

Grimley Parish Council

DRAFT

Monday **18th** May 2020, 7.00pm

**For sensible containment of Coronavirus
all business at this publicly open meeting has been conducted online**

The meeting was duly advertised online and on three parish noticeboards.
The password to join the meeting was available upon request from the Parish Clerk.

Ref legislation for online meetings: Coronavirus Bill THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/392/contents/made>

Minutes of the meeting

Cllrs Present: D Stanley (Chair), A Bretherton, A Passey, A Taft.
In Attendance: Mrs L Stevens (Clerk & RFO). DCllr Clarke, 1 member of public (confirmed)

039/20 Public open forum

a.	<p>MS raised the issue of dog fouling at Sinton Green, particularly on the village green and down Gumburn Lane. The Clerk had reported this to the dog warden. (Since the meeting it was noted that when reporting dog fouling, the following information must be provided: <i>location, description of dog owner and/or dog, when it took place, vehicle registration of dog owner (if available)</i>). It was agreed that the Clerk would ask MHDC if they would empty an additional bin at Sinton Green. The Chair is also to place a Facebook post asking residents to be more considerate and the details of the fine if caught.</p> <p><u>Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)</u> On Thursday 1 June 2017, the 'Public Space Protection Order' (PSPO) pursuant to Dog Control came into force within the Malvern Hills district, following public consultation. MHDC has the powers to enforce a fixed penalty notice for dog fouling in the district in compliance with The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996. PSPO covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to carry a poop bag/other to clean up after a dog. • Failure to keep a dog on a lead in a designated area. • Failure to exclude dogs from children's playgrounds. <p>Any breach of the Order could result in a £100 fixed penalty notice or being taken to court and receiving a fine on conviction of up to £1000.</p> <p>Cllrs thanked the resident for joining them.</p>
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040/20 Apologies and approval of reasons for absence

a.	Cllr Atkinson, CCllr Phil Grove. Cllr Green declined to take part in virtual meetings. Cllr Ayers reported limited PC capabilities.
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041/20 Declarations of interest, dispensations and points of order

a.	To note any updates to the register of interests/ dispensations. <i>In relation to The Pleck, Cllr Taft, who will not take part in discussions.</i>
b.	Welcome to Vic Allison, the new Chief Executive of Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils. Mr Allison will begin his new role on 1st August, taking over the reins from Jack Hegarty who is retiring after 35 years of service in local government. Our best wishes to Mr Hegarty on his retirement.

042/20 Minutes of previous meetings.

a.	Mon 20 th April 2020 – Previously distributed and duly approved .
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043/20 To Receive the Report of the County Councillor.

a.	Cllr Grove has been providing regular updates via email and has also been promptly responding to parish council requests.
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044/20 To Receive the Report of the District Councillor.

a.	DCllr Clarke has been providing regular updates via email and noted some planning concerns at Moseley, which he has reported. Cllr Taft asked a question in relation to evident flytipping increasing as a consequence of household recycling facilities being closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cllr Taft also expressed concern about the apparent lag in infrastructure repairs and the household cost of home recycling service. DCllr Clarke provided illustrative information after the meeting in answer to this.
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045/20 Coronavirus & Climate Emergency – matters arising

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	Lengthsman – To note that HIGHWAYS has reinstated the Lengthsman subject to parish council risk assessment (which has been accepted by CALC and WCC). Mr Skeys has accepted the risk assessment and returned to duty of his own volition.
b.	Gov. mandate to assist public facilities with lost revenue. Updated information from Committee and also the Clerk's estimate of savings made through reduced water, power, heating and lighting. The Clerk noted that the hall shut down on 17th March. Lockdown official began on 23rd March but the hall had already lost most of their bookings by the beginning of March. Cllr Bretherton proposed a subsidy of £1330.40, Nb. 80% of the lost revenue for March, April and May 2020 (£1663, after deductions had been made). Seconded AT. Duly carried unanimously. Cllrs absent from the meeting had also registered their support via email. Cllrs agreed an additional subsidy to the Peace Hall can be considered in July once the Committee are able to provide net lost income figures for June 2020. A new representative from the Parish Council for the Peace Hall will be considered at the next parish council meeting.
c.	Public response to coronavirus, emphasising the importance of social distancing. Cllrs praised residents for adhering to social distancing rules and for the level of community support given to vulnerable or shielding residents. Cllrs discussed increased incidences of dog waste, flytipping (Monk Wood and Grimley approach road), speeding, and a noticeable increase in vehicular damage to Monkwood Green Common and Sinton Green village green. Also illegal events down Camp Lane (not associated with Camp House Inn) which were dispersed by the police. One or two incidences of vandalism were noted in relation to VE day. An increase in public use of bridleways/rights of way has led to a marked increase in reports of broken footpath furniture being passed to the Clerk (item discussed later) Many of the missing finger posts/gates and broken stile have been regularly reported to WCC for a number of years with no progress.

