

**At the Meeting of Grimley Parish Council held on
17th September 2018
in The Peace Hall, Sinton Green commencing at 7.30pm
DRAFT**

Present: E A Taft (Chair), A Atkinson, P Ayers, G James, D Lewis, D Stanley, G Sweeney, R Weaver, R Woodhouse.
In Attendance: Mrs L Stevens (Clerk & RFO), District Cllr Dean Clarke, County Cllr Phil Grove, 7 Members of the public.
Apologies: None

117/18 Declarations of Interest

a.	Member 'Other Disclosable Interest' noted by Clerk ref item 7 planning. A dispensation had not been requested.
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118/18 Minutes of the previous meeting

a.	23 rd July 2018 Monthly Meeting of Grimley Parish Council. Duly approved .
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119/18 Public question time

a.	<p>Ann Stark was invited to brief the Parish Council on progress with the Armistice Day (100 years since WW1) celebrations.</p> <p>Hallow Church service will begin at 10.30 a.m. (Rev. Bullock – not Rev. Latham). Remembrance with children from Hallow, Grimley and Holt Schools and 9th Hallow Scouts. All wreaths will be subsequently brought to Peace Hall, 3pm for short act of remembrance and cream tea with live music. 6.30pm at Holt commemorations will continue with The Last Post and beacon of light and food provided by Holt Parish Council. Cllr Taft pleased to agree to lay wreath at church service. Cllr Stanley noted his involvement to read out names of the fallen. Clerk to assist with publicity etc.</p> <p>No other questions were received and the Chair reinstated standing orders.</p>
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Clerk.

120/18 To Receive the Report of the County Councillor – Phil Grove

a.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GCSE results being a 1% improvement on 2017 figures. - Worcestershire Energy Switch 2018 scheme gives residents the opportunity to use collective bargaining power to get a better deal. Energy Switch negotiates competitive prices with energy companies on behalf of local residents with group buying expert iChoosr. Deadline to register 8th October 2018. <i>Cllr Stanley questioned how these sorts of schemes are best value, considering the lack of houses being built with environmentally friendly and economical energy ratings. Question was referred to the District Council - legislation from Central Gov is crucial, if local councils are to be able to enforce energy standards.</i> - WCC is facing a net budget overspend of +£5 million as financial pressures increase. Demand for social care is the major factor that has led to this. WCC has an annual net budget of more than £324 million. More than two thirds of this is spent on safeguarding children/vulnerable adults (12,000 youngsters). Over the last 10 years £168 million worth of savings has already been made. The Council has a budgeted workforce of more than 2,800 full time equivalents. Measures to reduce costs for future years will be outlined shortly. These include a review of the shape and size of the council and the services that it provides.
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Clerk

121/18 To Receive the Report of the District Councillor – Dean Clarke

a.	DCllr Clarke spoke about the Malvern QinetiQ site, which is reported to be proving relatively successful in bringing in high tech industries. Also, concerning the 18 vacancies in district level planning at present. Also, advance notice of a WCC bus consultation.
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122/18 Planning - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications.

a.	<p>Proposed public path diversion order: Town and Country Planning Act 1990. S 257. Public footpath no: GM 537, (part) parish of Grimley. (In association with condition of planning consent already granted for application 18/00448/FUL).</p> <p><i>Standing orders were suspended to allow the public to contribute.</i></p> <p>The Clerk noted that a footpath diversion was a condition of the previous planning application being granted. The applicants noted that the proposed route has been suggested by planning officers. Councillors noted a number of concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affecting passing vehicles - The close proximity of existing homes to this proposed route and the intrusion that may result. - The number of vehicles, including heavy duty farm vehicles, that already use the proposed route and which will pose a significant danger to pedestrians. - The exit of this proposed footpath being a point of extremely poor visibility, putting pedestrians at risk. <p>Other points discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alternative routes and the furniture that might be required. - Footpath usage of existing route - Level of consultation with neighbours. <p><i>Standing orders were re-instated at this point.</i></p> <p>Members voted to object 5:3 with 1 abstention due to disclosable interest. Members also noted with concern the inconsistency of advice provided by district planners and enforcement officers.</p>	
b.	<p>18/01075/OUT Holmfield, Sinton Green, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6NP- Outline application with all matters reserved for construction of a detached dwelling house.</p> <p>The Clerk noted that Highways have already recommended refusal. Members noted the close proximity of Parish Council land to the exit point of this property and instructed the Clerk to remind the District Council of this in relation to visibility splays.</p>	Clerk
c.	<p>18/00832/DEM, Ball Mill Top, Main Road, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6LS, demolish unsafe barn.</p> <p>Members instructed the Clerk to request that all demolition materials be recycled or reused where possible.</p>	Clerk

