

Minutes of the **MEETING of RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Tuesday 27th April 2021 at 6.00pm via 'Zoom'**.

PRESENT:- Parish Councillors: Mrs. Quince (Chair), Mr. McIver (Vice Chair), Mrs. Brunsdon, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Gribble, Mr. Polhill, Mr. Rayner and Mr. Warwick, the Clerk Mrs. Barnicoat and eight members of the public.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED: - The Chair welcomed all attendees and set the expectations for an online virtual meeting, outlining how to keep the meeting courteous and efficient. Borough Councillors Stephen Moon, Phillippa Martin-Moran-Bryant, Christine McHugh and Tim Caswell had sent apologies for absence, which were accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST TO BE DECLARED FOR THE MEETING: There was the usual declaration from IM (as RFO) on Council payments. There were no further declarations of interest received for the meeting.

The Chair adjourned the meeting for the next item.

3. OPEN FORUM:

A resident explained that they continue to have concerns regarding speeding on Ravensden Road. There was also a suggestion on a suitable bin location for the installation at Cranbourne Gardens by the Pegasus Crossing which would be followed up.

The Chair reconvened the meeting for the next item.

4. IMPROVING HIGHWAYS SAFETY WITHIN THE PARISH:

The Parish Council had been notified of grant funds available through Bedfordshire Police and was seeking to make an application for further Average Speed Cameras for Ravensden Road. The scheme and application was based on how vehicle speeds in Renhold could be reduced further and how highways safety could be improved. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to allocate £20,000 and to include this in the bid to show the commitment that the Parish Councillors have to this issue. The Clerk to review the application further and submission to be made.

5. FINANCE

a) Quotations to be considered:

Quotations from contractor for village sign by church, restoring Parish Council notice board at the Post Office and wood preserving treatment for the bench at the green – These were circulated and reviewed, noting the village green bench work to be £69.50, the Village Name Sign at the church to be £227.00. The hedge to the left of the concrete pillars, will be trimmed to enable the new sign to slide through its slotted pillar posts. The Post Office Millenium Cabinet work would cost £59.00. It was unanimously agreed to appoint Terry Nokes as the contractor to undertake these repairs. Resolution passed.

Maintenance required at Becher Close for overgrown vegetation – Quotes for consideration were not available and would be chased and the item would be carried forward to next meeting. A site meeting had taken place with Cllr. Gribble in attendance.

b) Financial assistance request to be reviewed and considered regarding an application for £200 and £1,000 towards BFARe (Bedford For A Reconsultation)

Following the extraordinary meeting on 12th April to discuss the above request, the Council is mindful of the legislation regarding public mourning and the impact that has had on the statutory notice period for Parish Councils, so this resolution needs to be revisited. The Parish Council had previously agreed to contribute £200 towards BFARe administrative costs, and up to £1k towards

exploration into a Judicial Review. It was noted that a Parish Council Grant application form has been completed

It was proposed by Cllr. Quince that a £200 donation towards BFARe administrative costs be made, seconded by Cllr. McIver, seven votes in favour, one against and one abstention, resolution passed. It was proposed by Cllr. Quince that a £1,000 donation towards BFARe exploration of a judicial review be made, seconded by Cllr. Dean, seven votes in favour, one against and one abstention, resolution passed.

Cllrs. Polhill and Warwicker expressed concerns about BFARe not ruling out Route B+ as a route alignment that BFARe are supporting.

c) Invoices to be paid

Barnicoat Ltd Clerking service March including additional hours	£950.22
JCB Printing Village Magazine stapling March	£50.00
JCB Printing EWR flyers	£145.00
JCB Printing EWR posters	£42.50
A R Worboys grass cutting SI1498	£198.00
Andy Muskett Ltd VAS changes	£57.60
CPRE membership renewal	£39.00
JCB Printing Village Magazine stapling April	£50.00
Data Protection fee will need paying	£40.00
Ian McIver Zoom renewal reimbursement	£119.90
Mr T Wallinger maintenance and repairs to bus shelters and War Memorial slabs	£210.00

As RFO, IM declared an interest in the vote, so did not take part. Councillors agreed to pay the above items. Resolution passed for the payments to be made.