046/20 General

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>Sinton Green Mowing Contract. Updated quotation received from Mr Skeys, allowing some areas of Sinton Village Green to grow for wild flowers. Cllr Bretherton felt that marking specific areas was not required. The Lengthsman had previously commented that he need not increase his monthly invoice amount (£75 per cut) if he can be allowed some discretion. Cllrs approved the Lengthsman leaving some areas consistently long this summer, so that it can be established which flower species are present on the village green. The Clerk was instructed to liaise with Mr Skeys.</p>
b.	<p>Peace Hall replacement right of way noticeboard. The Clerk had not made progress with this. To add to next agenda.</p>
c.	<p>Sinton Green waste accumulation adjacent to 4 Bungalow. A large pile of black bags had been dumped outside this property over a series of several weeks and was reported to be causing distress to residents on account of the smell. WCC had been advised on public health grounds and MHDC had been advised on grounds of fly tipping. MHDC had agreed to remove and inspect the waste with a view to prosecuting.</p>
d.	<p>Monkwood Green maintenance and grazing update, including Natural England comments and required actions. Cllrs expressed thanks that the Petty Whin has been enclosed and grazed through the work of residents. The Common is looking the best it has looked for many years. Commoners continue to exercise their grazing rights. All appropriate information regarding licences and notifications to NE have been provided to Green Farm. Whitehouse Farm has also indicated that they will be using their rights. The Clerk reported that Natural England have been in touch and asked that all future licences for Monkwood Green Common be applied for on a 3 year plan, rather than the 5 year plan applied for. Natural England had also expressed support for grazing the whole site and had also advised that rather than mowing in late August/Mid September every year, that a cut in late July be applied every other year. Cllrs agreed this in principle and instructed the Clerk to approach contractors and to liaise with NE. Cllrs confirmed that Commoners could not be reimbursed/paid for exercising their rights and agreed that future mowing contracts would need to properly reflect the amount of grass in situ. Cllrs also agreed that if invoices were received for work to move Parish Council owned fence (to enclose the Petty Whin) then this would be fairly considered at a future parish council meeting.</p>
e.	<p>Monkwood Green Well update. Cllrs were delighted with the repairs and work conducted and extended their thanks to the residents concerned. This work has made this facility safe and once again it is an asset rather than a forgotten piece of local history. The site is now awaiting gravel round the base. The Cllrs instructed the Clerk to check that this facility is appropriately recorded with insurers. Of the £900 WCC grant provided to the parish council by previous CCllr Alwyn Davies, the remaining £291 was unanimously agreed to be provided to GG as a contribution towards his expenses for this work. Additional consideration would be given upon receipt of appropriate invoices.</p>
f.	<p>Monkwood Green Defibrillator update. The Clerk reported that the parish council defibrillator at Monkwood Green red phone box is now installed, fully operational and registered with the ambulance service.</p>

