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Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Thursday 11th June 2015** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors, Mr. Leydon, Mr. Slater, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Gurney, Mrs. Dean, Borough Councillors Anthony Forth and Sheryl Corp, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and six 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; Mrs. Brunsdon had sent apologies for absence, these were accepted.

Former Councillors, Ian McDougall, Jim Stapleton and Stuart Andrews were thanked for their time and support as Councillors and it was agreed that the Clerk to send a formal letter of thanks to the individuals.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:-

There were no declarations of interest received.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

3. OPEN FORUM: -

Items raised included a request to extend the new double yellow lines at Church End further to allow residents a safer exit from Church Close.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

4. REVIEW OF COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES: - Those present agreed that given the number of Councillors present it would be better to carry forward this item to the next meeting.

5. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES:-

Following the recent elections there were currently two Parish Councilor vacancies. There had been two expressions of interest received for the meeting, it was proposed by Cllr. Leydon that Andy Gregory and Amanda Quince be co-opted as a Councilor, this was seconded by Cllr. Dean and unanimously agreed by those present. Resolution passed that Mr. Gregory and Mrs. Quince become a Parish Councilor. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was completed and a Register of Interest form by Mr. Gregory. All relevant documentation to be sent electronically to Mrs. Quince.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th May had been circulated. The minutes were approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

7. MATTERS ARISING:-

The Clerk had notified the Committee Secretary of Cllr. Slater's appointment to continue as the Village Hall Management Committee representative. The Clerk had notified the Committee Secretary that Cllrs. Gurney and Dean continue as members of the Charity Cottages Trust.

Cllrs. Slater and Harrison had completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, as well as Register of Interest form following the recent election.

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The Clerk had received the NALC Local Council certificate for the Parish Council awarded at Foundation level. The external audit items had been submitted to BDO and the VAT refund had finally been confirmed.

Other items to be covered during the meeting.

8. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: - Cllr. Forth outlined that him and a colleague had been elected for the ward that included the Spires and Aspire areas within Renhold. The key area for residents is when the footpath work to the village up to the school will be completed and fit for purpose. The Council had been informed these works are in the programme for August, and Cllr. Harrison also reported that he had pursued this as an individual as well. A detailed specification it is hoped will be sent to the Parish Council in advance of works commencing. Other items of discussion by residents has been dog waste bin requests and requests for double yellow lineage in Spires by the entrance roundabout, though there is concern such measures might just move the issue.

Cllr Corp reported that there is further information on the second phase of the broadband update and what impact this will have on this area, the western part of the village is scheduled in this programme of works, however the eastern side of the village is not. The aim is 96% coverage, however, it was noted that the Borough Council website states areas in Top/Green End receive up to 2MGB already, though this is not accurate, Cllr Corp agreed to look into.

9. HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -

a) Speedwatch update and average speed cameras in the village update - it was reported that Speedwatch has continued to be carried out, with it being noted that the Speedwatch group had been recognised for their commitment to deterring speeding in the village. The Police Chief Constable had awarded the Speedwatch volunteers with an Award as part of Volunteer Week. The Council felt this is a reflection of the dedication for all those volunteers who have helped with Speedwatch and it was good to see them being recognised.

There had been an update regarding the average speed cameras in the village from the Borough Council Highways Officer. The cameras and associated equipment are now in stock, and the arrangements have been confirmed with UK Power Network for the site at Water End/Green End. The next step is for the transfer from the overhead line to run across the road to the feeder pillar. This work will also need to be carried out at the Church End/Wilden Road location. At present there is no confirmed date, however, the Council were pleased to hear there was some progress. Councillors were mindful that it would be helpful if Borough Councilor could put pressure on the progress of speed cameras and the extension of the 30mph which needs to be factored in as well.

b) Other highways matters in the village – the Clerk to pursue the dragons teeth marking to be painted at Ravensden Road and after discussion about the Church Close residents request for the double yellow lines to be extended, it was agreed to set up a meeting with the Highways Officer to discuss this.

It was noted that the curved mirror to aid visibility recommendation as discussed at the last meeting had been fed back to the resident's concerned.

10. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) 15/01248/TPO Ash reduction crown by 20% and remove dead wood at 77A Ravensden Road – the Council had no objection to the work however, did note this is a very important tree in terms of the street scene.

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- b) 15/01130/FUL two storey side extension at 11 Brookside – the Council considered the application and were in agreement to object to the application on the basis that it is large over development. The Council reiterated the previous comments to the previous application at this site and felt the proposal will alter the street scene adversely due to the size of the application.
- c) 15/01052/FUL two storey rear extension at 51 Asgard Drive – there was no objection to this application on the basis that adequate off road parking provision was maintained.
- d) Other planning matters of interest such as notice of any decisions between meetings – It was noted that the Borough Council further public consultation on Local Green Spaces has commenced, this will be a future agenda item to agree the Parish Council's comments ahead of the deadline. Councillors felt it would be useful to have a follow up meeting with Planning Policy Offers ahead of the next stage of the Local Plan 2032 document consultation period so they remain full up to date, the Clerk to organise.

11. VILLAGE MATTERS:

It was noted that in order to progress the Village Sign the Parish Council needs to be in possession of the final quote from the designer, the Clerk to follow up. At present the Green is the preference for the location, however, residents comments on suggestions of a location are welcomed so the Clerk to make a note within the next article asking for feedback on possible location for a Village Sign. It was also detailed that it would be worth checking if there is a height restriction for what can be placed on a verge/green, to ensure this siting is acceptable from a Borough Council perspective.

There had been further communications from a resident about having a central informative resource for the village, with Oakley web page used as a good example of how this works in other parishes. This format would allow items in the village to have a raised profile. The Parish Council was supportive in principle of a website which would encompass all the village groups and they wished to explore how this may work. It was agreed that interested Councillors to meet with the interested residents. Cllr. Harrison expressed an interest and the Clerk to ask the other three Councillors not in attendance at the meeting.

There has been a request from the Spires Neighbourhood Watch group for a closed noticeboard as you enter the park by the play area within the estate. Cllr. Harrison reported that he will shortly be meeting with a Borough Officer and will raise this request, as the play area is the local authority responsibility so this area should come under their remit.

12. LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME:-

The Council discussed that the Foundation Award is now valid until January 2016, it was agreed that the Parish Council would aim to continue with maintaining the Foundation level. The Clerk would commence work on this.

13. ANNUAL REPORT:-

Cllr. Slater was thanked for offering to draft the report, it was noted that once the Clerk had updated some finance figures and the document had been circulated to all Councillors for approval, that the report to then go to the printers. It was agreed to continue with JCB printing on the basis of good value as previously provided.

14. FINANCE MATTERS: -

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

Village Hall invoice for use of hall £174.37
Barnicoat Ltd clerking service May £557.36
A R Worboys Ltd grass cutting £461.45

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It was unanimously agreed by all those present to pay the invoices presented, resolution passed. It was noted the Came and Company insurance documents had been received. The Council had received the VAT refund of £1,377.40 which was shown within the updated transaction report.

15. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -

BBC Current Roadwork Bulletin
NALC Events Bulletin emails
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
Crime stats data
Borough Council News in Brief poster
Several communications from BBC regarding election expenses
BBC Officer notifying of further Local Green Spaces public consultation
Letter from BBC noting Portree planning application withdrawn
Village Hall Management Committee Trustee information
Receipt of Village Hall invoice
BBC requesting pictures of village sign for the ward fund file
Susan sent apologies for June and July meetings
Expression of interest in becoming a Councillor
Request for noticeboard further in The Spires
Spires NHW Group asking for circulation of a newsletter
Resident communication regarding planning application at 11 Brookside
Two residents of Church Close responding from my response after the last meeting
Village Hall invoice
BBC Code of Conduct guidance
Communication with Officer regarding Village Gates
New Borough Councillor details for Great Barford and Goldington ward
Acceptance by Ian and Stuart as Chair and Vice Chair
Beds on Sunday reporter request for agenda for June meeting
BBC letter regarding certified order confirmation for Footpath 23
SLCC membership information

16. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

Matters that arose during meeting to be included.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on 22nd July 2015 at 7.30pm with apologies for absence in advance from Cllrs. Leydon and Brunsdon.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed

Dated