

## 7.03.16

Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

**PRESENT:-** Parish Councillors, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Gurney, Mr. Slater, Mr. Harrison, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Brunsten, Mr. Polhill, Borough Councillors Stephen Moon, Jade Uko, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and nine 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; it was noted that Mr. Leydon, had sent through his resignation which the Council were disappointed to hear and wished him well in the future, the Clerk to arrange for the advertisement of the vacancy. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Parish Councillor Amanda Quince, Borough Councillors Anthony Forth and Sheryl Corp.

### **2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:-**

There were declarations of interest received from Andy Gregory relating to agenda item 8.d) and Julian Polhill declared an interest in 8.a).

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the next item.

### **3. OPEN FORUM: -**

There was an inquiry regarding the installation of the additional yellow linage in Church End, it was noted the previously detailed period of work had passed, so the Clerk to follow up. There was a request for a dog waste bin to be installed at the entrance of the Polhill Estate in Top End, either a general waste bin or dog bin would be helpful to keep the local area tidier. Councillors agreed that the Clerk to ask the Borough Councillors if their Ward Fund for 2016/17 could contribute towards this.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

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

The minutes of the meetings held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 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:-**

It was reported that the 'not suitable for HGV' signs at the bypass entrance to the village had disappeared, these have since been reinstated.

The Clerk had written a letter of thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to PCSO Paul Jones.

There had been some crime statistics received which showed there had been thirteen crimes in the parish in three months, this data had been the very generic data received through the Neighbourhood Watch Co-originator at the Police. They are no longer in position and reported that their post is not to be refilled so at present there is no easy, way to get local crime data.

The issue reported at the last meeting relating to a bus driver was followed up and the latest was noted that the individual has left their position at the company.

Other items to be covered during the meeting.

**6. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: -** The Borough Councilor report from Cllr. Uko detailed that the local PCSO had left which meant only five PCSOs to cover the whole of north

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Bedfordshire, so it is much more reactive policing unfortunately. Borough Councillor Moon detailed there has been a local authority council tax rise of 1.99% and an adult social care increase of 2% with the Band D property in Renhold now paying £1,605.69 including the other services increase. It was noted that there is no increase to the Parish Council contribution.

#### 7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -

It was noted that the average speed cameras have been installed in the village, there is to be some further warning signs to motorists which is expected to be installed shortly.

There had been some issues as well regarding originally a missing Water End road sign, which then had been installed in the wrong location, the error had been reported to the Borough Council and the concerned resident had been kept updated as well.

It was raised that there is felt to be an excessive number of highway warning signs in the village and this to be raised with the Highways Officer to see if this could be resolved.

#### 8. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) 16/00436/LBC demolition of modern outbuildings and restoration, extension and refurbishment of Great Dairy farmhouse and associated outbuildings – *JP declared an interest in this item and took no part in the item discussion*, overall the Parish Council were supportive of the improvement proposed to the farmhouse as it will be more aesthetically pleasing in its rural setting, compared to its current appearance. However, the Council are concerned that the development of the outbuildings to form residential accommodation would set a precedent.

b) 15/02510/OUT amended drawings received relating to the clearance of site and replacement public house, detached dwelling at land of former Three Horseshoes – it was noted that between meetings the second version of plans had gone before the Borough Council Planning Committee, on 18<sup>th</sup> January, the decision had been deferred and more information requested from the applicant. This information regarding viability had now been provided and was discussed at this meeting, it was noted the restaurant has been reduced in size to accommodate more in site parking and the viability study had been produced, so the Council agreed that their concerns have now been addressed though are worried about increase in traffic. The Clerk to swiftly feed back these comments as the application is due to go before the March Planning Committee.

c) 16/00204/FUL single storey side extension at Hill Farm Barn, Water Lane – the Council had no objection to this application.

