

**At the Meeting of Grimley Parish Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2012  
in The Peace Hall, Sinton Green commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** B R Woodhouse (Chairman) Mrs P Ayers\* Mrs A Davies S Haslewood  
B Jones D G Lewis\*\*\* G Rowberry Mrs M Weston WCCllr A Davies  
DCllr D Clarke\*\* Mrs S Hughes - Clerk

**Apologies:** D Arr WM Police

**01/12 a) Declarations of Interest for a) the Meeting:** Cllr Mrs A Davies had previously declared a prejudicial interest in item 11/01409/FUL (LPA decision noted), Cllr Mrs P Ayers declared a personal interest in item MH11/12/00014/HOU & 12/00015/LBC as a friend of the applicants **& b) Any Changes to be Notified to the Registers of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality:** There were none.

**02/12 To Receive a Report from the Local Policing Officer**  
The chairman read the police report advising that:  
the 101 telephone number was now in use for non-emergency contact with the police;  
crime figures over the past three months consisted of two acts of criminal damage against vehicles, 1 reported burglary and 2 suspicious incidents;  
there would be a police presence at the Parish Meeting.

**03/12 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**  
The Minutes of the Meetings held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November & 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011, having been previously circulated, were **approved** and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

\* Cllr Mrs Ayres arrived at this point in the meeting.

**04/12 Matters Arising from the Minutes:** There were none – the police response having been reported above.

***Closure of the meeting to allow the public present to speak on any matters relating to Grimley Parish.*** Parishioners were present to make comment upon and listen to discussions on a planning application to be debated later in the meeting.

**05/12 Report from Worcestershire County Councillor**  
CCllr Davies advised that:  
WCC had received confirmation that their Government funding would be reduced by 8% on a 'like for like' basis;  
there would be no increase in WCC Council Tax for 2012/13;  
the Highways Forum had asked for a small increase in the funding for the Lengthsman Scheme plus an increase in the criteria of work allowed;  
WCC was committed to improve Broadband services by 2015;

\*\* DCllr D Clarke arrived during discussions on the following item.

in response to a Government request, WCC had reduced their application for Highways funding to £22m but had been granted only £14.5m. The majority of the funding would be spent on improvements to the three roundabouts on the Southern Link and the facilities and structure at both Foregate Street & Malvern Link railway stations.

Some members questioned the sense in alterations to the roundabouts which would not be of benefit during peak hours and regretted that the carriageway was not to be widened to dual track.

**06/12 Report from Malvern Hills District Councillor**

DCLlr Dean Clarke advised that:

the planning application for the New Inn had been refused as not appropriate for a Category 3 Village;  
 concerns over the Raceway were on-going mainly due to lack of consistent legal advice;  
 as there were allegedly only 5 'burger vans' in the district causing highway concerns, unlike their partners in South Worcestershire, MHDC had agreed to take no further actions with regard to licensing;  
 the Youth Service would cease in March, any remaining funding would be distributed to local groups through a Commissioning Committee consisting of eight local County Councillors;  
 each DCLlr was to be allowed to offer grant funding of up to £1k within their Division;  
 WCC were looking at the provision of Community Transport on a similar basis to the former Parish Link. CCLlr A Davies advise that Hallow, Lower Broadheath, Martley & Rushwick had all expressed an interest. Grimley PC had not been contacted about the scheme.

Members questioned whether any checks were made on the facts given by applicants to support planning applications following recent concerns.

WCCllr A Davies left the meeting at this point.

**07/12 Planning: a) To consider planning applications referred by MHDC for comment:**

Following careful consideration of comments and concerns made earlier in the meeting by the applicants, members **agreed** to correct a previous comment on the following application:

11/01514/FUL          Proposed riding arena and indoor stabling  
    Elm Hill, Sinton Green

Members raised objections to this commercial application in open countryside where there is already an outdoor menage and stabling.

The proposed development would by reason of height, massing and position form a visually intrusive feature, particularly when viewed from neighbouring properties, footpaths **and the A443 – wording deleted**. Accordingly, the development would be contrary to Policies DS3, EP8 of the MH Local Plan & Policies SD2, CTC1 and CTC2 of the Worcestershire County Structure Plan.

By reason of the cumulative scale of development and intensification of the use of entailing additional vehicle movements cause unacceptable harm to the living conditions of neighbouring residents and users of rights of way in the vicinity.

It was further **agreed** that the procedure to notify parishioners with a material interest in matters for discussion should be reviewed at the meeting in February.

11/01725/CLE          Application for certificate of lawfulness for existing use of  
    land and barn for equestrian use  
    Land at (Os 7981 6164), Ockeridge, Wichford

Members noted the application but made no comment.

11/01423/FUL          Erection of 3 stables and storage for hay  
Whistlewood, Sinton Green, Hallow

Members noted that the work had commenced on site and the hardstanding had been completed: one member advised that the applicant had been given permission to undertake this work but he was not aware by whom.

Members raised objections to the application considering that four stables in open countryside, clearly visible from neighbouring properties, were excessive for one domestic property.

If the LPA were minded to approve this retrospective application, the use of the stables should be restricted to the domestic property of Whistlewood (as detailed on the application form and design statement) and the only vehicular access should remain as now, off the lane and across fields ie *no access* through the domestic property on Sinton Green.

