## Minutes of the monthly meeting of Grimley Parish Council

## Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, 7.30pm Peace Hall, Sinton Green

112/22	<b>Present:</b> Parish Cllrs D Stanley (Chair), A Bretherton (De P Ayers, J Izamis, G Probert, S Wilson,	puty),	
	Attending:DCllr Dean Clarke, Parish Clerk Lisa Stevens, 1 visitor from outside the parish.		
	Apologies:Parish Cllrs A Atkinson, G Moore, CCllr S Richardson Brown.		
113/22	Welcome and information provided at the beginning of each parish council meeting.		
114/22	Public open forum. Open forum does not form a legal part of the meeting. Nil		
115/22	<b>Declarations of interest.</b> Cllr Probert as resident and landowner adjacent to proposed site of solar farm. Cllr Probert voluntarily to take no part in planning discussions relating to the Birchall Green solar farm.		
116/22	Minutes of previous meetings – Motion to approve previous minutes.		
	26 <sup>th</sup> September 2022. Prps: AB Scnd: Duly <b>approved</b>		
117/22	To receive the report of the County Councillor – Scott Richard Brown.	son	
	Detained due to clashes with other parish council meetings.		
118/22	To receive the report of the District Councillor – Dean Clarke.		
	Our DCllr noted the additional £900,000 needed in 2023 in order to increased wages due to inflation and to pay the ongoing maintenance repair bills at Malvern theatre and Splash. Therefore, it is likely that MHDC will increase council tax as a result. MHDC has received an award for supporting town centres during the	pay e and	
	pandemic.		
119/22 a.	<b>Planning</b> - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications. Standing order suspended to allow members of the public to join discussions. Prps: Scnd: AB. Carried.	DS.	
	<b>21/01846/FUL BRL Solar UK limited</b> - Development of a solar far with ancillary infrastructure, security fence, access, landscaping and continued agriculture, to generate power to feed into local network. Birchall Green Farm, WR2 6NT.		
	As an introduction, the Clerk noted the pre-existing motion by parish to object to this application and the mandate by parishioners to the ClIrs received a verbal update and the Clerk received a summary wr report from the Solar Farm Action Group.	same.	

	<ul> <li>The DCIIr noted matters of procedure relating to planning permissions and existing resident responses that pre-date the latest submission by the applicant. CIIrs <b>agreed</b> it prudent to restate all important elements that have not been addressed by the applicant. Summary of concerns include:</li> <li>Inaccurate claims of Biodiversity Net Gain.</li> <li>Likely levels of herbicides used on site and how this will affect future use of the site post solar. Lack of consideration of soil as a resource.</li> <li>Landscape, heritage and public amenity. Landscape character.</li> <li>Probable escalation of percentage hedgerow removal.</li> <li>Increase in CCTV and location of.</li> <li>Noise impact assessment.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Motion</b> to restate position and existing concerns and <b>objections</b> regarding the above. Prps: AB. Scnd: JI. Duly <b>carried</b> . <i>Standing orders reinstated.</i>	Clerk
	<ul> <li>M/22/01376/HP Orchard House U6400, Sinton Green, WR2 6NS. Demolition of conservatory and erection of rear extension and detached garage. Cllr Bretherton noted that this property neighbours his own home and that the applicant has kept him informed as a courtesy of plans. Cllr Bretherton confirmed he has no declaration to make, as he does not consider himself or his property affected by this application. Cllrs noted the existing history of permissions at this property and supported this latest application with no further comments to make. Prps: AB. Scnd: SW. Duly carried.</li> <li>M/22/01217/HP Boatley Cottage C2069 Ockeridge, Wichenford, WR6 6YW. Replace one gate with two gates. Cllrs had no comments to make and supported this application. Prps: AB. Scnd: JI. Duly carried.</li> <li>Standing Item: To consider and as required arrange an extra ordinary parish council meeting for planning applications received after date of publication of this agenda.</li> </ul>	Clerk Clerk
	Nil items.	
120/22	<b>Climate emergency.</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.	
а.	Review of parish council declaration of a climate emergency. Cllr Stanley gave an introduction. The existing declaration is 3 years old. Opportunity to make an impact is minimal but a focus on biodiversity loss is imperative within this forthcoming review. After questions by the cllrs, the Clerk clarified that the existing declaration, signed and agreed by formal Motion, should play a part in guiding decisions made by the council, currently guides procurement procedures and plays an active part in how the Clerk prompts the Council.	
	<b>Motion:</b> Cllrs <b>agreed</b> to look at the existing declaration and provide comments to the Clerk in readiness for the November meeting, at which input from the public would be sought. Cllrs agreed that a focus should be on:	All Clirs
	- simplicity of words,	All Clirs
	<ul> <li>raising awareness,</li> <li>encourage formation of a local action groups, and</li> <li>highlight achievable options/projects, such as addressing food waste.</li> <li>Prps: AB. Scnd: JI. Duly carried.</li> </ul>	