d) 16/00144/LBC and 16/00143/FUL conversion of barns to form two residential dwellings including internal alterations, installation of new fenestration and mezzanine floor at Church Farm Barn, Church End – *Andy Gregory declared an interest in this application and took no part in the discussion*, the Council were concerned over the lack of parking spaces provided given the proposed number of bedrooms the properties would have. There has been a provision for six spaces when there is nine bedrooms. This parking concern is a further concern given the site's proximity on Church End which is notorious for parking problems due to regular heavy congestion outside the nearby school and church on a daily basis. When vehicles access the proposed new properties at peak times, their visibility splay will be heavily impacted due to the parked cars on the immediate highway in both ways. The Council are not against the development of the barns, however, are concerned if they impact further on the highways issues, for example, visitors parking on the road side. Therefore, the Council would like to see a greater off road allocation of parking for vehicles with both properties. The Council also feel that Barn C should have a condition applied that as the windows will be overlooking the highway verge and the adjacent footpath, that they are to be non opening.

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e) 16/00220/FUL first floor side extension and roof alterations to create an additional bedroom, single storey rear extension and front porch at 30 Top End – the Council object to this application on the basis of being over development of the site and the proposal will have an over bearing impact on the neighbours, No. 32. The proposals are also out of keeping with the street scene and the adjacent properties.

f) 16/0006/FUL new vehicular access at 58 Green End – the Council have no objection to this application.

g) Other planning matters of interest – It was noted that the application relating to 21 Embla Close, had been considered by the Borough Council Planning Committee who have deferred their decision until they have done a site visit.

It was noted that the application 14/00471/MAF for the erection of 38 dwellings at land north of Norse Road has been withdrawn. The Clerk was asked to make contact with the Planning Officer, Jonathan Warner, and ask for an update on this site.

The application for 59 Top End 15/03014/LBC has also been withdrawn.

The latest information relating to the additional call for sites received relating to the Local Plan 2032 that the Borough Council have released had been included in a newsletter article to keep residents up to date. The Clerk had tried to make contact with Gill Cowie regarding arranging a meeting for the Councillors to discuss the Local Plan next steps, the Clerk is continuing to pursue.

The previously considered application for an eco dwelling in Water Lane, that was refused by the Borough Council has gone to appeal the Parish Council has been notified.

There were two planning applications that required feedback between meetings.

## 9. FEEDBACK FROM MEETINGS COUNCILLORS HAVE ATTENDED

**a) Neighborhood Planning workshops run by Bedford Borough Council** - Cllrs. Slater and Polhill had attended the recent Borough Council training sessions relating to neighbourhood plans. The key highlights from the meeting were producing a plan requires a significant amount of man power and resource with a minimum of two years to complete. It was agreed that it would be useful to have a future meeting where residents were invited to come and find out more to gauge the local interest in such a document being produced. This to be a future agenda item.

**b) Village Website Working Group** – there have continued to be meetings on developing the website and a further meeting is planned for the beginning of April. Ian McIver was thanked for his hard work on this, it was noted that there are still items that need finalising such as who will manage the contributions and updates to the site, this will be considered on how this could practically work by the Working Group. The Council were grateful that to date all work had been done at no direct cost to the Parish Council other than to facilitate the meetings, the Council agreed that they would continue to fund the cost of the hiring of the hall for the Working Group meetings.

## 10. VILLAGE MATTERS:

It was noted that the Borough Council had detailed the bulky waste service would be in the village on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May, the Clerk would publicise these dates.

The tree declared by Borough Council at the War Memorial to be diseased and that needs removing had been pursued by the Clerk to check the ownership, it did belong to Mr. Polhill so the Clerk to forward the relevant information on to him.

There had been information placed in the last newsletter regarding broadband issues in the village, asking residents to report these problems. There was useful feedback from Andy Gregory following the resident comments on village broadband, this information had been analyzed and was presented. It was agreed at a future meeting to invite Paul Vann, the Borough Officer, with this responsibility, along to speak to the Council.

