



Councillors are hereby summoned, and residents are cordially invited, to attend the **ANNUAL** meeting of Harrold Parish Council on **Wednesday 8th May 2024** at 7.30pm (or later, depending on the ending of the 7.15pm Annual Parish meeting) at the **Harrold Centre Main Hall** to consider the following items of business.

AGENDA

- 1 **Election of Chairman**
To elect the Chairman for the coming year. Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 2 **Election of Vice Chairman**
To elect the Vice Chairman for the coming year. Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 3 **Public Open Session:** This council is committed to community engagement and therefore warmly invites members of the public to contribute during this part of the meeting. Members of the public should note that the council is only allowed to take decisions on topics that are publicised on the agenda. Please note that interruptions during the remainder of the meeting are not permitted.
- 4 **Apologies for Absence**
- 5 **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consideration of any dispensations**
- 6 **To approve the minutes of the parish council meeting** held on 10th April 2024.
- 7 **Clerk's report on actions**
 - Lockup refurbishment: Update
 - Parking restrictions – Mansion Lane: Awaiting Traffic Regulation Order and then installation.
 - Parking restrictions – High Street: Awaiting proposals from BBC Highways.
 - Streetlighting at The Green: Update
 - Brook Lane steps – BBC Rights of Way team have raised an order to repair the steps alongside the brook between Brook Lane and Orchard Lane.
- 8 **Financial Matters**
 - To approve payments and note receipts, balances, and the budget variance report.
 - To consider increasing the Clerk/Chairman spending limit from £500 to £1000 to assist in dealing with urgent issues between council meetings.
- 9 **Memorial bench**
Proposal from Cllrs Calver and Green: To consider funding, or part-funding, a memorial bench on The Green for the late George Knight. A request for memorialisation has also been received from a resident.
- 10 **Grounds maintenance equipment**
To agree to the purchase of replacement grounds maintenance equipment, and improved security, following a burglary and to accept an offer from the council's insurance company.
- 11 **Dog bin – Mowhills/School Lane**
Proposal from Cllr Calver: To consider solutions to an issue with dog bags being left between School Lane/Mowhills. The parish council previously removed a dog bin from this area due to a request from the landowner.
- 12 **Footpath resurfacing**
To consider improving the surfacing of footpaths in Harrold that have become impassable due to muddy conditions.

13 Grant request – Harrold Playing Field Association

To consider a grant request for £1850 from the Harrold Playing Field Association to support a September festival (Big Bash) at the playing fields. Grant application form submitted.

14 Grant request – Friends of Harrold Odell Country Park

To consider a grant request for £600 for the development of a 2025 calendar. Grant application form submitted.

15 Dog fouling spray paint

Proposal from Cllr Brough: To consider the purchase of specialist spray paint to highlight incidents of dog fouling.

16 Tree maintenance

To ratify the decision to appoint Quercus Trees to carry out dead-wooding of the lime trees on The Green prior to the Pit Run public event.

17 Planning applications

- To consider any applications received since the last meeting, including any received after the agenda has been published:

None at time of agenda issue.

- To note any updates on previous planning applications:

APPLICATION NO: 24/00243/MAF Major Full and Change of Use Application

PROPOSAL: Residential development of 17 dwellings and associated infrastructure.

LOCATION : Land At Odell Road Odell Bedfordshire

18 Grant Palmer buses update

Proposal from Cllr Muller: To receive an update from Grant Palmer in relation to recent issues with the standard of service. Update provided via Borough Councillor Alison Foster.

19 Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward

To be distributed to councillors prior to the meeting and made available on the parish council website.

20 Complaints committee

- To resolve that, under Section 1 Paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the next item of business due to the inclusion of personal data and the initial stages of a dispute.
- To receive an update from the Complaints Committee meeting in response to a complaint in relation to the open space at Saxon House End.

21 Request for items to be added to future agendas (No actions can be taken on items not on the agenda)

Date of next meeting: 12th June 2024 — Harrold Centre