



## RIPPLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Ripple Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at Ripple Village Hall

Attendees: M. Peters, K Weyman, M Davis, M Baum, T Armitt, D Long, C. Cllr M Allen,

Present: Clerk/RFO M Hinde, and 1 member of the public

**11.07.22.1 The Chairman will formally ask if anyone is intending on recording or filming the meeting.**

There were no requests to record or film the meeting.

**11.07.22.2 To receive comments from the public - no decisions will be made on issues raised. Any items requiring decisions will be added to the agenda for the next meeting (NB Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business that are not specified on the agenda (LGA1972 Sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119)**

**Resident 1** – Raised concern over the speeding on Ryall Road. The resident confirmed they had written to WCC to ensure that the signage was correct. Council confirmed they had asked the Clerk to email Worcestershire County Council to chase up about the signage and that a new vehicle activated speed sign would be installed.

**Resident 2** – The chairman read out an email received from a resident who was unable to attend and wanted to raise their views on the Ryall Road to be discussed by council later in the agenda. The email stated: -I recall that previous RPC research showed that the "Access Only" signs and designation were made in the 1950's when the road was a country lane, accessing very few properties. Today it is the access to probably 500 properties. The road itself has a very good safety record, with few accidents and, I believe, no traffic injuries or fatalities. The only, and believe me I know, possible traffic calming measures available has been the trompe l'oeil white lines that "narrow" the perception of the road width, causing traffic to slow down. The home shopping innovation has increased the commercial vehicle traffic, but this is not really associated with speed. Wild suggestions to create a "no through road" situation create emergency access issues and, as shown in earlier reports, would negatively impact property values. With the housing shortage, and the expansion of Upton, there is potential for further housing development in and around Ryall Road. So smooth running access will be vital for the future. We all hope that the new A4104/A38 RaB will discourage using the road as a short cut, but we must wait to see if that is, indeed, a source of relief. The traffic increase is a direct function of rural urbanisation, and we



need to accept that to be the case. At least with the current configuration, we are largely spared the threat of HGV traffic. From reports I have noted, the level of speeding above 30mph is broadly in line with the expected and acceptable levels of controlled traffic, offences only being recorded above 35mph. The Authorities recognise that in the real world, not everyone will always adhere to the speed limit, and the speeds on Ryall Road are typical of the spread for an effective limited zone. Many would consider we do not have a real problem, And I agree to that conclusion.

The council advised they understood there were 2 opinions however they were fully supportive of the speedwatch programme.

- 11.07.22.3 To note apologies for absence**  
D. Cllr J Owenson
- 11.07.22.4 To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda below (Localism Act 2011) and to confirm the meeting quorate**  
There were no declarations of interest, and the meeting was declared quorate.
- 11.07.22.5 To confirm and agree minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23 May 2022**  
The Council **APPROVED** the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23 May 2022  
**Proposed** M Baum      **Seconded** D Long
- 11.07.22.6 To receive Clerks Report and agree actions**  
The Clerk's report was given as per **APPENDIX 1**.  
The council **AGREED** that they should push for a refund for the Ripple Noticeboard and look to get one exactly the same as the others.
- 11.07.22.7 To receive County Councillors report and agree actions**  
The County Councillors report was received as per **APPENDIX 2**  
C. Cllr asked Ripple PC to review the road speed signs on Ryall Road in 3 months. If the council still feel this is a problem the C. Cllr confirmed, he will look to see if he can fund the £900 required for the signs from his divisional fund.
- 11.07.22.8 To receive District Councillors Report and agree actions**  
The District Councillors report was received via email and read out by the chairman as per **APPENDIX 3**
- 11.07.22.9 To discuss the following planning applications/appeals made since the last meeting and agree actions:**
- 11.07.22.9a M/22/00625/HP 154 The Beeches Holly Green Upton**  
The council had **NO OBJECTION** to this application
- 11.07.22.9b Re-consultation on Planning Application 20/000009/CM Ryall North Quarry**  
The council chose to make no further comments



**11.07.22.9c Re-consultation on Planning Application 20/000015/CM Ryall North Quarry**  
The council chose to make no further comments

**11.07.22.9d Planning Application 22/000015/CM – Proposed extraction of sand and gravel with restoration to agriculture and nature conservation, including ponds, wetlands, hedgerows and lowland mixed deciduous. (Ripple East)**  
The council recommended **REFUSAL** to this application

**11.07.22.9e Additional Information Consultation 19/0081/TWMAJM Land at Bow Farm Bow Lane Twynning**  
The council still recommend **REFUSAL** to this application