	<b>Motion:</b> Cllrs <b>agreed</b> to come up with options for achievable community projects. Prps: DS. Scnd: AB. Duly <b>carried</b> .	
	Resident comments received the week before were considered: -`Emphasis on resident actions was inappropriate and that stronger endveours should be made by the government'. Cllrs considered that lobbying of the government was indeed a priority and that the parish council has already taken many steps in this direction, but, that raising awareness with residents was also important and that a balance should be struck.	
	- 'Request for a response to the public climate extinction actions and whether parish cllrs feel that these are justified'. Cllrs felt that it was not the place of the parish council to comment on matters that may be under investigation by the authorities. Comments suggested that everyone has a right to protest but it is for individuals to decide on the appropriateness of their actions. Cllrs suggested that it is important to ensure that all generations feel enfranchised and informed and that the parish council has a role to play in raising awareness of beneficial climate change	
	mitigation actions. Cllr Stanley has been discussing options with the Headteacher of the primary school and a number of projects that the schoolchildren and their families can undertake are being considered.	Cllr Stanley
121/22	<b>Commons and Village Greens</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.	
a. i.	Sinton Green. Cllrs considered the success of this year's mowing regime, including leaving sections to grow for seeds and wildflowers. Cllrs considered that the benefits outweigh concerns of little or a little scruffiness and that they should be guided by the existing declaration of a climate emergency. Cllrs <b>agreed</b> to continue the practice and seek quotes again in 2023. Prps: AB. Scnd: JI. Duly carried.	
b. i.	Monkwood Green. Management update, draft five-year plan. The Clerk presented options for focus, received from residents and cllrs and from herself on experience. See appendix 3 for map of areas that will require priority work over the next few years. Cllrs debated the options for focus and considered that all have merit. Cllrs agreed that commitment to a five-year plan was desirable and achievable and would be a 'salute' to the recent hard work of local volunteers, once critical actions have been taken to address outstanding work on ditches and pollarding. Motion to work towards a five-year plan in principle, subject to the Commoner Association being consulted and more general informal resident approval being sought via existing newsletter channels. Prps: JI. Scnd: SW. Duly approved.	Clerk
ii.	Request from resident regarding pollarding of willows adjacent to farm buildings. Residents have assisted to remove the worst of the branches. Cllr Stanley advised that willows require regular, professional pollarding. The Clerk advised that budgets are tight for this year but that a tree surgeon could be asked for an opinion on safety and likely cost. Cllr Izamis noted his existing declaration in relation to this project. <b>Motion</b> : for the Clerk to obtain quotes for pollarding of all three trees in that section. Prps: SW. Scnd: GP. Duly <b>approved</b> . Clerk to phone resident and inform him of these intended actions.	Clerk Clerk

