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Minutes of **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on Monday 28th July at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Renhold Village Hall.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors, Mr. Slater, Mr. Leydon, Mr. Gurney, Mrs. Dean, Mr. McDougall, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and eleven members of the public.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED:- - Cllr. Slater welcomed everyone to the meeting and all present observed a minute silence following the recent deaths of Ray Aggett and Ann Barker, both who had served as parish Councillors.

Cllr Slater thanked everyone for attending; Mr. Andrews, Mrs. Brunsden, Mr. Stapleton and Borough Councillors Ellis and Moon had sent apologies for absence, these were accepted.

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 highlighted by a resident of The Spires estate the high number of anti social behaviour incidents that have been taking place and occurring on a nightly basis in the Maskell Drive area. This has resulted in the congregation of large groups with their behaviors now getting more serious such as fires being lit, people going into residents gardens, loud music being played in the park area as well as intimidation to local people. There has been a new Neighborhood Watch Group formed and the PCSO's have attended when possible, regularly the residents are reporting such incidents to 101 but at present no Police Officer has been out. The Parish Council commented that they do fully support any action regarding raising awareness of this situation and helping residents with finding a restitution for the problems. The Clerk had been copied into a number of communications by residents to relevant organizations will are able to take action on this matter.

There was also concern expressed following the recent illegal encampment in the village that there are two barriers near the play park in this estate that are not secured and could easily be breached, this to be reported urgently to ensure that they are secured.

There was a request from a resident for more dog waste bins in the village, the Parish Council welcomed suggestion of locations for future consideration.

A resident from Becher Close raised that it is difficult to find a suitable destination in the village for young children.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th June had been circulated. The minutes were approved, unanimously agreed, resolution passed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

5. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

There was no update on this item as no further communications had been received from potential interested parties. The Clerk had raised awareness with the Spires Neighborhood Watch circulation list that there is a vacancy at present on the Parish Council. There was an expression of interest from a member of the public in attendance, so further information was given.

6. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT

No report received.

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7. MATTERS ARISING:-

The latest crime statistics that had been received had been circulated to all Councillors, there were three crimes reported in June.

Other items to be covered during the meeting.

8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE: -

a) Average speed cameras in the village update on site survey – There had been no update from Borough Officers.

b) Speed Indicator Device action in the village update – Cllr Gurney reported that there had been SID activity in June where 131 vehicles had been logged speeding, and the Council now have the longer term loan of a device in the village which is pleasing.

c) Meeting feedback regarding potential installation of double yellow lines around Church End bend – There had been a site meeting with the relevant Highways Officer, Parish Councillors and representatives from the school regarding this. Two areas of double yellow lines have been suggested, and the drawing with the location was shared with those present. This was felt to be a good idea moving forwards, at the site meeting it had been asked if double yellow lines could be placed either side of the road at the bend but it had been felt best in the first instance to trial this. There was also a request for a mirror in the hedge at this bend to help with the visual splay for local residents trying to access their properties, this request to be forwarded to the Highways Officer. It was also added that the school are putting on minibuses for the children coming from the Norse Road estates.

The Clerk also to follow up on the invite to Borough Councilor Henry Vann, Portfolio Holder for Children Services.

d) Other highways matters in the village – no items to discuss.

9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) 14/01550/FUL erection of pre-fabricated timber granny annexe for an ancillary residential use at 38 Top End - the Council wishes to object to this application as the Council objected to a similar proposal at 33 Top End that proposed to convert existing buildings. The Parish Council therefore objects to this proposal which would create a free standing unit and residential accommodation potentially unrelated to the existing dwelling, having a significant impact on the amenity of the adjoining properties and setting a precedent. It is requested that if the Officer is minded to approve this application then the Parish Council request that it be called in to the Planning Committee.

b) 14/01524/FUL - the Parish Council objects to the this proposal which represents more than doubling of the property's foot print and will be overbearing in relation to the other half of the property. It will also represent a significant change to the street scene being out of proportion.

c) 14/01239/FUL erection of conservatory to rear at 93 Ravensden Road - the Council has no objection to this application.

d) 14/01413/FUL single storey rear extension at 44 Green End - the Council have no objection to this application but note that the numbering of the properties on the plans in relation to the house number on the application are not matching.

