

**At the Meeting of Grimley Parish Council held on 15th July 2013
in The Peace Hall, Sinton Green commencing at 7.35pm**

Present: S Haslewood (Chairman for the meeting) Mrs P Ayers Mrs A Davies
B Jones D Lewis* G Rowberry

In Attendance: WCCllr P Grove Mrs S Hughes - Clerk

Apologies: D Arr (accepted) Mrs M Weston B R Woodhouse

99/13 Election of Chairman for the Meeting

In the absence of the chairman and vice chairman, it was proposed and **agreed** that Cllr Steve Haslewood be elected chairman for the meeting.

Cllr Haslewood signed a declaration of office for this meeting.

100/13 Declarations of Interest

a) Register of Interests: There were no changes notified

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: There were none.

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: There were none.

101/13 To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011): There were none.

102/13 Report from the Local Police Officer

No report had been received.

103/13 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 17th June 2013, having been previously circulated were **approved** and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

104/13 Matters Arising from the Minutes Not Listed Elsewhere on the Agenda

There were none

Closure of the meeting to allow the public present to speak on any matters relating to Grimley Parish. There were no parishioners present.

* Cllr Lewis arrived during the following item

105/13 Report of the County Councillor

Cllr Grove advised that:

one bye-election had been held and the second scheduled for early August;

he had arranged a meeting for councillors within the Hallow Division to meet with the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council. Members had advised that as most were unavailable during the usual working day, an evening meeting would be preferable in following years;

the 'patching' of Moseley Road carriageway had been delayed to allow for work by Western Power to be completed;

the entrances to Holt Village were to be 'gated' to act as a visual speed deterrent;

he was still awaiting details of any businesses run from home to investigate payment of business rates.

Cllr Grove also took the opportunity to remind members about his Divisional fund and the opportunity to apply for small grants. He advised that he had

recently contributed £750 towards the new Community Centre to be built in Grimley. Members expressed complete surprise that such a centre was planned as the Peace Hall had recently been updated at considerable cost for parish use.

Following considerable discussions, it was agreed that the clerk should seek clarification of the matter from the chairman of Governors.

In the absence of District Cllr Clarke, members took the opportunity to advise Cllr Grove of their total concerns over MHDC proposals to cease providing hard copies of planning applications as part of the Parish Council consultation process. The clerk was aware that many other parish councils had also expressed strong concerns including costs of required IT equipment for e-consultations, lack of reasonable speed of broadband and in a few areas no broadband connections. Small, rural communities would be greatly adversely affected by the proposals.

106/13 Report of the MH District Councillor

Cllr Dean Clarke was not present. The clerk advised that she had pursued concerns over MHDC 'allowances' and the precept for 2014/15. MHDC had advised that there was currently no intention to continue processing the Government grant and therefore a greater cost (probably + 10%) would have to be shared by local council tax payers; further details to follow.

107/13 Planning: a) To consider planning applications referred by MHDC for comment: There were none.

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

c) Grimley Raceway: No update was available.

d) Electronic Consultation on Planning Applications: Members re-iterated their previous concerns highlighted in Min 89/13 and noted that many rural parish councils had also objected to the MHDC proposals.

108/13 Highways & Footpaths

a) Stones/chain-link on Highways Verge: WCC Highways had provided guidance details for the use of stones, small posts etc on the highway verge. The officer had suggested that the chain-link fencing should be reported through the Highways Hub. In view of the recent accident, members unanimously **agreed** with this course of action.

109/13 Monkwood Green

a) Drainage of the Large Pond and Local Ditches: Members **agreed** that a local contractor should be asked to investigate the area and if possible clear all drainage channels.

b) Verges & Visibility Splays: Members **agreed** to ask a local contractor to 'top' all verges, around the bus shelter, the area formerly grazed by the cattle and the tops of all ditches within the coming weeks.

c) Diversion of Footpath GM509: WCC had advised that an Order would be raised to divert the route of the footpath (members had previously been consulted on the matter and raised no objections).

110/13 Sinton Green

a) Parking on Sinton Green: The clerk advised that there had been no

response from the local Police Inspector: she would try to seek advice elsewhere.

b) Pothole in a layby adjacent to The Green: Local residents had sought information as to whose responsibility it was to fill the pothole. Members **agreed** that the clerk should seek further advice with regard to this area of land.

c) Kerbing, Opposite the Telephone Box: The clerk advised that Highways were investigating the problems further.

d) Pond Clearance: Members were advised that the pond would be cleared within the next two weeks.

e) Mowing: Members raised concerns that the areas around the trees and pond had not been mown nor the ditches sprayed. The clerk to contact the contractor.

111/13 Finance

a) Works for the Lengthsman: Grips, gullies and post clearance particularly in Worlds End and Moseley Road through to Monkwood Green.

b) To Receive, Consider and Approve the Bank Reconciliation: Members noted and **approved** the previously circulated Bank Reconciliation.

c) To Receive, Consider & Approve the Quarterly Report: Members noted and **approved** the previously circulated Report.

d) To Consider & Approve the payment of outstanding accounts: Members **approved** the payments of accounts as in the presented schedule (attached).

e) To Receive, Consider & Note the Report of the Internal Auditor on the Accounts for 2012/13: Members noted the favourable report.

f) Purchase of 'Local Council Administration': Members **agreed** to the purchase of a new copy of the book for use by the clerk.

112/13 Report from The Peace Hall Committee

Cllr Mrs Davies advised that the recent Fete had raised £2138; 'Flicks in the Sticks' would return at the end of September; A Fashion Show would be held on 17th October.

113/13 Correspondence

a) Any Matters Arising from the CALC Circulars: There were none.

b) Response to MHDC Consultation on the Economic Development Strategy: Members noted that MHDC had allowed only a two week period (rec'd 24th June, closed 8th July) for comment. Upon receipt of the document, the clerk had circulated the detail to members for their individual responses.

c) Items for Circulation: The following items were included in the circulation envelope: Clerks & Councils Direct July; CPRE Newsletter April.

114/13 Items of Parochial Interest for Information Only

a) Highway Footway, Lower Broadheath: Members requested that the undergrowth along the footway be reported to WCC Highways Hub for clearance.

b) Sewerage on Footpath near to Windyridge: Members requested that this be reported to the WCC Footpaths Officer.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman
(19th August 2013)