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Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Wednesday 12th October 2016** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Slater(Chair), Mrs. Gribble, Mrs. Dean, and Mr. Polhill, 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, Parish Councillors Mrs. Brunsdon, Mrs. Quince and Mr. Gurney, had sent apologies which were accepted. The Borough Councillors Anthony Forth, Jade Uko, Stephen Moon and Sheryl Corp had also sent their apologies.

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: -

It was raised that there were concerns regarding the traffic speed along Hookhams Lane, the Borough Council were due to feedback after the last site meeting some time ago, whether build outs without lighting were possible. The Clerk had chased and it was asked that this time the Clerk ask the Highways Officer what can be done to Hookhams Lane to reduce speeding vehicles. It was added that Community Speedwatch do visit this area of the village and lorries over the HGV weight limit are reported to the Borough Council.

A resident raised questions relating to grass cutting and the landscaping of the Aspire development, commenting that they felt the landscaping is sparse and questioning whether there would be an open spaces plan in place. It was explained as part of the planning process this would have been planned for, the preference from the residents is predominately wild flower meadows, however, the Clerk to locate the open spaces plan for the development.

It was noted there are 4,000 daffodil bulbs available from the proceeds of the village barn dance and individuals welcome to have some to plant them in the highways verges.

It was asked if the Parish Council are aware of the existence of 'village champions', it was noted the Parish Council were, with it being discussed what their role is and how they are supported by the Borough Council.

It was questioned if there are any designated areas of natural wildlife in the parish, it was fed back that there is not, however, there are populations of water vole and otters which have been found in the brook and at other locations in the village.

There was a comment that the hedges at the entrance to Brook Lane needed cutting back, this had been reported already.

The recent traveller encampment adjacent to the parish was causing some concern as it had been in situ for a while, the Clerk to make enquiries.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting for the next item.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th September had been circulated. The minutes were discussed, there had been one amendment made regarding the reference to broadband under village matters, the revised document was approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

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5. MATTERS ARISING:-

The Clerk had sent the letter collated to the landowner of the area where the recent hedge works to land at the rear of Ravensden Road had taken place. There had, disappointingly, been no response it was noted. The Clerk had reported to the Borough Council the request for the hedge at Ravensden Road by the stables to be cut back. The Police crime data it was noted had been circulated monthly to all Councillors. The Clerk had fed back the Council's support still to the extension to the double yellow lines along Church End. A resident had sent clarification regarding the legality of dropping off on double yellow lines, this had been circulated to all Councillors. The Clerk had followed up the matter of dangerous parking on Ravensden Road with the Police, however, no response to date. The grass cutting specification for the village would be an item for the forthcoming Finance Committee it was noted. The Clerk had reported the highway hedges at the entrance of Hookhams Lane and along Wilden Road on the left hand side travelling up the hill are in need of cutting back as they are encroaching on the footpath. The Clerk had received the information confirming the actual meetings dates of the website Working Group, this had been provided to the Village Hall Management Committee for billing purposes. Cllr. Quince was not present to feedback on the possible siting of a bench in the churchyard, so this item to be carried forward. The Clerk had sent a letter to Lloyds TSB to notify them of the address change for the Council, this had been implemented.

6. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: -

There was a report sent by Cllr. Moon in his absence, it included updates on the school transport consultation which now included the children from the developments in Renhold having access to it. The 'report it' new reporting system was detailed, as well as the budget review work that is being undertaken in addition to the confirmation of the new waste bin collections.

7. **HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE:** - There had been further communications between meetings relating to the average speed cameras in the village and their calibration. There had continued to be Speedwatch carried out in the village, with the data circulated to all. There had also been clarification on the usage of the variable messaging signs across the borough and the guide lines the Borough Council adhere to relating to their usage.

8. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) 16/02668/FUL single storey front/side extension at 76 Ravensden Road – the Council reviewed the supporting plans and raised no objection to the application.

b) 16/02245/FUL convert dwelling into a house of multiple occupancy 6 bedrooms (7 people) at Maskell Drive – the Council had only become aware of this application following Cllr. Harrison and Cllr. Forth notifying the Parish Council, which is concerning. The application has been called in and will heard before the Planning Committee in November. Cllr. Harrison declared an interest in this application so took no part in the discussion. The Council agreed to object to the application on the grounds of insufficient parking provision off road for the number of potential occupants. Also given the property is on a junction, off road parking would cause a serious hazard to other road users. It was agreed that the Clerk to submit the comments and Cllr. Harrison to be registered to speak at the Committee meeting.

c) 72 Thor Drive - the Council reviewed the supporting plans and raised no objection to the application.

d) Renhold Lower School – the Council had just received this application and felt it would be more practical to hold a one off meeting to review the documents fully, given the significant numbers of them. This then would allow Councillors to form a full response. The Clerk to ask for the

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associated documents to be printed off by the Borough Council, and to liaise with Planning Officer to find out their planned time line for making a decision so residents could be updated in the next newsletter article.

e) Other planning matters – the Council had become aware of a problem with the submission of their comments relating to the application 16/02362/FUL single storey rear/side extension including basement area and new pitched roof to existing flat roof area at 2 Home Close. The Clerk had submitted them as usual within the required time frame, and received the automated acknowledgement of the comments being received. However, a resident altered the Clerk that the comments were not showing as received on the Borough Council website and the application had been determined by the Officer as a delegated decision for approval. The Clerk had immediately acted and spoken to the Planning Officer, who could not understand why the comments had not been processed, and detailed that the Parish Council objections were similar to the other resident comments received and in the Officers opinion they had been addressed, hence the determination. There was also concern raised that the Highways Officer comments on this application included a request for a highways condition relating to no future building of a garage at the property, which had not been included in the final decision notice. These issues had upset the resident and Councillors were equally worried of how this situation had arisen.

