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Ripple Annual Parish Meeting

For the communities of Ryall, Holly Green, Ryall Grove, Naunton, Ripple,
Uckingham and Stratford Bridge
held on 18th May 2018 commencing at 7.00pm
at
Ripple Parish Hall

Minutes

Present: Cllrs Blake, Aldridge, Jones, Baum, Sutton and Wilson.
In Attendance: Mrs V Portch - Clerk

Also present: Approximately 80 residents, Cllr Paul Middlebrough, Cllr Jeremy Owenson, Sue White - Ripple WI, Richard Rand & Rev Barry Unwin – St Marys Church, Brian Goddard – RP Footpaths, West Mercia Police

Welcome from Cllr Nicholas Blake, Chairman of Ripple Parish Council (RPC)

Cllr Nicholas Blake welcomed Ripple Parish residents to the Annual Parish Meeting. Chairman introduced the RPC Councillors present and Clerk and thanked all the attendees for coming.

To consider and approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19 May 2017

Minutes of last year's meeting were provided to attendees of the meeting. Approval was proposed by Cllr Owenson, seconded by Cllr Jones. Chairman signed the minutes.

Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report

(delivered by hand to all residents in the Parish in advance)

Chairman stated RPC have had another busy year dealing with various contentious planning issues. RPC remains committed to ensuring residents' interests are represented and considered. RPC welcome the input and support given by our residents. There are currently vacancies for councillors, anyone interested in becoming a councillor should contact any of the existing councillors for more information.

West Mercia Police Report

Sgt Simon Hallam provided an update on local policing, indicating that the parish was a low crime area. Members of the public are encouraged to report anything suspicious to the police in order that good local communications and information networks can be developed. Upton now has two CSO's and an officer on site, the area covered by the team is not insignificant and resources are spread thinly. Sgt Hallam advised that he had only been in post of a few weeks and was committed to supporting the rural community. New direct dial phone numbers were being issued to officers to promote direct contact with the public and body cameras were standard issue. In 2017/18 the ward had 30 recorded crimes, Upton upon Severn had 655. A new rural crime and



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Horse Watch initiative would be launched shortly and all residents are urged to report anything that they consider suspicious.

Ripple Parish Council Financial Update

The Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018 were approved at the Parish Council AGM on Monday 14th May 2018. Copies of Ripple Parish Council accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018 were provided to attendees at this meeting.

Report from Worcestershire County Council

Councillor Paul Middleborough the County Councillor thanked all those who had supported him over his year in office. He advised that the A4104 is being raised and works will recommence in the autumn after the festival season. The junction of the A38 and A4104 has been the subject of review and plans to alter the junction layout are being review, to date a definitive timescale is not available however the project is included in the LTP4 plan. A submission will be made to WCC putting forward local opinion on the junction, this will be prepared in conjunction with local parishes.

Report from Malvern Hills District Council

Cllr Jeremy Owenson provided an update on the major local planning issues, Grove Park site (Dig Away) on A38. Taylor Wimpey Ryall Road development issues were on-going, no residents from the new development were present at the meeting. The Upton Marina development application is about to expire and is being re-submitted. Rubbish collections have been altered, wheelie bin collections will be on alternate weeks for green/recycling and rubbish. Speeding concerns within the Ryall Road area were to be addressed via a community "Speed Watch" scheme. MHDC will be taking their call centre back in house before April 2019 following the building of the new facilities. The preparation of a Local Plan was currently under review in association with Upton Town Council.

Ripple Parish Hall update

Cllr Jones read a report from Mr Dion Petrie with an update on events at the Parish Hall. 2017/2018 has been a very busy year. The hall offers a wide variety of activities including, fit steps, yoga, rural reels and short mat bowls and a new addition kung fu.

Ripple Parish Church update

Mr Richard Rand, Church Warden to St Mary's Church provided an update on the activities and challenge facing the parish church. Fund raising for the installation of toilet facilities continue, on-going maintenance costs and potential repair costs because of the quin quennial review were likely to be significant. The fabric of the building is likely to require significant investment and proposals for the funding of the repairs are being explored. The church is a facility open to all and all are most welcome. A meeting will be held at the church on 28 June to discuss the on-going repair requirements. The new vicar Barry Unwin introduced himself to the meeting and provided an update on his role within the local churches.

Ripple WI update

Mrs Sue White gave an update on the wide range of activities and events that Ripple WI engages in, including fund raising events and activities. There is a Ripple WI Catering group who will prepare food for functions at a nominal charge. WI Members meet on the 1st Tuesday of every month and anyone is welcome to attend and can contact the committee for further details via www.ripplewi.org.uk

Report on Ripple Parish Footpaths

Mr Brian Goddard provided an update on the parish footpaths. He urged any resident with concerns regarding a footpath to get in touch and to report it to Worcester County Council Rights of Way Department. Anyone interested in taking part in "work parties" to maintain the footpaths should contact Mr Goddard directly for further information.



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Upton Villages Together (Upton Library)

Roger Sutton gave an update on the Upton Library, volunteers and Trustees will be leading the management of the library building. This means that Upton Library will remain open; the meeting room will be made available for rental for various events. Current bookings include local update meetings and various festival activities. The garden area around the library had now been converted to a community vegetable patch in the care of Upton in Bloom. Cllr Weyman is a Trustee.

Open Forum discussion with our Parish Residents

Several residents expressed concern regarding excess vehicle speed on the A38 and the Ryall Road, Cllr Owenson responded with details of the Speed Watch Programme.

A new resident to the parish requested more information regarding local activities, Cllr Blake advised that the Parish provide a "Welcome" leaflet which has been adopted by MHDC as a template which is now offered to other parishes.

Cllr Owenson asked for a show of hands to indicate residents from the new Taylor Wimpey estate, none in attendance.

The limited bus services were a concern to residents, Cllr Owenson has been instrumental in the TurnBac campaign with had received local press coverage.

A resident requested clarification of the on-going usage of the telephone kiosk in Naunton. The chairman confirmed that the suggestion of a free book exchange would be adopted.

A Ripple resident thanked the police for attending the meeting and wished to express his dissatisfaction with the response from Gloucestershire County Council that the passing place on Brokeridge Common could not be reviewed to stop the inappropriate parking of vehicles.

The continued noise issues from The Wheelhouse live music events was raised by a resident of The Beeches. Cllr Owenson agreed to investigate the matter further.

It was suggested by a resident of The Beeches that police incidents should be posted on the Facebook page, Cllr Aldridge pointed out that this already happens.

Concerns were expressed regarding the Marina development and the emergency access facilities, Cllr Jones explained that this had been highlighted in the response submitted to MHDC. The height of the potential new buildings was also a concern.

Nicholas Blake, Chairman of RPC, thanked everyone who had attended this evening and ask them to stay on and enjoy the refreshments, which had been prepared by the Ripple WI members. Donations would be collected for St Mary's Church, Ripple. (Donation to be forwarded to Ripple Parochial Church Council after the meeting).

The meeting concluded at 8.35pm.

Signed:


P. ALDRIDGE

Date: 17th May 2019

Wine and delicious light refreshments provided by Ripple WI