d) Review of drafted Parish Council year accounts for year end 2020/21 ahead of internal audit - These have been completed and supporting documents have been circulated. The accounts are ready to be submitted to the internal auditor. Councillors were in agreement the supporting documents to be submitted to the new internal auditor.

e) Parish Clerk hours – The Council employee registration has been completed. A document showing the clear roles and responsibilities and a review of the financial risk assessment as advised by the external auditors going forward had been circulated. It was unanimously agreed to confirm that the Parish Clerk duties would be 104 hours over the year at SCP 19. Additional support hours will continue to be contracted services. It was noted that the recent increase in Council workload is due to various Renhold items but in particular East West Rail. There is a provision in the budget for additional support when needed.

It was unanimously agreed to approve the role and responsibilities, financial risk assessment and the Clerk hours. Resolution passed.

6. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: -

a) EAST WEST RAIL CONSULTATION UPDATE:

Work has continued with many meetings and ongoing communications, as the Parish Councillors remain committed to working hard to ensure that Renhold residents can engage effectively in this Consultation: the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting to hear residents' concerns, the meeting with the Borough Council representatives and the drop-in session the Parish Council ran last week. It has been brilliant to see so many people from the Parish engaging with and supporting us.

An action plan was collated to divide the Consultation and associated work up into different areas which could then be focused on by different individuals who have so kindly come forward to help. This work will be reviewed and collated to allow a circulation to the whole village, giving residents information and support on how to respond. This will then allow a good three weeks of targeted

letter writing and door knocking and making sure that as many residents as practicable have their say on the proposed routes.

The Parish Council is also circulating regular updates on the various different media platforms.

Cllr. Gribble spoke recently with an East West Rail representative, feeding back that working on trying to improve the EWR communications with individuals. She and Mrs Quince are due to meet with Richard Fuller MP this week to ask for further help. Councillors expressed their grateful thanks to Cllr. Gribble for continuing to keep the pressure on.

The Parish Council is looking to engage appropriate specialist expertise who can review the lengthy and very technical documents that are within the consultation with regard to noise. Two noise consultants were approached. The quotations were outlined. One may have a potential conflict of interest. It was unanimously agreed to appoint David Trow at a cost of up to £3,500 for a thorough review of the consultation document to better understand the noise and vibration implication on Renhold from proposed alignments Route 8 or 9.

b) Great Barford Neighbourhood Plan consultation

JP declared an interest on this item

Comments submitted to the previous consultation were reviewed. It was agreed by the Council that the previous comments be resubmitted, Clerk to action.

Following the meeting of the Planning Committee on 26th April, it is recommended to submit the following the responses to the Borough Council regarding applications 4. c), d), e), and f)

c) APPLICATION No: 21/00747/FUL One and two storey front, side and rear extensions at Three Ways 2A Church End - After detailed discussion, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the Full Council that the Parish Council objects strongly to this application. It was noted that the submitted site location plan is not accurate or up-to-date. No existing block plan has been submitted with the application and no Tree Survey or Arboricultural Impact Assessment have been provided with the application. The reasons for concerns regarding the proposed boundary fencing are the proposed 1.8m high close-boarded timber fencing which is out of keeping with the rural appearance and character of the locality and out of keeping with the openness of the street scene. Existing boundary treatments within the locality include low key, open fencing (e.g. post & rail or picket fencing) and/or landscaping. Timber hinged gates are shown on Drawing No. DB/2019-01/10 (Proposed Boundary Fencing). However, the accompanying Planning, Design & Access Statement states "*a new electric double gate*" is proposed. As per the local authority's previous refusal on the proposed boundary wall, the proposed fencing by reason of its design, height and scale will result in an inappropriate boundary feature, which will be dominant within the street, out of keeping and harmful to the rural appearance of the area, where the predominant characteristic is the open and soft landscaped frontages with low boundary walls. The introduction of a high close-boarded fence would result in an urban feature, failing to reflect the built form in the locality. Insufficient information has also been submitted to ascertain the impact of the development on a mature oak tree in close proximity to the proposed fencing. The tree is considered by the Council worthy of a Tree Preservation Order and provides significant visual amenity to the area. The proposed development would therefore be contrary to Policy 29 (criteria i and ii), Policy 30 (criteria i and ii), Policy 38 i and Policy 39 of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2030.