**11.07.22.9f M/22/00750/HP Ryall Mead, The Beeches, Holly Green Upton**  
The council had **NO OBJECTION** to this application

**11.07.22.9g M/22/00548/HP The Paddock Ferry Lane Uckinghall Tewkesbury GL20 6ER**  
The council had **NO OBJECTION** to this application

**11.07.22.9h M/22/00502/HP 1 Southview, Vee Jon Station Road Ripple GL20 6EY**  
The council had **NO OBJECTION** to this application

**11.07.22.10 Finance, all documents circulated prior to the meeting**

**11.07.22.10a To approve Bank Reconciliation and Budget Monitoring Report Up to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Council **APPROVED** Bank Reconciliation and Budget monitoring report.  
**Approved** K Weyman **Seconded** M Davis

**11.07.22.10b To consider and resolve to agree Payment List and payments made since last meeting.**

Council **APPROVED** payment list totalling £412.59  
**Approved** K Weyman **Seconded** M Davis

**11.07.22.11 To discuss possible re-wilding of the roundabout on The Woodlands and agree actions**

The council asked the resident who raised this issue to carry out public consultation on this before they would make a decision.

**11.07.22.12 To review quotes for Jubilee memorial bench and agree actions**  
**Council reviewed the quotes**

Supplier	Bench	Price
Corido	Balmoral 6ft Queen's Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Bench	£620
ASA Forces Charity	The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Bench	£1050

Memorial Benches.co.uk	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Bench, Kenilworth 5ft in FSC Certified Teak Wood – Memorial Benches	£808
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Council **AGREED** to proceed with memorial benches.co.uk. Clerk will apply for funding from MHDC once open.

**Proposed** Cllr Armitt                      **Seconded** Cllr Baum

**11.07.22.13 To review quotes for website and agree actions**

Council reviewed quotes

Supplier	Price
Ionos	£1+VAT a month for 12 months then £8 + VAT a month
One Suffolk	£60 a year
Netwise	£299 a year+£399 setup

Council **AGREED** to proceed with IONOS.

**11.07.22.14 To review quotes for the removal of the dead tree in Ryall and agree actions**

Council reviewed quotes

Supplier	Price
Lengthsman	£200
Vale Trees	£245

Council requested the clerk to get another quote as these appear expensive.

**11.07.22.15 To discuss the increased volume of traffic using the Ryall Road and agree Actions**

Council **AGREED** to review this again once the roundabout is open.

**11.07.22.16 To discuss litter bins and agree actions**

Cllr Weyman will get updated costs on the litter bins and the council **AGREED** to discuss at their next meeting in September.

**11.07.22.17 To review grass cutting contract**

Council **AGREED** all areas were covered by the grass cutting contract however they requested the Clerk seek clarification as to why Ryall Meadow is on their twice.

**11.07.22.18 To discuss flooding hardstanding and agree actions**



This was discussed during the County Councillor report. Cllr Allen **AGREED** to ask for an extension whilst the work on the land was completed by the environmental agency. Cllr Peters to email Cllr Allen with an official request for an extension.

- 11.07.22.19** **To receive an update on the artwork to be installed on the A38 roundabout**  
Cllr Davis confirmed the working group was making slow progress. Local Schools are now involved in the design. Cllr Davis requested this is added to the agenda in September.
- 11.07.22.20** **To receive an update on the recreational ground and agree actions**  
Cllr Davis confirmed she has met a member of the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust (WWT) with a resident. The WWT are putting together a proposal in what the recreational ground could be made into. Cllr Davis confirmed if the project was to go ahead this year it would need to be seeded in late October. Council **AGREED** they need to see a plan before making a decision.
- 11.07.22.21** **To receive agenda items for the next meeting of the council**  
Litter Bins  
Lengthsman Budget  
Dead Tree
- 11.07.22.22** **Date of Next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> September**



## APPENDIX 1

### Clerks Report 11<sup>th</sup> July

- Boots** Letter circulated by Councillor Baum has been emailed off to Boots
- VAS** New VAS has been delivered. WCC have been out to straighten the pole.
- Road Sweeper** Contacted MHDC to arrange for the road sweeper to come out along the Ryall Road after reports it was looking unkempt.
- Weeds** Contacted WCC who have been out to spray the weeds in the gutters along the Ryall Road and will be coming out a second time.
- Speed Signs** Have emailed WCC for more information on 30 signs being painted on the Ryall Road and asked what the cost would be. Chasing for a response.
- AGAR** AGAR and supporting documents has been sent off to the external auditor PKF Littlejohn.
- Ripple Noticeboard** Still awaiting responses on how to proceed with the noticeboard. As per email the company can do 3 doors with pin board backing with one door open to the public. The public section would then be protected from weather this would cost an additional £520 + VAT. So far had 2 responses 1 to not proceed and have a noticeboard the same as the others and 1 to go ahead with this noticeboard and look at protecting the section open to the weather on the other boards.