123/18 Monkwood Green - To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>General update/progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent mowing and fire strip. It was suggested to amend the clauses in the mowing contract: 'The Parish Council reserves the right to change mowing dates in accordance with weather conditions and with instructions from Natural England and that, in extremely dry conditions, the contractor may be requested to create a fire strip'. - suggestion to use topper on petty whin site. 	Clerk
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	<p>Cllrs agreed no action and to let the grass die down naturally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - electric fencing adjacent to The Woodlands. Cllrs agreed to leave in situ for time being. - signs warning of livestock. Cllr Weaver to install. - discussion of options for Duckworth Trust contracted work in spring 2019. Cllr Weaver to evaluate and add to future agenda. - electric fencing and grazing update Whitehouse Farm. No comments from councillors. - nettles near Monks Barn – Lengthsman has been instructed to tackle. Approved. - parishioner request for clearance behind The Croft. Cllr Weaver has strimmed and tidied. - parishioner parking request May Cottage update, including installation of two bollards to prevent delivery lorries from trespassing across SSSI and Common. Cllr Weaver to install. - bollard near Moorlands. No comments from Councillors. 	<p>Cllr Weaver</p> <p>Cllr Weaver</p> <p>Lengthsman</p> <p>Cllr Weaver</p> <p>Cllr Weaver</p>
b.	<p>Commoners Association The Clerk was instructed to re-send the letter of offer of association to residents, since response has been low.</p>	
c.	<p>Service road repairs - update. Quotations for complete resurfacing would require those households with a deed of right of way to contribute between £250 and £450 per household (depending on the specific clauses within the deeds) and, the Parish Council to contribute £18,000. Councillors consequently agreed that resurfacing is not a currently an option.</p> <p>On the basis that the underlying hardcore is still relatively sound in most places, Councillors propose that repairs conducted by residents and volunteers. A suitable quantity of (Natural England approved) stone chippings could be provided on site, along with compacting equipment hired for use by the residents, volunteers and Councillors. It is estimated that if each resident repairs outside his/her home, then the work can be completed relatively quickly. In the long term, a small amount of material will also be left onsite for residents to use to fill potholes outside their homes as the need arises. The Clerk was instructed to prepare a newsletter putting this option to residents. Cllrs declined getting a second opinion from the solicitor.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
d.	<p>Well maintenance – update. Cllr Woodhouse to follow up.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
e.	<p>Collapsed drain top/culvert (Ref: 544332) (location C2068) This work has been completed by Highways.</p>	<p>Cllr Woodhouse</p>

124/18 Sinton Green facilities – To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>Noticeboard repairs and update on investigation into damage of the board at Sinton Green (including boards at Grimley village, Monk/W Green and Peace Hall). Repairs are in hand and progressing well.</p>	
b.	<p>Play equipment for Sinton Green. <i>Standing orders were suspended to allow the public to contribute</i> Residents spoke in support of equipment but were concerned that proposals for a play tractor would not be sufficient to keep children occupied. The Clerk noted that she had not yet had opportunity to publish a project update to residents of Sinton Green. Cllrs instructed that a newsletter be set out. <i>Standing orders were re-instated at this point.</i></p>	Clerk
c.	<p>Pond clearance – to discuss planting options. Cllrs agreed that the final result was of excellent quality and that it would save many future years of work. The Clerk was instructed to enquire on Facebook whether any resident would be willing to assist in replanting the pond with suitable vegetation. Invoice remains outstanding and will be presented at next meeting for approval.</p>	Clerk Clerk
d.	<p>Bollard damage and retrospective approval of Clerk’s order for repairs up to max of £70 with Mr Simon Skeys. Duly approved.</p>	Mr Skeys

125/18 Grimley village – To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

	10pm. All items deferred until next meeting due to lack of time.	
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126/18 Parish wide facilities - To receive and discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice

	All items deferred until next meeting due to lack of time. Clerk was instructed to send letter of thanks to BJ for bus shelter repairs and weatherproofing. MJC Decorators was suggested as a possible option for Grimley village phone booth painting.	Clerk
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127/18 Reports from Representatives - To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

	All items deferred until next meeting due to lack of time.	
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128/18 General Finance and Administration - To receive and discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>To consider and motion to approve the payment of outstanding accounts. All duly inspected and approved.</p>	
b.	<p>To receive and motion to accept the Bank Reconciliation July & August – Duly approved.</p>	

<p>129/18 Date of Next Scheduled Meeting – 22nd October 7.30pm, Peace Hall, Sinton Green. The press and public are cordially invited to attend this meeting.</p>	
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Appendix 1: Items for payment.

Mr R J Poole	Mowing Monkwood Green first instalment – retrospective approval of payment made at extra ordinary Parish Council 16 th August 2018. Invoice 05/08/18.	£ 720.00	VAT 120.00
Mr R J Poole	Mowing Monkwood Green second instalment Invoice 19/08/2018.	£680.40	VAT 113.40
ICO	Data protection membership until 07/09/19 (mandatory) – reimbursement to clerk who paid via visa.	£40.00	VAT nil.
Grimley Peace Hall Foundation	Hire of Peace Hall Sept 2017 – Sept 2018	£250.00	VAT nil
Hallow Parish Magazine	Donation towards parish celebrations may be required in advance of 11 th November, up to max of £250.	£100.00	VAT nil
Mr Bryan Jones	Bus shelter repairs	£294.00	Vat nil
Simon Skeys	Lengthsman invoices July (£80.50) & August (£161) 2018	£241.50	VAT nil
Simon Skeys	Sinton Green Mowing x 2 cuts. 31/07/2018 & 31/08/2018. invoices 49 & 58.	£150.00	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Clerk wages [August 2018] As per new contract of <u>12 hours</u> per week, rate of £12.01 per hour.	£ 576.48	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Expenses. GPC201703. <i>Includes signage, electric fence tester, bollards.</i>	£458.11	VAT under calculation
Lisa Stevens	Additional work August (10 hours) outside contractual hours for Monkwood Green Management group. GPC201704.	£120.10	VAT nil

Chair (22 October 2018)