With regard to the proposed extensions, the plot represents a focal point at one of the main road junctions of the village. The site is a prominent corner plot and the current modest design of the dwelling visually turns the corner, offering adequate circulation space around the property and positively contributing to the rural character of the area. The proposed extensions would result in a dwelling that covers the entire width of the plot with lack of circulation space and a private amenity garden area that sits solely in front of the property, facing the public highway. The existing property sits comfortably within the plot, respecting building lines and shows a footprint similar to that of neighbouring properties. However, the resultant dwelling would protrude forward of the established

building line in Wilden Road, with its design failing to visually turn the corner and therefore being at odds with the character and built form of the area. The proposed extensions, by reason of their scale, form and siting/forward projection beyond the established pattern of development in the locality, would be out of keeping with the built form and harmful to visual amenity. Furthermore, the proposed extensions, by reason of their form, density, massing and design, would fail to respect the size and scale of the original dwelling and would not be subservient to the original dwelling, contrary to the requirements of Policy 30 criteria i and ii and Policy 66 criteria xi. and xii. The proposed extensions would neither result in having a positive relationship with the surrounding area nor integrate well with or complement the character of the area. The proposed extensions, by reason of their scale, siting and form, would have an overbearing impact on neighbouring properties No. 51 and 2b, with the potential to result in loss of light for these two properties, detrimental to the private amenity of the occupiers of Nos. 51 and 2b. The proposed development is therefore contrary to the objectives set out Policies 29 (criteria i and ii), Policy 30 (criteria i and ii), Policy 38 i and Policy 66 xi. and xii of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2030.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to submit the above response to the application. Resolution passed.

d) APPLICATION NO: 21/00863/LBC Replacement of selected windows at Top End Farm Cottage, 1A Top End - The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the full Council there is no objection to this application. Resolution passed.

e) APPLICATION NO: 21/00806/S73 Two storey rear extension with solar panels to existing and new roofs. including removal of condition 3 attached to 19/02842/FUL to allow for normal glazed (unobscured) and opening windows at Limbers End 61 Wilden Road - The Council unanimously agreed that there should be no change to the original planning decision. The first floor dormer windows in the south side elevation of the extension should contain no means of opening (unless an opening part of the windows is at least 1.7m above the floor level of the room it serves) and the glass should be an obscure glazed type at least level 3 glass as defined in the Pilkington Textured Glass Range. The window as inserted in accordance with those requirements shall be retained. REASON: To safeguard the amenities of the adjoining occupiers and in accordance with saved Policy 30 of the Bedford Borough Local Plan.

f) APPLICATION NO: 21/00950/FUL single storey porch extension and new gates/railings at 2 Silverburn Close - The Committee had reviewed the supporting information but it was unclear if this application would set a precedent with new railings, so Cllr. Brunsdon undertook a site visit and the feedback was discussed. The Council unanimously agreed to object to the application as the proposals will change the parking of vehicles at this property, and will bring changes right onto the street boundary which is concerning, the main concern being that vehicles will be forced onto the road to park, and kerb side parking is already a problem in this area. There are no railings in this part of the development, so there are also concerns it will set a precedent.

7. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 17th March, the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting on 12th April, the Annual Parish Electors' Meeting on 22nd April and the Planning Committee Meeting 26th April. Minutes to be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION RECEIVED: -

NALC Events Bulletin emails
Age Partnership email promoting services
BBC Planning weekly list email
Village newsletter copy
Online playgrounds promotional information
BRCC e-bulletin newsletter
CPRE update emails