It was agreed that contact be made with the relevant Officers at the Borough Council expressing the concern over the new planning administration system and the number of errors relating to the above application. There also to be reference made to the Maskell Drive application as not only were the Parish Council not notified in any way of this application, the Officer's report had been written prior to the closing date set for stakeholders to return their comments.

There had also been the recent planning training workshop presentation circulated to all and Cllr. Slater gave feedback on the main topics covered including information on the new planning management system being used/

9. VILLAGE MATTERS:-

It was noted that the final grass cutting is currently being undertaken by the contractor.

The Clerk had collated a brief summary about the role of a community notice board champion, it was agreed that this did not need to be detailed and was to make sure there is a uniform approach taken. The Clerk would feedback this back, and it was noted that the forthcoming Finance Committee would be reviewing the full quotation received for the planned refurbishment of some of the boards.

Cllrs. Slater and Gurney had attended the recent Town and Parish Network meeting, they commented on the disappointing number of Councillors from across the borough who had attended, and detailed the presentation given by the Chief Executive of BPHA.

Cllr. Slater had attended the recent Police Crime Commissioner Forum, where there was an encouragement of all incidents to be reported to the Police so they can be logged. There is also a forthcoming Crime Reduction presentation which details had been circulated to all Councillors.

The Clerk had made some minor amendments to the letter regarding hedges encroaching footways, this had been circulated to Councillors for them to distribute accordingly, and copies were available for them.

It was felt it would be helpful to arrange a site meeting with the appropriate Borough Council Officer to discuss the hedge maintenance in the parish, in particular the hedge at the entrance to Hookhams Lane which is becoming very overgrown, the Clerk to arrange.

Councillors were aware that there is a parliamentary review being undertaken which would impact on the parish as it could mean potentially that the parish would have two different elected members of parliament depending on the part of the parish you live in. This to be a future agenda item.

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10. TO CONSIDER HOW TO DEVELOP THE PLAY PROVISION OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN IN THE VILLAGE:-

There had been two expressions of interest from residents, the Clerk to circulate the information to the village circulation list and place on the website.

11. UPDATE ON QUALITY STATUS RE-ACCREDITATION:-

There was no update, however, the only outstanding document was the CPD details.

12. FINANCE MATTERS: -

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

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service September £557.36

Renhold Village Hall Management Committee invoice for hire of Website Working Group meetings £66.00

BDO LLP external audit fee £120.00

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

The Councillors had received the external audit feedback and the Clerk had posted the appropriate notices. It was agreed that the Clerk to circulate the letters and information Wilshamstead Parish Council had made with HMRC and BDO, to allow the Councillors to review them.

A further grant application had been received and would be reviewed at the forthcoming Finance Committee meeting.

It was noted that Cllr. Slater had resigned from the Village Hall Management Committee so a replacement representative needs to be discussed at the next meeting.

13. CORRESPONDANCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -

NALC Events Bulletin emails

Age Partnership email promoting services

BBC Planning weekly list email

Village newsletter copy

Online playgrounds promotional information

BBC letter acknowledging receipt of planning comments

Continued communications with Ravensden Parish Clerk regarding the felling of a number of trees in Renhold Brook along Ravensden Road end of the village

Communication with resident regarding grass cutting in Hookhams Lane

Renhold Charity Cottages resident enquiry for letting one of the properties

Resident request for the Parish Council October agenda

Resident enquiry regarding broadband infinity being rolled out in parish

Resident copying me into an article that was being sent to the village magazine regarding the balance of Councillors on the PC

BBC Starting School poster

Lloyds TSB communications regarding a recent cheque

Posters about the village website

BBC communications regarding the House of Multiple Occupancy application

Resident apologies for not being able to attend the October PC meeting

Communications regarding Amanda becoming a governor at the school

Police Crime Preventative Bi-Annual presentation invite

BATPC Local Government Finance Settlement email

BBC email regarding agenda for Town and Parish Council Network meeting

BATPC email regarding small grant opportunities through the Harpur Trust

Thank you from PCC for attending the recent Conference

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PCC newsletter
BBC email regarding variable messaging signs
BBC second half of precept
BATPC neighbourhood planning email
Two residents requesting to be added to the village circulation list
Resident concern over the application at 2 Home Close being granted
Resident report of blocked footpath between Renhold and Ravensden
Village magazine grant request received
Confirmation NG is to attend the BATPC training
Planning Information Bulletin
Planning Workshop reminder
Average camera implementation update
Variable messaging signs availability
BBC email regarding a resident request to replace the bin at Church End
Member of the public enquiring regarding the derelict house in Church End

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14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

Matters that arose during meeting to be included.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on Tuesday 22nd November 2016 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed

Dated