

**Meeting of Ripple Parish Council  
held at Ripple Parish Hall on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.00pm**

**MINUTES**

- Present:-** Cllrs Aldridge, Armit, Baum, Davies, Jones, Sutton & Weyman  
District Cllr Jeremy Owenson, County Councillor Paul Middlebrough, Cllr David Harrison, 19 members of the public, Clerk - Mrs V Portch
1. **Apologies** - To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence  
None Clerk
  2. **Declarations of Interest:** All
    - 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.  
None

*Councillors 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 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were presented to the meeting, approved by those present and signed by the Chairman. All  
Proposed by: Cllr Jones    Seconded by: Cllr Davies
  4. **To receive report from District Councillor**  
Cllr Owenson confirmed the ongoing support of MHDC to assist with flood issues and ongoing reviews would be carried out. Cllr Owenson agreed to follow up the situation with regard to determination of the planning application for gypsy accommodation on Bow Lane. Cllr Owenson
  5. **To receive report from County Councillor**  
Cllr Middlebrough advised that the proposed roundabout plans for the A38/A4104 had been amended to incorporate a four prong roundabout. WCC were in the process of purchasing the necessary land to fulfill the project. Funding had been set aside to provide a crossing on the A4104, surveys were to be undertaken to assess visibility splay for safe crossing point. Cllr Middlebrough
  6. **Progress reports from:-**  
**Clerk:** General administration of correspondence emails and post. Uploading of documents to WCC website. Follow up on on-going matters. Communication with WCC Highways regarding on-going issues raised at on site meeting in Ryall several months ago, traffic calming, drainage overgrown shrubbery. In particular drainage issues in Uckinghall and at the junction of A38, A38 at Stratford Bridge and Ryall Road. Checking of "RPCWorcs" email facility. Preparation of meeting calendar for 2020 liaising with The Beeches for alternative meeting venue dates. Liaison with Smartcut , any additional input relating to new cutting areas awaited from Councillors prior to final tender document being prepared, no additional requested received. Discussion with lengthsman regarding "spring tidy up" requirements, cleaning of bollards and bus shelters, drainage gulleys all cleared to best of lengthsman's ability. Lengthsman confirm the bollards on Ryall Road have been cleaned twice already this year. Clerk has requested WCC to address A38/Ryall Road gully. Liaison with WCC regarding Lengthsman scheme, contract now received from WCC. Meeting with Bow Lane resident to discuss Cullimore applications. Discussions with WCC Highways and Police regarding tree blocking Ryall Road. As a result of recent flooding issues in particular the suggested evacuation of Uckinghall liaison with EA, WCC and MHDC. Various assistance to local residents with sandbagging homes and updating on the options available to them and the bodies to contact and monitor for up to date information. Clerk and Cllr Baum attended the WCC meeting regarding flooding at Upton Library and raised various issues and discussed policy regarding independent groups (UFAG). Clerk posted





information notices on website and noticeboards and Cllr Aldridge posted on Facebook.

**Management:** The Management Group, comprising Cllrs Aldridge and Jones met with the clerk to review on-going issues and set the agenda for this meeting. Review of minutes of last meeting. The various Cullimore planning applications were discussed, Cllr Aldridge and Clerk had discussions with various interested parties. Chairman attended Upton Town Partnership meeting, Cemex Liaison meeting was cancelled. Clerk attended Flood Advice meeting at Upton Library.

**Finance:** Cheques from last meeting distributed. Ledger updated. Transfer of £5,000.00 from Deposit to Current account approved by Cllrs Aldridge and Jones. Clerk actioned.

Cheque No	Payee	Amount	Purpose
001283	Penpal Studio	£1,818.6	Winter Newsletter, Resident Questionnaire, St Mary's Questionnaire & Gravel Notice
001284	Ben Perry	£580.00	Lengthsman-Nov & Dec 2019
001285	Ben Perry	£320.00	Lengthsman-Jan 2020

Proposed by: Cllr Armitt Seconded by: Cllr Baum

**Urgent Decisions:** None

**Staff and Training:** Cllrs Aldridge, Baum and Weyman visited the WCC waste transfer station.

**Planning:** Councillors are requested to review applications/documents online please. Please note that with immediate effect submission will be circulated by Cllr Jones for comment.

<a href="#">19/01813/CM</a>	Bow Farm Bow Lane Ripple Tewkesbury GL20 6EW	Proposed extraction of sand and gravel with restoration using site derived and imported inert material to wetland, nature conservation and agriculture (cross-boundary application).
<a href="#">19/01814/CM</a>	Bow Farm Bow Lane Ripple Tewkesbury GL20 6EW	Proposed new vehicular access off A38, plus haul road, weighbridge/office, processing plant and equipment (including concrete batching plant), creation of clean water ponds, silt ponds, stock piles and other works and ancillary development associated with the extraction of sand and gravel and import of inert materials with restoration using site derived material to wetlands, nature conservation and agriculture (cross-boundary application with Worcestershire).
<a href="#">19/01297/FUL</a>	Land At (Os 8726 3749) Bow Lane Ripple	Change of use of land to use as residential caravan site for one Gypsy family with 2 caravans, including no more than one mobile home, laying of hardstanding and erection of ancillary amenity building.
<a href="#">18/00792/FUL</a>	The Retreat Ferry Lane Uckinghall Tewkesbury GL20 6ER	Change of Use from ancillary accommodation to holiday let.