	<p><i>Continued.</i></p> <p>Members of the public may use it in an emergency. Not all of the signage or instruction posters are displayed because of the recent lockdown. If residents need to use the equipment, they should phone 999 in order to obtain the key code to open the locked cabinet. The 999 operator will then provide easy to follow instructions on how to use the defibrillator. The defibrillator can be used by the road side at the phone box OR can be removed and taken to the patient. The equipment can also be used on children or infants but the procedure is slightly different and residents would be guided on this by the 999 operator. The Parish Clerk and Parish Cllrs do not have the cabinet code. This equipment MUST be used this equipment in conjunction with a 999 call. Volunteer training is hoped to start in early 2021.</p> <p>This equipment was funded by a parishioner donation and Cllrs wished their gratitude to be once again recorded. If the community could rally round to help take care of this equipment and to check it regularly for vandalism please.</p> <p>g. Broadband project update. <u>Grimley village</u> Cllr Stanley reported that residents have already confirmed their commitment to transferring to the 5G broadband and should acknowledge this in their response to the DCMS – Department for culture media and sport – email that has been sent to them. This simply requires a click on a link within the email. Any outstanding queries should be discussed with Simon Russell. <u>Monkwood Green</u> The Parish Council has pursued the extension of the 5G fibre-optic scheme being introduced Grimley village to that of Monkwood Green. A proposal has been received for this very leading edge improvement in broadband capability from WCC that will involve no capital cost to residents. Cllrs agreed that a volunteer will be sought to achieve the necessary signup from residents that will deliver this significant benefit to Monkwood Green.</p> <p>h. Highways, footpaths and road surfaces parish wide, including: i. <i>Rights of way, Retreat Farm.</i> The owner is going to repair these at own cost. The Clerk was instructed to email thanks. ii. <i>Missing fingerboard opposite The Pleck.</i> The Clerk was instructed to clarify position with WCC and (if nec) to seek quotations. iii. <i>Missing gate from footpath opposite The Old Rectory, Grimley.</i> This has been reported numerous times to WCC. Cllrs felt that this should not be added to future agendas, since the field is arable and so no risk to livestock. iv. <i>Repair of barrier opposite The Ark, Grimley.</i> The Clerk was instructed to ask Mr Skeys to quote for repairs.</p>
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047/20 Finance and Administration

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

<p>a.</p>	<p>To consider and motion to approve the payment of outstanding accounts. – Duly approved. All payments have been set up online via online banking by the Clerk. Cllr Bretherton and Cllr Taft are to log on and approve.</p>
<p>b.</p>	<p>Motion to accept Bank Recon April 2020 – Duly approved.</p>
<p>c.</p>	<p>Update on internet banking – The Clerk is in the process of trying to add Cllr Green as a signatory and in confirming herself as having correct access to the online banking for viewing purposes.</p>
<p>d.</p>	<p>To consider progress/plans for audit – Cllrs had received the timetable and had no comments to make.</p>

048/20 Correspondence and Items for future agenda

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>i. Correspondence from Cllr relating to recent spike in flytipping.</p> <p>ii. Correspondence from resident ref hedgerows that run from Grimley crossroads on main road as far Crosshands Cottage opposite the bus stop.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed that correspondence such as the above should in future be passed to the Chair via the Clerk in order that priority might be considered. This was unanimously agreed.</p>
b.	<p>Sinton Green Peace Hall noticeboard repairs and new right of way noticeboard. Clerk to liaise with Cllr Bretherton ref noticeboard etching. Next meeting: Monday 22nd June 2020, 7pm</p>

Cllr Taft left the meeting at this point.**049/20 Planning Applications** - To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>Application Number: 20/00330/HP. Location: The Pleck, Grimley, Worcester, WR2 6LU. Proposal: Remove existing porch, erecting new porch and extending front room in line with new porch. Applicant: Mrs Elizabeth Anne Taft Cllrs had no comments to make.</p>
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Appendix 1 – payments to be made

Nora Parsons Day Centre	Donation to cover lost income during Coivd-19.	£600	VAT nil
Peace Hall, Sinton Green	Donation to cover lost income during Coivd-19.	£1330.40	VAT nil
Hallow Scouts and Guides	9 th Worcester Hallow Scout Group. Donation to cover lost income during Coivd-19.	£400	VAT nil
Simon Skeys	Lengthsman invoices February 2020 (£293.25) & March 2020 (£356.50) (submitted prior to virus). <i>Please note: the amount left available to claim from WCC was £644.00 only. Clerk has claimed this (awaiting receipt).</i> NOT PAID _ AWAITING BANK DETAILS	£649.75	VAT nil
Simon Skeys	Sinton village green contracted mowing March 2020. NOT PAID _ AWAITING BANK DETAILS	£75.00	VAT nil
Simon Skeys	2019 Litter bin installed by lay by opposite Old Vicarage including postcrete and taking delivery of bin. NOT PAID _ AWAITING BANK DETAILS	£30.00	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Clerk wages [April 2020] As per contract of 12 hours per week, £12.01 per hour.	£576.48	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Expenses May 2020, including VAT on Zoom membership	£69.50	Under calculation

Chair (Online approval 22/06/2020)