iii.	To consider option for retaining and reappointing strimming contractor services for tackling urgent bramble thickets adjacent to The Woodland access drive. <b>Motion</b> not exceeding £500 Prps: Ab. Scnd: SW. Duly <b>approved</b> . Clerk to liaise with CB regarding safety aspects and to appoint on same terms as before to max of £500. Cllr Wilson asked about the possibility of grants towards care of the SSSI.	Clerk
	Clerk to explore via WCC.	Clerk
122/22	<b>Reports from other Projects and Representatives</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.	
i.	<b>Defibrillator training</b> for pre-agreed volunteers, 5 <sup>th</sup> December, 6pm, Peace Hall. Duly noted.	
ii.	<b>Remembrance service arrangements</b> . Cllr Stanley is to attend the church services and lay the wreath on behalf of the parish council.	
iii.	<b>PCSO.</b> To note the early retirement of Ness Snape with gratitude for service. Cllrs gave thanks to Ness and a note of thanks had already been sent.	
iv.	<ul> <li>Peace Hall Management Committee update.</li> <li>Cllrs noted the reminder from the committee to pay £10 towards defib electricity annually.</li> <li>a. To organise delivery and care of the Queen's Oak (to include discussion on remaining two oak saplings. Decision for</li> </ul>	Clerk
	<b>future care and location).</b> Cllrs noted the small nature of the existing trees, with concern that a high level of protection and maintenance will be required to ensure their survival. Cllr Stanley <b>approved</b> to seek quotes for larger mature specimens. Options for a plaque of remembrance can be considered once the trees are established. Prps: AB. Scnd: GP. Duly <b>carried</b> .	Cllr Stanley
	b. <b>Replacement noticeboard at Peace Hall.</b> As per decision made earlier in the year, with a budget of £700, the peace hall please to arrive at their preferences/spec and return to the parish council with ideas by end January 2023, in order that the parish council can arrange transfer of funds. Matter of installation may or may not be treated separately, depending on price. Cllr Bretherton to liaise with Hall Committee.	Cllr Bretherton
123/22	Finance and Administration To formulate Motions not requiring written notice	
а.	To note that precept (second half) <b>£9795.00</b> was received 28/09/2022 from MHDC. Duly noted. <i>Cllrs to consider suspending standing orders if residents request to provide input on following item</i>	
b.	No member of the public attended this section in order to have input. <b>Budget for 2023/24</b> . Cllr and resident input/ideas for future projects. Clerk will present resulting finalised budget on 12 <sup>th</sup> December. Cllrs considered the options presented to them and agreed to consider in readiness for November meeting the options for raising the precept.	All Clirs Clerk

	Cllrs to reinstate standing orders if required. n/a.	
с.	To consider correspondence from Citizen's Advice Bureau and Motion to provide a donation not exceeding £100. Cllrs noted the advice (nature unknown) provided to a number of residents recently and also noted the value of being able to refer residents to this service at times of need. Cllrs approved a donation of £100. Prps: AB. Scnd: DS. Duly <b>carried</b> .	
d.	To consider and Motion to approve a Section137 application for a grant of £100 from Grimley and Holt Primary School towards a 2023 Western Front Association talk and coffee event. Cllrs queried whether the public would be invited to this event. The Clerk confirmed that tea and coffee and cake are planned to be served to the public, though no other details are known as this time. Cllrs noted the importance of ensuring that the history of the parish is taught to the next generation and observed the war memorial inside the Peace Hall. Cllrs approved a donation of £100. Prps: DS. Scnd: AB. Duly carried.	Clerk
e.	<b>To arrange the £50 supporting contributions to those community</b> <b>groups that have expressed an interest in Christmas tree events.</b> Cllr Bretherton to receive £50 and pass to Sinton community. Cllr Stanley to receive £50 and pass to Grimley village community. Cllr Wilson to receive £50 and pass to Monkwood Green community. No other hamlets/groups had stepped forward requesting a donation. Groups are required to arrange their own health and safety and risk assessments. Prps: SW. Scnd: PA. Duly carried.	Clerk
f.	To consider and <b>motion</b> to approve the payment of outstanding accounts. Appendix 1. Prps: JI. Scnd: AB. Duly <b>carried</b> .	
g.	To consider and retrospectively approve payment of urgent accounts, as per emergency Clerk procedures (Delegation to Clerk policy). Appendix 2. Prps: SW. Scnd: DS. Duly <b>carried</b> .	
h.	To receive and <b>motion</b> to accept September Bank Reconciliation 2022. Prps: AB. Scnd: GP. Duly <b>carried</b> .	
124/22	Correspondence, dates for diary, items for future agenda.	
	<ul> <li>a) MHDC destination zero carbon emissions report to note only.</li> <li>b) Parishioner correspondence regarding allotment provision in Grimley parish. To consider a way forward, with appropriate budget for exploratory work. Scheduled for November 2022 meeting.</li> <li>c) Flooding in road outside Church Farm, Grimley. Soakaway and new drain to be installed. No further action from Parish Council at this time.</li> <li>d) Eroded grass verge Oak Hall Green (Oak Hall Farm Barn). Bollard to be installed. No further action from Parish Council at this time.</li> <li>e) Salt bins – residents and cllrs have been asked to keep an eye on salt levels in the parish green and yellow bins.</li> <li>To note that a Worcs resident has been provided with details of the Lengthsman contract for consideration.</li> </ul>	