7. **Bow Lane Gravel Extraction Update – Cullimore & Cemex Plans**  
Cllr Jones advised nothing new to report. Detailed documentation relating to Cemex application awaited. Cllr Jones
8. **Review of Consultations on Worcestershire Pollinator Strategy Consultation & Statement of Licensing Policy Review - Consultation 2020-25**  
To be reviewed. All
9. **Review of Resident Questionnaire Responses**  
The Chairman provided an overview of the analysis of the responses to the Resident Questionnaire. A 7.7% response was received. The Smartwater initiative did not receive the require take up numbers. Ryall Road traffic calming received positive responses to the 20mph speed limit and signage options. Cllr Middlebrough to discuss options with Chairman

151



Highways. The option to provide initiate house numbering on Ryall Road received 25 responses in total. Fifteen in favour, ten against of those only six were Ryall Road residents and they voted three in favour and three against.

10. **Appointment of New Footpath Officer**

Cllr Sutton had previously indicated interest in the post. Cllr Sutton to meet with Mrs Rand (a previous postholder )to discuss the matter further. It was unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr Sutton.

Chairman

Proposed by Cllr Armitt Seconded by Cllr Baum

11. **Ryall Road – Parking on Verges**

Clerk confirmed that matter had been raised with the Housing Association Manager and would be followed up. The suggestion of deterrent rocks on the verges to prevent parking was considered inappropriate for the purposes of grass cutting and safety.

All

12. **Parish Verges – Use of Pollinators**

The potential to plant verges as pollinator sites rather than mowing was to be considered further. Locations would need to be considered for their road safety viability.

All

13. **Update on Lengthsman & Grass cutting Arrangements 2020**

The Clerk advised the Lengthsman had made significant progress and was very proactive with attending to drainage, repairs to signage, noticeboard and other activities. The bollards and road signs on Ryall Road had been cleaned twice since December. The grass cutting contractor had indicated their willingness to continue, additional areas are to be added to the contract as previously agreed in line with request from residents.

Clerk

14. **Updated Flooding and Emergency Plan Review/Adoption**

As a result of the protracted discussion regarding recent flooding issues the Chairman proposed that this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

All

15. **Councillor comments and items for next agenda**

Cllr Baum noted that the lifebuoys on the Pennywell attenuation ponds were being used by the resident children as play items. The A4104 close to Ryall had a damaged man hole which WCC have been notified of. The flood damage to the new embankment near the marina entrance had also been reported to WCC for Highways attention. Cllr Davies suggested that as a fund raising scheme for St Mary's Church a local "Fun Run" could be considered.

All

Date of Next Meeting:- 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020 @ Beechwood Residential Care Home

All meetings cancelled until further notice as a result of the Covid-19

**Public Question:-**

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm, the Chairman welcomed and thanked all those attending.

He introduced Cllrs Owenson and Middlebrough, Cllr Harrison from MHDC in his capacity as portfolio holder for Flooding and two local actions groups, UFAG and REACT.

Mrs Rand, the RPC representative for the Ancient Parish of Ripple Trust reported that the next meeting would take place on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

It was noted that there had recently been issues with the Naunton pumping station. Cllr Owenson confirmed that the matter was now resolved and new pumps would be installed as soon as the current high water levels had receded.

The representative of REACT provided an overview of their recent campaign activities. The Chairman offered an open invitation for a member of the group to attend meetings and provide regular updates, the Bow Lane gravel extraction was a recurring item on the meeting agenda. Cllr Jones offered congratulations to the group and its members for their swift action following the last Parish Council meeting. Cllr Middlebrough advised that WCC had submitted Regulation 25 requests to the Cullimore Group the consultation was not over. Cllr Harrison advised that he had objected on Environmental, Flooding and other grounds to the proposals.

An Uckinghall resident raised the issue of the leaking flood gate and the intention of the Environment Agency to carry out works to install a larger drainage pipe. It was noted that if there was only a 14mm rise in the last flood water level the defenses would have been breached and the village likely to suffer extensive flooding. The resident had prepared some plans to illustrate the situation and it was agreed that these would be shared with Cllr Harrison for review and addressing with the appropriate agencies.

Cllr Jones thanked MHDC, Cllr Owenson and Cllr Harrison for attending the village during recent flooding and for the provision of sandbags and road sweeping.

The Chairman introduced Ms Judy Gibson, representative of UFAG.

The Chairman stated unequivocally that RPC totally refuted the allegations that they had caused distress and concern to residents. He stated that the Emergency Plan prepared by RPC is not in the public domain it is an internal reference document and it is constrained by GDPR. Cllr Jones pointed out that there is a clearly defined process for dealing with such situations, and a specific chain of information flow. Investigations with WCC and MHDC confirmed that neither entity had any record or contact details for UFAG or Ms Gibson as claimed.

It was suggested that RPC and UFAG engage together in the ongoing review of how best flooding situations should be dealt with and UFAG provide a representative to attend RPC meetings.

Signed .....

  
Phil Aldridge  
Chairman - Ripple Parish Council