## **APPENDIX 2**

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARTIN ALLEN** **EMAILED REPORT TO RIPPLE PARISH COUNCIL JULY 2022**

#### **KETCH ROUNDABOUT**

The Ketch Roundabout is still expected to be completed this summer.

#### **UPTON A38/A4104 ROUNDABOUT**

I am glad to see that the four arms of the roundabout are now connected. There was a one-hour delay in opening the road, we had to wait for the asphalt to harden. Things are moving forward well, and they are on course to finish on time.

#### **RYALL ROAD SPEEDING**

The speeding problems continue on the Ryall Road, I am aware that residents have been contacting the Police and Crime Commissionaire about this, but like myself they have had warm words and little action. I have emailed WCC Highways asking that the No Access Signs be replaced with Blue No Access Signs. I have also emailed the Police and Crime Commissioner asking for action and not empty words.

#### **MONUMENT/ARTWORK ON THE NEW ROUNDABOUT**

CLlr Allen enquired how the committee were progressing.

#### **A4104 HOLLY GREEN CROSSING.**

As you know the funds are in place. Officers have been tasked with the design and I have asked that Tina Mclaughlin or other WCC officers attend an RPC meeting to explain what is going to happen. This will be in September or October, subject to Senior Officers approval for the meeting.

WCC are going to measure the Footfall to see how many people cross the A4104 from the Ryall Road/Holly Green.

It is hoped that the work will commence in March 2023.

Apparently, there is only one location the crossing point can go, due to the bends in the road and the legal requirement of the Visibility Splays.



I did ask how much a controlled crossing would cost, apparently it would cost in excess of ¼ million pounds, and it would be unlikely that funding could be secured.

#### HARDSTANDING

Last year I managed to get your application approved for funds from the Flood Alleviation Scheme. It was agreed that you would spend it on hardstanding. There is a limit to how long you can hold the funds, you will need to spend them in the next three months or arrange to return them.

#### VASS UNIT £1500

As I have given you £1500 towards a new VASS unit. I would like to know, do you know when you will get the new VASS unit, have you had the funds through yet?

#### COMMUNITY ACTION MINIBUS

With the woeful lack of buses, I felt I had to try and do something. Last year I set up a weekly Minibus on a Wednesday going to Tewkesbury. This is a ring and book service which costs about £70.00 each week.

Please use the service otherwise I will not be able to persuade WCC to keep part funding it. I understand that WCC have approached RPC for £100.

#### BOW FARM GRAVEL EXTRACTION

Again, this been delayed in going to the Planning and Regulatory Committee we still do not yet have a date when it will appear. I understand the delay is a legal matter to do with a new extraction application "RIPPLE EAST" which very close to the Bow Farm site.

#### CEMEX

This is again delay, WCC are now waiting for more information.

#### RIPPLE EAST

The consultation period has now ended for this application.

The new site proposed is north of Bow Farm, near Cemex, and immediately next to the east of Ripple. The extraction proposed is for sand and gravel, this is to be transported by barge and the site if passed it is expected to be in use for two years.

#### ROUNDALS £300 PER PAIR.

What are RPC thoughts on this, I would like to discuss this with you.

Regards

CLlr Martin Allen.





### **APPENDIX 3**

Key updates from me are the boundary review, which is not recommending merging Ripple and Upton. On a wider note, there is a big move to 2 and 3 member wards, which means some wards are getting very large indeed. Longdon is merging in its entirety with Morton (Castlemorton, and Welland). I think it breaks the lines between councillors and communities, and makes Councillors even more "professional", which is not a good thing in my book. We want people to be good, but not to do this for a living, which many of our councillors now do. The Leader of Council now earns over £40k per year from their roles at District and County.

On the planning front, we have lost an appeal in Malvern, at Leigh Sinton. This was a tragedy, as it is building in a significant gap, and starts to join Malvern up with Leigh Sinton. I have promised to work with Tom Wells to try to plug the gap in the SWDP as this same issue could happen in our area, particularly behind the Taylor Wimpey homes.

Lastly, I want to flag that we need to be consistent in our objections to gravel extraction. If we say it is dangerous, we cannot say we can then support the increase for the rowing lake. What is wrong for one must be wrong for the other. The worry is if our argument does not stand, it falls for all developments.