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e) Bedford Borough Council notification of sites that have been put forward for the Local Plan 2032 – the background of the process undertaken to date for the development framework document was detailed. The Borough Council had now published the sites that had been put forward by owners, there were several in Renhold and the Council discussed the best approach to make residents aware of the sites, whilst noting that at present just Parish Council's had been asked to comment and that this was not a formal public consultation. It was agreed that a leaflet should be produced for circulation to the whole village to raise awareness of the sites. The Council unanimously agreed to approve expenditure of up to £500 for raising awareness of the sites. There was considered the possibility of having a drop in information session for members of the public.

f) Other planning matters of interest such as notice of any decisions between meetings – It was noted that regarding the application for 54 Hookhams Lane the Planning Committee would be undertaking a site visit to the site. The Sunderland Hill turbine application also was due to go before committee shortly it was noted.

10. REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY POLLING PLACES AND DISTRICTS

All Councillors had received a copy of the information, it was agreed that the Council had no comment on the matter

11. VILLAGE MATTERS

The recent illegal encampment at Cranborne Gardens was discussed, following the eviction of the travellers work had already commenced and finished on further securing the area..

Cllr. Slater reported from the recent meeting with Alastair Burt MP on broadband in the area, it is hoped that a new programme will be put together that will roll out a second phase of super fast broadband so that there is a 97/98% coverage in the area.

It was noted that there needs to a ride around the village with Jonathan Farr, Borough Officer, to ensure that the appropriate bus stop signs are in the village.

It was discussed that there is a missing bin insert at the bin at Green End it was asked if just an insert could be purchased, so Clerk to liaise with Borough Officer, if this is not possible then could a new bin be installed like the one at Ravensden Road/Hookhams Lane junction.

12. FINANCE MATTERS: -

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

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service June £495.24

A R Worboys grass cutting £1132.80

Gill Wiggs Internal Audit £85.00

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

It was also agreed to make a donation to the chosen charities in memory of the late Parish Councillors, Ann Barker and Ray Aggett, a donation of £50 to be made.

The Parish Council also considered a request from Renhold Sports Club following work that had been carried out at the entrance to the field for a gate to be installed to prevent illegal encampments accessing the field, Cllr. McDougall declared at interest in this. The Councillors reviewed the quotes that had been received and agreed to make a donation of £500 to the Sports Club for these preventative measures in line with contribution the Council had provided to the preventive measures that had been installed at Cranbourne Gardens originally.

The internal audit feedback was reviewed, it was noted that the employment status of the Clerk had been raised, the Chair and Vice Chair had both seen the full report and it was included in the paperwork to the external auditor that the Council do not have any employees.

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It was noted that the grass cutting contribution had been paid by Bedford Borough Council.

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
Crime stats data
Notes from last Town and Parish Network meeting held on 11th June
BBC Local Plan 2032 notification of site put forward in the parish
BBC Local Plan 2032 information being collected on services and facilities in the parish
BATPC information on pensions regulation re auto enrolment
BBC notification of Planning Training on 3rd September for Parish Councils
BATPC Beds Bugle
Traveller encampment in the village communications
BBC review of Parliamentary Polling Districts and Places
Notification of payment of grass cutting contribution for 2014/15 season
BBC letter of notification that planning application regarding 54 Hookhams Lane is going to Planning Committee on 21st July
Notification by BBC that more documents have been submitted regarding Orbit homes application for erection of 38 dwellings with associated landscaping at land north of Norse Road
Renhold Sports Club application for assistance with costs to recently gating of entrance to Sports Field to prevent illegal encampments
Internal Audit report and invoice
BDO External auditors request for additional information relating to levels of reserve held
Email from resident regarding barrier at Village Hall – dealt with between meetings
Request from another Parish Clerk about how Renhold got average speed cameras
BBC email regarding Green Ed bus shelter having an inner lining missing
An email communication about parking along Church End at pick up and drop off times
Email from BBC wanting bank details confirmed so they can send grass cutting monies
Notice of super fast broadband launch event in Maskell Drive
Email from resident regarding comments made by a Councillor at an event

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: -

Matters that arose during meeting to be included.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - on 10th September 2014 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 10.20pm

Signed

Dated