

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ripple Parish Council  
held at Ripple Parish Hall on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7.00pm**

Present:- Cllrs Aldridge, Blake, Jones, Sutton, Weyman & Wilson  
In attendance: County Cllr Middleborough, District Cllr Owenson & 3 members of the public  
Mrs. V Portch (Clerk)

**MINUTES**

1. Apologies for absence - None
2. Declarations of Interest:
  - a. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.  
None
  - b. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. NoneCouncillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the Code of Conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.
3. Minutes – The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.  
Proposed by: Cllr Weyman      Seconded by: Cllr Wilson  
The Chairman thanked Cllr Sutton for agreeing to deliver the reading at the Remembrance Day service.  
Cllr Wilson had a prior engagement and provided her update on the Speedwatch initiative as detailed on Item 8 of the agenda. Training for twelve residents had taken place earlier on 13<sup>th</sup> November, a further 6 volunteers will be trained in the new year. Cllr Wilson will co-ordinate the on-going speed monitoring programme over the 5 sites within the Parish and retain the equipment. Cllr Wilson confirmed her approval of the budget as circulated and expressed her preference for an increase in precept of a 5% maximum. Cllr Wilson left the meeting at 7.45pm.
4. To receive report from District Councillor  
Cllr Owenson reported that he had met with residents regarding the continued cuts to the bus service. An action group "Turnback" would seek to address and publicize the current round of cuts and lobby for reinstatement of services including the late night Friday/Saturday service via Worcester. Twynning residents will also be affected by the amendments to the timetable and the matter will be raised at a Twynning Parish Council meeting. Cllr Blake stated that there had been little or no publicity of the cuts to the services. Cllr Owenson requested RPC give consideration to participating in the preparation of a Neighborhood Plan in conjunction with Upton upon Severn. MHDC would provide resource to assist. Cllr Owenson
5. To receive report from County Councillor  
Cllr Middleborough advised that a "Highways Summit" meeting involving local parishes would be set up (Cllr Wilson to represent RPC) with WCC highways representatives. The works on the A4104 had stopped due to an unforeseen issue, it was proposed that the works would not re-commence until the new year in order to avoid interruption to trade within the town of Upton. Cllr Blake asked for confirmation from Cllr Middleborough that £1,000 would be made available towards the noticeboard project from the District Fund. The A4104/A38 junction proposals would continue to be explored, local residents are invited to express their preferred option, and currently consideration was being given to traffic lights or a roundabout.  
(Cllr Middleborough left the meeting at 8.00pm to attend Kempsey PC meeting) Cllr Middleborough
6. Appointment of Brian Goddard – Footpath Officer  
The Chairman advised that Mr. Brian Goddard had completed the appropriate WCC training and taken up the post of Footpath Officer. A meeting will be arranged between the Chairman, Lengthsman, previous Footpath Officer and Clerk to formulate a programme of work. Clerk
7. Progress reports from:
  - a. Clerk  
General administration of correspondence emails and post. Minutes of last meeting, preparation and submission of planning application responses. Ongoing communication with MHDC and WCC highways department and County Councillor regarding the recent highways review and defects within parish. Review of currently unsupported website with Cllr Jones, WCC "My Parish" website option proposed to be adopted ongoing. Visit and further discussion with resident regarding ongoing dangerous dog and "free range" pig incidents in Bow Lane Ripple. Preparation of the autumn / winter newsletter, proof copy for Clerk



review at the meeting. Workplace pension review, the clerk will not take up the option. Liaison with Lengthsman into provision of a replacement memorial tree at Ripple Parish Hall. Since the last meeting previous clerk has kindly passed over several historic documents relating to RPC and include minutes dating back to 1981 and agendas and minutes up to 2006. The documents also include the 1987 conveyance and purchase of the Play Area (The Recreation field) from WCC for £750 and the gift from Dr. Hall of the footpath and slope to the Play Area in 1991. In addition, documents show that RPC is responsible for the cross at Ripple, by the stocks and also the cross/stone on the triangle at Uckinghall leading to Ferry Lane. The archiving of these documents is being investigated. In the meantime, they are in the custody of the Chairman at Manor Farmhouse, Naunton.

b. Management Group

Management Group met to review on-going issues, including noticeboard funding Review of the proposed budget for 2018/19 ready for distribution to councillors and preparation of matrix for precept setting. Review of archive documents.

