough.

8. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: -

- a) 12/01316/COU change of use of stable block to ancillary residential annexe at Harrisons Hill Farm, Water Lane – the Council considered this application and raised no objection but were concerned that the development is getting larger and larger, feeling that the annexe area must not become a separate residential dwelling.
- b) 12/01254/FUL single storey rear extension and garage conversion at 20 Tolkien Close – the Council considered this application and were in support.
- c) 12/01163/FUL and LBC single storey rear extension and internal alterations at 16 Green End – the Council considered this application and raised no objection though urged caution noting that there is a wood burning stove detailed within the application, and there was some concern raised regarding this and the proximity to a nearby thatched property.
- d) 12/00993/TPO 6 Ash remove overhanging branch at 10 Becher Close – the Council raised no objection to this application.

9. COUNCILLORS REGISTER OF INTEREST FORMS AND CHANGES TO THE STANDARDS PROCESS: -

The supporting documents had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting, including NALC guidance on the new Code of Conduct, the recently updated Code as adopted by Bedford Borough Council as well changes to the way the local authority will deal with such matters. The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the updated supporting documents in regards to the new Code as issued by NALC and the local authority. All Councillors were asked to complete the updated Register of Interest Forms so the Clerk can submit prior to the deadline to the Monitoring Officer.

10. FINANCE MATTERS: -

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

BRCC membership renewal £35.00

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service June and July £825.40

A R Worboys grass cutting £448.67

Gill Wiggs internal audit £85.00

It was unanimously agreed by those present to approve the above expenditure, resolution passed.

The Internal Audit had been completed by Gill Wiggs, it was noted in the report that the Council during 2011/12 bought in clerical services from a limited company, following the internal auditor's comments, it was agreed that the Parish Council seek further clarification from HMRC as the internal audit suggested. It was agreed that for submission to BDO Stoy Hayward that the internal auditor's report be attached, as well as a copy of the letter the Council received from HMRC as evidence when clarification was sought previously.

The Clerk to submit the Council's Annual Return.

11. VILLAGE MATTERS: -

The following village matters were noted:

The Clerk was in the process of receiving quotes for the Parish Council Annual Report, it was unanimously agreed that printing to be actioned following securing a quote providing best value that falls within the budget set aside for this. It was also agreed that Cllr. Slater to write a letter to

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accompany the Parish Annual Report welcoming residents to become part of a village communication list if they wished. The letter prepared for households where their hedges are encroaching on the footway it was decided that a number to be printed and these would be delivered to appropriate households when the Annual Report is delivered.

There had been further resident communication regarding the Becher Close trees, Cllr. Slater confirmed that he had also looked into the possibilities available to the Council and unfortunately it appears that the Parish Council cannot help with this matter.

There had been some police matters within the village where the Clerk had received communication in relation to some recent burglaries, this had been circulated to Councillors and it was hoped that by having a village communication list such information would be useful for wider circulation.

The Clerk noted that a letter had been received from the Borough waste service relating to dog and waste bins emptying within the village of Parish Council owned bins, clarification is being sought on this.

Cllr. Gurney reported that the stile repairs have been carried out along Footpath 15 and Cllr. Stapleton detailed that the Sports Club would be investigating the purchase of a reconditioned mower.

The seat to be purchased in memory of the Jubilee a more detailed quote had been obtained and it was agreed that quote to be obtained for fixing the seat to a concrete plinth, along with installation of the noticeboard due to be placed at the entrance to the Spires Estate.

It was also agreed that a letter to be sent to Cllr. Bernard regarding attendance at meetings and that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held in the future on a separate evening to that of a Parish Council meeting.

13. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -

BBC Current Roadwork Bulletin

NALC Events Bulletin emails

CPRE Campaign email updates and Countryside Voice magazine

BBC Standards Committee meeting information

Age Partnership email promoting services

BBC Rural Affairs meeting information

Clerk's Champion meeting correspondence

Lloyds bank statements

BBC Planning weekly list email

Correspondence with Simon Deards regarding the HGV movements in the village and way forward

BRCC e-bulletin

Arien Sign promotional email

Major Roadwork's bulletin list

Age Partnership email promoting services

BBC Rural Affairs meeting information

Village newsletter copy

Online playgrounds promotional information

Register of Interest forms and information from BBC

BBC Allocations and Designation Plan programme information for public hearing

Clerk Council Direct magazine

BBC Planning Enforcement training 20th September

Planning Briefing regarding Central Bedfordshire consultations

BATPC email regarding changes to 'declaration of acceptance of office forms'

BBC Traveller and Gypsy site draft methodology consultation

Elveden Farms Ltd Christmas Tree information

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BBC letter regarding waste and dog bin services
BATPC email regarding community groups 12 months free broadband
BBC Consultation on 'healthwatch'
Police correspondence regarding burglaries recently in village
BBC information regarding handling of Standards as per Localism Act
IDB maintenance schedule for Renhold

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

Matters that arose during meeting to be included.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on Monday 3rd September at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed

Dated