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Bank statements
Crime statistics - forwarded to all
ERTA Voluntary Transport email
Beds Police newsletter
BBC Weekly Licensing list
BBC letter acknowledging receipt of planning comments
Village magazine article communications
Beds Police crime statistics – circulated
Parish Council website communications uploading documents
NFP Workshops bid writing information
Neighbourhood Plan Working Group communications
Renhold parish VAS data summary for March 2021 – forwarded on
BBC Planning Officer communications regarding extension for Parish Council comments submission – Planning Committee notified
BBC Officer communications regarding Odin Close replacement dog bin lid and request for new bin by the crossing at Cranbourne Gardens
Morelock communications regarding additional solar panel units
ERTA Voluntary Transport email communications – forwarded relevant ones on to Councillors
BBC Officer communications regarding East West Rail meeting with Mayor and Cllr Headley
A R Worboys communications regarding public liability certificate
Bedfordshire Police Fund application communications
Resident reporting concerns over Ravensden/Renhold Brook and removal of hedgerow raised at April extraordinary meeting – responded to
PCC Elections 2021
Resident request to be added to the village circulation list – responded to
Resident request to be added to the village circulation list – responded to
Resident request to be added to the village circulation list – responded to
Resident request to be added to the village circulation list – responded to
Resident request to be added to the village circulation list – responded to
Resident request to be added to the village circulation list – responded to
BATPC Crisis Management - free Breakthrough Communications webinar
Renhold Parish Council - AGAR 2020/21 – circulated
BBC Grass Cutting Contribution – responded to
BATPC Practitioner's Guide, Virtual Meetings, and goodbye
AGAR 2020/21 - revised guidance document
EWR Central Section consultation opens - circulated
Latest information on the Bedford electoral review
Read the latest insights from Came & Company Local Council Insurance
Bedfordshire Police Road Safety Fund 2021/22 – forwarded to all
Various resident requests to join the April extraordinary Parish Council meeting – responded to
CPRE Bedfordshire Briefing Document: EWR consultation – circulated
HRH The Duke of Edinburgh: Bedfordshire Book of Condolence
BBC Reminder - Bedford Borough Local Plan Consultation - forwarded
Resident communications regarding area at Becher Close with overgrown vegetation – responded to
Feedback notes from BFARe meeting with ministerial representative – circulated
Copied into communication regarding footpath on Green End and village street signs reported to BBC
Enquiry from Cople Parish Council regarding Vehicle Activated Signs – responded to
BBC Officers feedback of items from meeting regarding safeguarding Salph End from future development
Resident communication with concerns over speeding in Green End

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Resident communication regarding Route E Clapham Green to The Eversdens – responded
Councillor feedback to safety improvements to the A421
Resident concern regarding encroachment of Public Bridleway 9 - Hookhams Lane, Renhold – responded to, Cllr. Moon engaged with
Resident concern regarding Bungalows at the Three Horse Shoes site, Renhold – responded
EWR consultation message from BFARe (Mike Barlow)
Zoom renewal notification – payment at meeting
Willington Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation - circulated
Invitation from HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire to the Good Governance Webinar: Tuesday 27th April 2021
BRCC Community Led Housing Support
Great Barford Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation
Lloyds Bank communications regarding electronic banking
Police communications graffiti inside bus shelter at Green End, Renhold
Resident communications EWR Consultations and the BBC – responded to
Inspector Ed Finn communications regarding Bedfordshire Road Safety Fund
Annual parish electors invite responses – responded to
HMRC PAYE Employers registration
Newsletter from the OPCC - April 2021
Don't forget to register for the upcoming meeting | East West Rail
Andy Muskett Ltd rotation communications
Resident communications regarding road and traffic in Renhold – responded
Resident communication The East West Rail Company Launch Consultation - circulated
Data Protection fee - Reminder to renew ICO:00016499574
Resident communication East -West Rail route – responded
BBC Officer communications EWR Meetings with the Mayor - circulated
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication Remember: Renhold Matters to Us - Facebook information
Resident communication uploading Parish Council Meetings on to YouTube
CPRE Bedfordshire Briefing Document: EWR consultation
NALC clarity on HRH Edinburgh period of mourning
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication EWR Rail – Media
BBC first precept payment received
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident thanks following extraordinary meeting - responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Communications VAS poles for Renhold installation
UPDATE: Important roadworks information: A421 Black cat roundabout to Elstow: Drainage renewal - circulated
The County of Bedfordshire Service of Thanksgiving for His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh
Councillor communications regarding flooding by Aspires
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
Resident expression of thanks for work with East West Rail – responded