Chairman

c. Finance Group

Cheques from last meeting distributed and ledger updated. Draft budget for 2018/2019 prepared and circulated to councilors for consideration. Preparation of matrix for proposed precept for 2018/2019.

Chairman

d. Urgent Decisions Group

Replacement of filing cabinet for parish records (existing cabinet draw mechanism failed).

Clerk

Planning Group (schedule circulated)

**Ripple Parish Council – Planning Applications** as at 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (MHDC Website)

| Application Number                  | Location   | Proposal  | Status           |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>17/01570/NMA</u></a> | Garden Cottage Strensham Road<br>Ryall Grove Upton Upon Severn,<br>Worcester WR8 0PS         | Application for a non-material amendment following a grant of planning permission 15/01196/FUL for the conversion of garage to office, plot 1 only. | Pending decision |
| <a href="#"><u>17/01632/CAN</u></a> | Dower House Uckinghall<br>Tewkesbury GL20 6ES  | Fell one silver birch tree  | Pending decision |
| <a href="#"><u>17/01362/FUL</u></a> | Land at (OS 8620 4094) Ryall<br>Road Holly Green Upton Upon<br>Severn                        | Field gate access into the rear boundary of the Penny Wells estate for agricultural use/access to agricultural land                                 | Pending decision |
| <a href="#"><u>17/00372/OUT</u></a> | Land North East of Upton Marina,<br>East Waterside, Upton Upon<br>Severn, Worcester, WR8 0PB | Outline planning application for the erection of up to 70 residential units with all matters reserved except for means of access.                   | Pending decision |
| <a href="#"><u>17/00618/FUL</u></a> | Land At (Os 8757 3797), Rectory<br>Lane, Ripple  | Proposed new dwelling and garaging  | Pending decision |
| <a href="#"><u>17/00214/FUL</u></a> | Rivendell Nursery, Uckinghall,<br>Tewkesbury, GL20 6ES                                       | Removal of Condition C on Planning Permission UR340/71/O (Agricultural Occupancy Condition)   | Pending decision |
| <a href="#"><u>17/00026/CCO</u></a> | Land off Strensham Road, Ryall<br>Grove, Upton Upon Severn,<br>Worcestershire, WR8 0PP       | Application for approval of details reserved by conditions - Conditions 5, 11 & 13 on Planning Permission 15/01196/FUL                              | Pending decision |

f. Staffing and Training Group

Clerk awaiting dates from Upton Council members and CALC in order to arrange bespoke training. Since the meeting CALC have provided additional training dates, these have been circulated to Councillors.

Clerk

8. Communications Update – Website/Face Book/Speed Watch

Cllr Aldridge advised that the Facebook was being regularly visited and it was hoped the number of followers would increase following the report in the annual newsletter. The chairman reported that the current website was currently inoperable, both the clerk and Cllr Aldridge having attempted to update. The clerk and Cllr Jones had reviewed the facility provided by WCC. Whilst this was not the latest technology the clerk had been assured it will remain supported by WCC for a minimum of three years and will not be withdrawn without a notice period. It was proposed that this option be adopted as the chosen website presence for RPC on-going. It offered stable platform and statutory compliance built in. The proposal was unanimously agreed. Cllr Wilson's update on the Speedwatch programme is detailed above. Proposed by: Cllr Jones Seconded by: Cllr Aldridge

Cllrs  
Aldridge/Wilson/  
Clerk

9. Approval of invoices

Smartcut £410.40 Invoice 6132 Grass cutting 20 Oct 17 Cheque No. 001198  
Proposed by: Cllr Jones Seconded by: Cllr Blake