It was noted the notices on the notice board at Green End continue to be removed.

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There have been communications regarding the Church End bin insert to be replaced which is expected to be done shortly.

It was also noted that between meetings there had been a village event organised to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 11<sup>th</sup> July, the Parish Council were supportive of the event and agreed to cover the cost of the hire of the Village Hall.

### **11. LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME UPDATE:-**

The documents have been uploaded to the Council website, there still needs to be some minor updates and the Clerk will then need to make a formal application, which the invoice for this included on the cheque list for this meeting.

### **12. FINANCE MATTERS: -**

The Clerk had submitted the agreed parish precept for 2016/17.

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

Bedford Borough Council election re-charges £149.68

NALC Quality Status application £60.00

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service January and February £1114.72

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

It was noted that the Anglian Water bill was currently in credit.

The Council also agreed to pay two invoices out of meeting to Barnicoat Ltd for March clerking services £557.36, and to BATPC membership fee renewal of £577.00, resolution passed.

It was then discussed the grass cutting contractor for 2016, the price and contractor had previously been agreed to be A R Worboys, the confirmation letter was reviewed and it was agreed to enter into a three year agreement to secure best value process. The Clerk to feedback and it was noted the Council would not be setting up a standing order arrangement.

The Council had now received a four quotes for the War Memorial maintenance, these were reviewed and it was unanimously agreed to award the contract to Bill Peet and Son, the Clerk to contact.

The last NALC updated regarding the Financial Regulations was reviewed and it was agreed to insert the updates as per the recommendation.

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

BBC Current Roadwork Bulletin

NALC Events Bulletin emails

Age Partnership email promoting services

Lloyds bank statements

BBC Planning weekly list email

Major Roadwork's bulletin list

Village newsletter copy

Online playgrounds promotional information

Crime stats data

Communications regarding average speed cameras

Renhold magazine

Resident communications regarding village website and the Working Group update

BATPC fees notice of £577.00

Anglian Water bills

BATPC email on audits for smaller authorities

BBC email with agenda for Rural Affairs Committee meeting

BBC Clerks Champions meeting minutes

BBC Library service consultation

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Holocaust Memorial service invite  
BATPC Training Programme  
Tower Mint medal range information to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
BBC letter notifying us the 21 Embla Close application has been deferred and the Planning Committee will be visiting the site  
War Memorial quote from Bill Peet and Son  
Bus shelter promotional information  
Letter of notification to say erection of 38 dwellings at land north of Norse Road has been withdrawn  
BATPC minutes from A1 stakeholders recent strategy meeting  
BATPC email regarding housing and planning bill  
Clerk and Council Direct magazine  
Nalc Invoice for Quality Status £60.00  
Gladson brochure  
Lloyds Letter about changes to the account terms  
Letter regarding adjoining parish application  
BBC letter that application relating to 59 Top End has been withdrawn  
CPRE newsletters  
A R Worboys confirmed prices for 2016  
Notification that eco dwelling application at Water Lane has gone to appeal  
BBC Parish and Town Conference Network meeting reminder  
Resident communication regarding average speed cameras  
Officer communication regarding litter bin replacement  
Bin insert reported missing  
Water Lane sign-age been incorrectly installed noted and reported to highways  
Resident comments about the notice boards  
BBC Neighbourhood Planning Workshops  
NALC Model Financial Regulations  
To note more Call for Sites have been put forward as part of the Local Plan 2032  
BBC Parish and Town Network meeting notes  
Planning applications between meetings  
Ravensden Road crossroads closure a few extra days  
Police Council Tax consultation  
BBC Library service consultation  
BBC Green End and Water End temporary closure information

### 14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

Matters that arose during meeting to be included and it was asked if the Council would consider the continuing problem with the Church End parking problems and it was reported that there is a dog bin overflowing on Cranbourne Gardens as Thor Drive and Asgard Drive merge.

### 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 to be the AGM at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed .....

Dated .....