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CPRE Bedfordshire - Guide to EWR Consultation Feedback Form
Resident communication East West Rail Consultation - Renhold Parish Council Assistance
Communications regarding Rights of Way survey
Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – update circulated
BBC The Climate Change Fund available for community buildings – forwarded to village buildings
Renhold Village Hall Reopening communication – responded
Communications regarding East West Rail and Great and Little Early Grove-Ancient Woodland-
Resident communication regarding 21/00654/LDE 25 Top End
Resident communication response to East West Rail consultation – responded
BBC Kimbolton Road Culvert parapet repairs information - circulated
Resident communication regarding ‘Stop East West Rail Poster’
Quotations from contractor for Parish Council works

Clerk outlined some items for information only:

- Planning responses submitted to Local Authority.
- Representation made at the Borough Council planning committee meeting regarding 6A Green End by Cllr. Quince and Ward Councillor Moon.
- The Planning Committee has requested if the Committee is appointed, for the full Council to consider a policy for the Committee members where possible to undertake a planning site visit ahead of future Committee meetings. There also to be an approach to the applicant and the neighbouring properties either side of the application to enable Committee members to better understand the potential proposals and any impacting factors to aid the consideration at future Committee meetings. These items to be included in the Terms of Reference review scheduled for the May Parish Council meeting.
- The Planning Committee discussed the potential engagement of a planning consultant on a retainer basis to assist the Parish Council with responses to planning applications, as the Committee feel it is important to show Renhold Parish Council engage robustly in the planning consultation process. This to be looked into by Cllr. Quince and fed back into the May full Parish Council meeting considerations.
- Online banking forms were submitted, written confirmation received, user details also received. Awaiting card reader pack for logging in, this has been chased.
- Asset register was updated.
- Standing Orders and Financial Regulations review ongoing.
- Insurance renewal future meeting item.
- Invoice to be raised with Borough Council for £100.00 for external audit costs incurred – ongoing.
- Litter pick date to be rearranged.
- Odin Close dog waste bin replacement lid fitted.
- Asset inspections undertaken.
- Delivery received of the Morelock two additional solar panels.
- Following site visit by Bedford Borough Officer and a Parish Councillor a new bin has been sighted by the Pegasus crossing at Cranbourne Gardens. Its location was determined by the Local Authority and the requirements to ensure the refuse collectors’ safety.

- War Memorial slabs, guttering at Green End bus shelter, graffiti in bus shelter and post box at Green End, quotation accepted.
- Parish Council registered as an employer with HMRC.
- Resident who raised concerns over Ravensden/Renhold Brook and removal of hedgerow from August 2016 raised at April extraordinary meeting responded to in depth outlining all the external organisations involved at the time and more recently, including copy of Parish Council letter sent to the landowner.
- BBC Grass Cutting Contribution for 2021 – responded to.
- BBC Officers feedback of items from meeting regarding safeguarding Salph End from future development – mindful of the need to collate and send the highways data in.
- VAS signs rotated.
- BBC first precept payment received.
- Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – update circulated.

Planning application decisions to be noted:

21/00604/FUL Demolition of exiting conservatory and rear kitchen extension, and erection of a single storey rear extension and garage conversion at 34 Maskell Drive - Permitted

21/00575/FUL Single storey side extension, garage conversion and loft conversion with rear dormer at 33 Appledine Way – Permitted

21/00489/AOC 18/02107/FUL - Condition 8 Energy statement (Discharge of condition) at Site Of Pilgrims Rest 2 Top End - Permitted

21/00481/AOC 18/02107/FUL - Condition 4 Materials (Discharge of condition) at Site Of Pilgrims Rest 2 Top End – Permitted

21/00457/FUL Single storey garage extension at The Gables 25A Wilden Road – Permitted

21/00342/TPO T1 - Horse Chestnut - Clear branches from BT cables by 1 to 1.5 metres at Hill Farm 1 Church End - Permitted

20/02212/TPO T1 and T2 Willow trees - Remove. T3 Ash and T4 Willow - 30% crown reduction at 90 Hookhams Lane – Permitted

20/00713/S73A Retention of annexe building with basement at Greenacres 6A Green End - Permitted

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - To be held on Wednesday 19th May 2021 starting at 7:00 pm. the Meeting closed at 7:15 pm

Signed:

Dated: