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Minutes of **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wednesday 29th May 2013** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors, Mr. Slater, Mr. Leydon, Mr. Gurney, Mrs. Dean, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. McDougall, Borough Councillors Ellis and Moon, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and two members of the public.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: - Proposed by Cllr. Dean that Cllr. Slater be re-elected as Chairman, Cllr. Gurney seconded proposal, Councillors voted and unanimously agreed Cllr. Slater be elected as Chairman, resolution passed.

Agreed

Cllr. Slater signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED: - Cllr. Slater welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending; Mr. Andrews and Mrs. Brunsdon had sent apologies for absence, these were accepted.

3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:-

Cllr. McDougall declared an interest in part of the discussions within agenda item 4 as a Renhold Charity beneficiary, and it was noted that Cllr. McDougall had recently updated his declaration of interests form. There were no further declarations of interest received.

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN AND ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS TO ORGANISATIONS TO REPRESENT THE PARISH COUNCIL: -

Cllr. Slater proposed that Cllr. Andrews be reelected as Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Gurney, unanimously agreed, resolution passed.

Agreed

Cllr. Andrews to be asked to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Councillors then discussed representation on outside organisations, the Village Hall Management Committee, it was felt that although Cllrs. McDougall and Stapleton are Trustees appointed by the Management Committee that it is important for there to be Parish Council representative. All present were asked to give this some consideration and it was agreed that this item to be discussed further at the next meeting.

(Cllr. McDougall took no part in the discussion of this item) Cllrs. Stapleton and Dean are members of the Charity Cottages Trust, it was agreed by all that this was adequate, and unanimously agreed that both Councillors to continue, resolution passed. Clerk to contact the Clerk to the Trustees.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

5. OPEN FORUM: -

Items raised included following the recent village sign placed in Ravensden, whether this is something that could be looked at for Renhold, it was agreed that the Clerk to contact the Ravensden Parish Clerk to make inquires regarding the cost, and that this item to be considered further by the Council or Finance Committee. It was noted that the parish were still not in receipt of the traffic survey ANPR results, and the recent refuse collection problems in the village were discussed. The matter had been brought to the Borough Council's attention and there appears at present to be no explanation for the recent issues.

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The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

6. REVIEW OF COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES: - The Council considered the current Committees, it was unanimously agreed that the Finance Committee had worked very well throughout the year when it had met and that the Finance Committee be reappointed with delegated powers of authorising payments within the agreed budget and to continue to monitor the Council's finances and ensure best value. The members to be Cllrs. Gurney, Dean and McDougall as well as Cllrs. Slater and Andrews as ex-officio members.

It was also unanimously agreed that the Council reappoint a Highways Committee to deal with progressing highways matters within the parish when needed, with members to be Cllrs. Gurney, Stapleton, Leydon and Dean as well as Cllrs. Andrews and Slater as ex-officio.

It was unanimously agreed and resolved that planning applications would continue to be dealt with as currently if received between meetings.

The Council also felt that where possible Highway and Finance matters would be dealt with at full Council meetings when other business allows.

7. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th April had been circulated. The minutes were approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

8. MATTERS ARISING:-

The Clerk had submitted the grass cutting agreement form to the Borough Council.

Cllr. Slater gave a report feeding back from the recent annual parish meeting held in May, this meeting gives opportunity for the electors in Renhold to receive reports from the organisations in the parish. There were 14 electors and 3 'guests' present, and 4 people sent apologies. During the Open Forum session questions were asked about the incidence of flooding at the rear of Brook Lane, and about the new crash barrier on Wilden Road.

Reports were then presented from the Parish Council, Renhold Ladies Group, Renhold W.I, the Lunch Club, the Police, Community Speedwatch, Neighbourhood Watch, the Sports Club, the Borough Council, the Village Magazine, Good Neighbours, Pride in Bedford, Renhold Charity, and Renhold Chapel. Written reports were received from All Saints Church and the Village Hall Management Committee.

There was disappointment that there was again no report received from Renhold Lower School or the Governing Body, as it was noted that the Parish Council were mentioned in the school's report to the Parish Church. It was agreed that Cllr. Slater to collate a letter for sending to the Chair of Governors regarding this.

Other items to be covered during the meeting.

9. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: - Cllr. Ellis reported on the ward funding allocation for this coming year, as well as the recent refuse collection problems in the parish.

10. HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -

a) Update following Community Speedwatch training - Following the recent training event held in the village for Community Speedwatch a further 10 volunteers had now been trained and a further session would be organised to be held for the remaining volunteers to be trained. Cllr. Gurney had contacted the police to get the recently trained volunteers their certificate and

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information packs. It was agreed that work would commence on collating a rota for those to date trained to allow for the Speed Indicator Device to start being used in the village. The Council thanked Cllr. Gurney for his support and organisation of the training of the volunteers.

Other highways matters in the village – it was noted that there are planned to be some forthcoming road closures of Church End to allow for some highway repairs to be carried out, which will be advertised locally in the village nearer the time. There have continued to be problems with the Brook which have again been brought to the attention of the Internal Drainage Board, and it was agreed to invite a person from the Board to the next Council meeting to discuss the issues further. The Council had also become aware that the recent diversion in place along Hookhams Lane meant the HGV weight limit had been temporarily revoked during this diversion period. A letter was received from a Church End resident inviting the Council to attend a meeting with residents and other stakeholders shortly to discuss the problems along Church End.

The Council had received an email from the Mayor for the attention of the Chairman regarding highways reporting and work that can be done to reduce speeding, such as average speed cameras, Cllr Slater had sent a response requesting if the parish could learn more about the possibilities of average speed cameras and the cost implications. There was also concern expressed regard the recent felling of trees at The Three Horseshoes site, it was felt this could present a false consideration when potential future planning applications are received as the site could look like no trees were ever on the original site. There was also concern raised that part of the published tender document of the site includes land solely owned by the Sports Club, so it was agreed to raise both these items with Greene King.

11. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) 13/00526/MAF 191 dwellings with associated landscaping and parking at land off Norse Road response submitted - The PC notes the reduction in the number of affordable dwellings and the amended house types and does not wish to comment on either.

b) 13/00876/FUL single storey rear/side extension at 8a Woodfield Road – no objection

c) 13/00912/FUL single storey rear extension with conservatory to rear/side at 47 Green End - the Council have no objection to this application as long as there is a condition applied restricting no skylights or windows that may impact on the adjacent dwelling.

d) 13/00893/OUT erection of two dwellings at 78 Hookhams Lane - no objection

e) Planning document consultation submission to Allocations and Designations plan – it was noted that the following had been submitted in regards of West of Hookhams Lane, include garden areas within the SPA: Renhold Parish Council objects to Modification 14H, because it seeks in this location to follow property boundaries which is inconsistent with the treatment of the SPA boundaries in both Salph End and Green End, where the boundaries cut across garden areas to place the SPA as close to built development as is practical. The proposal in Salph End would place within the SPA land that could then be justified for backland development, which the Parish Council would not support.

f) Other planning matters such as notice of any decisions and information regarding community asset register – it was noted that the Orbits Home application to make variations to the section 106 conditions had gone to the Planning Inspectorate on appeal.

12. FINANCE MATTERS: - The VAT refund of £1088.26 had been received.

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

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service April and May £412.70 x 2

A R Worboys grass cutting services £111.24

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Broker Network Ltd insurance renewal £817.36 (this is a reduction from £835 last year it was noted)

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

It was noted that the annual report to the parish needs the finance figures inserting prior to being sent to print.

13. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -

- BBC Current Roadwork Bulletin
- NALC Events Bulletin emails
- CPRE Campaign email updates and Countryside Voice magazine
- Age Partnership email promoting services
- BBC Rural Affairs meeting information
- Lloyds bank statements
- BBC Planning weekly list email
- Major Roadwork’s bulletin list
- Village newsletter copy
- Online playgrounds promotional information
- Local Council Review magazine
- Email circulation list responses
- Bedford Borough News in Brief poster
- Arien Sign promotional email
- Project Involve parish website training sessions
- Quality Town and Parish Council survey
- Beds and MK Waterway newsletter
- Stewartby Landfill Liaison meeting minutes
- Came and Co renewal information
- BBC consultation on local validation lists
- Hookhams Lane revocation of HGV limit
- Three Horseshoes Tree update
- Police Crime Commissioner article for newsletter
- Brook problems continuing to be reported
- BBC Town and Parish Network meeting information
- Land ownership enquiry due to ASB in the village
- Renhold Village Hall Management Committee annual report
- Churchyard annual report
- Crime stats data
- Beds on Sunday reporter contact about article
- BBC Community Volunteering newsletter
- PC meeting dates enquiry from Conservative Group researcher
- HMRC VAT payment received
- Press article clipping sent in anonymously

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

Matters that arose during meeting to be included.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on 16th July at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed

Dated