Chairman



10. Review of Emergency Plan  
The Emergency Plan was reviewed. Subject to the deletion of Cllrs Cox and Baum and the amendment to review on an annual basis, the document was approved by those present. Chairman  
Proposed by: Cllr Weyman Seconded by: Cllr Aldridge
11. Budget for 2018/19  
The budget was reviewed and unanimously approved by the members present. Chairman  
The Church Warden was requested to write and request a donation toward the churchyard upkeep.  
Proposed by: Cllr Jones Seconded by: Cllr Weyman  
Precept Setting for 2018/19  
The precept for the year 2018/19 was unanimously agreed by the members present as a 5% increase on the current year, to £17,327.44. An increase of £825.12 on the current years' figure of £16,502.32. Chairman  
Proposed by: Cllr Jones Seconded by: Cllr Weyman
13. Noticeboard Update  
An amended quotation in respect of the additional freestanding noticeboard was awaited. The Clerk will request a delivery and installation date. Chairman
14. UTP – Calendar of Events Subscription  
Chairman proposed a subscription to the Upton Events Calendar, at a cost of £15.00 per annum. The facility will provide an additional communications channel for providing information to residents. Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present. Chairman  
Proposed by: Cllr Jones Seconded by: Cllr Aldridge
15. Annual Newsletter Arrangements  
Clerk reported that initial draft had been reviewed, final articles awaited. Proof copy will be circulated to councilors for review. Distribution by Councillors as previously discussed Clerk  
anticipated to be end of November.
16. Memorial Tree Replacement  
Clerk to contact landowner to obtain permission to re-plant two memorial trees (planted to commemorate Mr. Gainey and Mr. Bird) (White Beam or similar variety – costing approximately £40.00 each) at Ripple Parish Hall. Clerk  
Proposed by: Cllr Aldridge Seconded by: Cllr Weyman
17. Councillor comments and items for next agenda.  
Cllr Sutton reported that he had witnessed an incident on New Street Upton upon Severn where an ambulance was delayed for 15 minutes due to traffic obstructions and the inability to use the Hanley Road Car Park access road. The Chairman asked the District Councillor to provide an explanation as to what is going to be done regarding the closure of the car park access. Cllr Weyman expressed the opinion that as the car park access had been acceptable and operational for some twenty years why can it not be re-opened in line with public opinion. All  
  
Cllr Jones questioned the communication circulated by Severn Trent regarding the works in the Ryall Road area. Specific information as to the purpose of the works was not available.  
  
Annual advertising in "The Bridge" magazine at a cost of £70.00 was proposed and unanimously agreed. Clerk to provide copy to editor.  
Proposed by: Cllr Weyman Seconded by Cllr Jones

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.

*Date of next meeting – Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 at 7.00pm*

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS:**

Two residents of Ripple requested further information regarding the test pits being dug in various locations within the Ripple and Uckinghall area. Cllrs were unaware of the testing and requested Cllr Middleborough to make enquiries with WCC and Cemex in his capacity as Chairman of the Liaison Group and report back. Subsequently confirmed that test pits were dug to review mineral deposits in the Ripple and Uckinghall areas.

A resident of Ripple raised the issue of potholes in the village. The Chairman confirmed the matter had been reported to WCC and had been reviewed during the recent tour of the parish. All residents were encouraged to report any matters of concern to WCC via the on line "Report It" service.

The resident requested an update on the status of the Gubber Hill site planning appeal. Cllr Jones provided an update confirming that an Environmental survey was to be provided by the applicant and would be subject to a further hearing at TBC, date to be advised.

*NSP*

The Church Warden of St Marys Church Ripple re-iterated his previous request for the Parish Council to consider assisting with a contribution to the upkeep of the churchyard. The Chairman asked that a request be made in writing which would receive consideration. In addition the donations received at the Annual Parish Meeting would be passed on to the Church.

A representative of Upton Town Council addressed the meeting to request collaboration with a Neighborhood Plan. It was suggested that RPC consider participating in a Task and Finish Group feasibility exercise. Cllr Owenson advised MHDC would be keen to provide resources to assist and Government funding was available to assist in the preparation of a plan. The Chairman agreed that RPC would review the matter and report back.

Signed: Nicholas G. Blake

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017

**Nicholas Blake – Chairman Ripple Parish Council**

*NGB*