125/22	<b>Date of next scheduled meeting</b> <b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b> at the Peace Hall, Sinton Green, 7.30pm. The press and public are cordially invited to attend this meeting, which
	will be the annual meeting of Grimley Parish Council. This meeting was subsequently rearranged to the 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022.
	This meeting was subsequently rearranged to the S1 <sup>4</sup> October 2022.

## Appendix 1 – Invoices/payments to be made (or date paid if contracted payment)

Grimley Peace Hall	Annual hire of hall for parish council meetings.	£350.00	VAT nil
Foundation	Invoice 41 dated 25/09/2022 received 26/09	2550.00	
PKF Littlejohn LLP	Statutory fee external auditor	£240.00	£40.00 VAT
Community Heartbeat			
Trust Ltd	Annual care package for Grimley village defib	£151.20	£25.20 VAT
Nest Pensions	October payment for Sept Clerk wage.	£40.35	VAT nil
	Lengthsman worksheet September received		
Mr Simon Skeys	2nd Oct 2022. Claimed from WCC 25/10/2022	£127.50	VAT nil
	Mowing invoice dated 30th September		
Mr Simon Skeys	received 2nd Oct 2022.	£80.00	VAT nil
	Monthly Expenses Oct 2022. Stationery,		
	mileage, digistick to allow transfer of docs for		
	minute binding. Homeworking allowance £10.		
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Phone bill £5.	£62.62	VAT various
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly wage Sept 2022	£553.42	VAT nil
Various, as nominated at	Christmas tree community event payments as		
PC meeting	agreed at this meeting. £50 per event.	£150.00	VAT nil

## Appendix 2 - Invoices/payments previously made under delegation to clerk policy.

Mr Lee	Lee. Strimming round petty whin, tackling brambles and over growth on Monkwood Green Common and		
Roberts	SSSI. Payment made 26/10/2022	£246.50	VAT nil
Mr Ashley Roberts care of Margaret	Ashley, Strimming round petty whin, tackling brambles and over growth on Monkwood Green		
Leary	Common and SSSI. Payment made 26/10/2022	£246.50	VAT nil
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Stinky Inks online printing ink order reimbursement as permitted in clerk delegation policy. 03/10/22	£11.99	2.00
Musikas	Poppy wreath purchase from Royal British Legion as instructed at Sept meeting. 13/10/2022. <u>B.T. notes</u>		
Mrs Lisa Stevens	that a wreath need not be purchased next year as there is already an unopened one in the church.	£20.00	VAT nil
	Minute binding as permitted in clerk delegation		
Mrs Lisa	policy. 14/10/2022 20% off as combined with		
Stevens	another parish council binding project.	£50.00	VAT nil

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