12/00014/HOU          Extensions to Garden Cottage to provide a ground  
& 12/00015/LBC          floor bedroom and small kitchen  
Garden Cottage, The Whitehouse, Monkwood Green

Members raised objections to this application to virtually double the floor area of an annex to a Listed Building. The size, shape and impact of the proposed extension would detract from The Whitehouse and members would welcome a refusal of permission as with other buildings within the parish.

Members were unaware that this building had been granted separate residential status and noted the lack of formal 'Right of Way' to the property across land owned by the Parish Council.

It was further **agreed** to review the detail of Listed Buildings within the parish at a future meeting and to seek consistency from the LPA when determining applications relating to such buildings.

**b) To Consider Under the Scheme of Delegation any Planning Applications received between publication of this agenda and the Meeting:** There were none

**c) Details of Decision Notices Received from MHDC:**

11/01383/FUL          Double garage and store. Ground floor side extension to  
form utility room and toilet  
Elm Hill Cottage Piggeries, Elm Hill, Sinton Green  
**Granted 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2011**

11/01409/FUL          Erection of live/work dwelling Land adj New Inn  
**Refused 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

11/01568/HOU          Extension to lounge and dining room on front elevation.  
Badgers End Cottage, Farm Lane, Holt Heath  
**Granted 4<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

**d) Possible Enforcement Actions:** The clerk advised that as the Parish Council had no right of entry to the various properties to check matters raised by parishioners, she would pass the detail on to MHDC for action.

**e) Draft Local List Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation:**

Members noted the previously circulated details and agreed to review the detail further at a future meeting. One member was particularly keen to highlight concerns over ancient Dutch barns and similar to preserve the local inheritance.

**f) MHDC Training Sessions:** Members noted the previously circulated document and dates. To the regret of three members the session on Listed Buildings was already fully subscribed.

**08/12 Highways & Footpaths**

**a) Worlds End:** Members noted that although much of the Lengthsmans' work had been completed in the area, materials were still awaited to reconstruct headwalls plus a new drain cover. The clerk had contacted the relevant officer once again.

**b) Litter on the Verge, A443:** Complaints had been received over excessive litter on the highway verge through the parish. DCllr D Clarke advised that he had reported to this to the appropriate officer at MHDC and all should be removed shortly.

DCllr D Clarke left the meeting at this point.

**c) Overgrown Hedges:** The clerk to write to the owners of two properties requesting that their hedges be cut back to allow for greater highway visibility.

**09/12 Sinton Green**

**a) Bulrushes in the Pond:** The chairman to liaise with the contractors over the required work.

**10/12 Monkwood Green**

**a) Cattle:** Members noted that the cattle were due for an annual TB test following which they would be sold. It was **agreed** that the water supply should be discontinued as soon as possible.

**b) General Maintenance:** Following discussions, it was **agreed** that the area formerly grazed by the cattle should be cleared as appropriate for a SSSI.

**c) Old Well:** Following consideration of quotations received, members **agreed** to seek a further quotation to secure the well head and build a brick imitation well-head. The clerk to seek grant funding for the project.

**d) Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, Monkwood Green:** Local residents had requested permission to use a small area of Monkwood Green for a picnic as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Following discussions, members **agreed** to the request subject to safety conditions related to the SSSI.

**11/12 Report from Representatives on**

**a) Peace Hall Management Committee:** Cllr Jones advised that the Committee had agreed not to hold a Summer Fete in 2012 but to arrange a barn dance later in the year.

**b) Ball Mill Liaison Committee**

Members noted that a meeting was scheduled for the following week. Concerns were expressed about the state of the refurbished land at Retreat Farm and the soil erosion into the lakes.

The Lengthsman had highlighted concerns over the lack of a proper ditch on the lane.

**c) Grimley Smaller Charities:** The chairman advised that a meeting had been arranged for the following day.

**12/12 Finance: a) To Receive the Bank Reconciliation to-date:** Members noted and accepted the previously circulated document.

\*\*\* Cllr D Lewis left during discussions on the following item

**b) To Agree a Budget and Set a Precept for 2012/13:** The chairman spoke to the previously circulated financial reports. Following discussions, members **agreed** to accept the draft budget and set a precept of £13,650 for 2012/13. The increase was 5% over the current year and in line with MHDC advised figures would cost each Band D household and additional £2.21pa.

**c) Works for the Lengthsman:** Headwalls in Worlds End, highway pond and drainage on Sinton Green, clearance of leaves & debris in Dark Lane.

**d) Payment of Accounts:** Members **approved** the payments of accounts as in the presented schedule (attached).

**e) Signage for Ponds:** Following discussion, members **agreed** to seek guidance from WCC Highways with regard to their policy on warning signage on ponds.

**13/12 Correspondence**

**a) Any Matters Arising from the CALC Circulars:** There were no matters arising.

**b) WCC Budget Consultation:** Apologies had been submitted for the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January.

**14/12 Date of Next Scheduled Meetings**

Members noted the following dates: 27<sup>th</sup> February & 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012

Chairman *B R Woodhouse*  
(27<sup>th</sup> February 2012)