

**Annual General Meeting of Ripple Parish Council
held at Ripple Parish Hall on Monday, 24th August 2020 at 7.00pm**

Public Question Time:

In normal circumstances from 7.00pm residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman, before the start of the Parish Council Meeting. This will be a closed meeting as a result of the COVID-19 situation and any Public Questions are to be submitted 5 days in advance of the meeting in writing or by email to the clerk for the Chairman's consideration.

MINUTES

Attendees: Cllrs Aldridge, Armit, Baum, Davies, Jones

In Attendance: Mrs V Portch - Clerk

The Chairman welcomed Councillors to the meeting and thanked them for coming to the AGM. He reminded those present of the regulations for using the parish hall that had been previously circulated by email.

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| 1. | Apologies - To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence
No apologies received, Cllrs Sutton and Weyman were absent from the meeting. | Clerk |
| 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. 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. | Cllr Aldridge |
| 3. | To note RPC Standing Orders (circulated by email)
Unanimously approved by those present.
Proposed by Cllr Jones Seconded by Cllr Armit | Clerk |
| 4. | To note the Code of Conduct (circulated by email)
Unanimously approved by those present.
Proposed by Cllr Baum Seconded by Cllr Jones | Clerk |
| 5. | Minutes - The minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2020 were unanimously approved by those present and signed by the Chairman.
Proposed by Cllr Jones Seconded by Cllr Armit | All |
| 6. | To receive Report from District Councillor
No report received. | Cllr Owenson |
| 7. | To receive report from County Councillor
Distributed by email prior to meeting. Cllr Middlebrough agreed to attend the next meeting to provide an update on the A38/A4104 roundabout proposals. Cllr Jones to draft a response to WCC consultation after the next meeting. | Cllr
Middlebrough |
| 8. | Progress reports from:
a. Clerk - General administration of correspondence emails and post. Uploading of documents to WCC website. Monitoring and conveying various agencies COVID information to residents. Follow up on on-going matters. Communication with WCC Highways regarding on-going issues of Ryall Road verge infringement and grit bin relocation in Uckinghall. Preparation of meeting arrangements for this meeting and liaison with the Parish Hall Committee in order to comply with updated COVID regulations. Preparation of content and topics for winter newsletter and proofing of copy. Archiving of RPC documents. Liaison with Smartcut regarding omission of one item on cutting list. Review of overgrown hedges and trees and preparation of requests to residents to remedy the offending areas. Meeting with Lengthsman.
b. Management Group - Setting of the agenda for this meeting. Review of minutes of last meeting. | |

c. Finance Group - Preparation of draft year end accounts and presentation to internal auditor. Preparation and completion of Annual Return. Ledger updated and cheques from last meeting distributed.

d. Urgent Decisions Group - None

e. Planning Group (schedule circulated)

Cllr Jones raised the issue of the proposed Planning Reform White Paper and the implications on Parish Councils and local villages. It was agreed that residents would be alerted to the proposed changes in the September newsletter.

The planning application for a ménage at Malthouse Farm, Uckinghall was discussed and unanimously agreed as RPC not having any objection.

f. Staffing and Training Group - Nothing to report.

9. Finance

Cllr Aldridge

a. To Consider approval of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020

The accounts audited and approved accounts were distributed prior to the meeting by email. The content was unanimously agreed by those present and the Chairman signed the accounts as presented. The Annual Governance Return was presented and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by Cllr Armitt Seconded by Cllr Baum

b. Approval of invoices

Clerk

Invoice for £192.00 from Ripple Parish Hall Hire for the year 2019 was presented for payment and approved by those present. Cheque number 001291 was signed by the Chairman and Cllr Jones.

Proposed by Cllr Baum Seconded by Cllr Armitt

10. Bow Lane Gravel Extraction Update

Cllr Jones

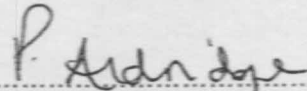
Cllr Jones advised that the Cullimore Group had responded to the further questions raised by WCC & GCC. A further consultation would take place.

11. Councillor comments and items for next agenda

All

The next Parish Newsletter was agreed to be issued at the end of September 2020. Councillors were requested to provide a list of topics and content they considered appropriate for inclusion prior to the next meeting.

Signed



Phil Aldridge Chairman - Ripple Parish Council

Public Questions:-

Email - Lengthsman Repayment Scheme

Chairman, Thank you for your recent reports on the effective actions of our Lengthsman. You also report that further tasks will be accomplished when he is available. Is the availability of our Lengthsman due to his other work commitments, or due to the Lengthsman repayment scheme run by WCC. In theory RPC can use the Lengthsman just as much as we need, but RPC then has to pay for any time over the WCC subsidised hours. If this is the case, can RPC use some of our reserves to pay for extra Lengthsman hours, so as to catch up on the backlog of jobs that are all around the Parish. ? Let's not penny-pinch on keeping our Parish smart, clean, safe and tidy WR8 0QQ.

Email response

I'll raise this with the council at our meeting, next week. The clerk liaises with the lengthsman regarding his workload. It really isn't a case of penny pinching. We have made it clear that we are willing to fund extra hours, but Ben runs a family farm and acts as lengthsman to another parish so his availability can be limited at busy times.

Other issues raised via Facebook and responded to:-

Ryall Meadow New Build, Uckinghall Lakes, Overgrown Pathway Ryall, Dog Mess in Ripple.

Date of next meeting - 7th September 2020

Subject to COVID19 Directives

COUNCILLORS ARE REMINDED TO ACQUAINT THEMSELVES WITH THE PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED RIPPLE PARISH HALL COVID 19 REGULATIONS PRIOR TO THIS MEETING

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Clerk to Ripple Parish Council - Victoria Portch - 07498 076125

Email: rippleparishclerk@btinternet.com

<http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish/>