

Minutes of the meeting of Ripple Parish Council

held at Ripple Parish Hall

on Monday 10th July 2017

Attendees: Cllrs. Aldridge, Baum, Blake, Jones, Sutton and Wilson

In Attendance: Cllr. Middleborough, Cllr. Owenson, ~~Cllr.~~ Ostick and two members of the public.
Mr. representing UTP.

1. **Apologies** – Apologies were received from Cllr. Weyman and Victoria Portch (clerk) reason approved.
2. **Declarations of interest :**
 - a. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None
 - b. To declare any other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
None. Councillors who have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the Code of Conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.
3. **Minutes** – To consider the approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2017.
Proposed by Cllr. Jones and seconded by Cllr. Baum.
4. **To receive the report from District Councillor – Cllr. Owenson**
Cllr. Owenson advised that he would be attending the planning meeting on 11th July in relation to planning for the smallholding in Naunton. The original planning application was rejected on the grounds of economic viability and building on green belt land. The applicant has now put forward a further economic viability plan which has been accepted. Cllr. Owenson reported that an expert's opinion has been sought and together with local knowledge it will be argued that the proposed land use is not sustainable – field is now a dust bowl while adjoining field is lush, alpacas have not been in the field for the last four months. Cllr. Jones questioned the fact that the new financial viability plan includes the land at Twyning, in effect making a mockery of planning laws. Cllr. Owenson will reiterate this fact at the meeting.
Malvern Hills District Council are encouraging Upton Town Council to make a long term plan regarding roads in the area and to include the Hanley Road Car Park.
Upton Town Partnership meeting discussed Cllr. Francis' report on traffic management issues and will use this as a basis for discussion. MHDC are very keen to have a share in national funding which is being made available for roads.
5. **To receive the report from the County Councillor – Cllr. Middleborough**
Cllr. Middleborough advised that Hannah Davies from highways was very enthusiastic and he proposed spending a morning in the parish with her and two Councillors looking at roads and pavements. He reported that there is more information on the dualling of the Carrington Bridge, details on website. He emphasised the importance of good communication regarding the work on the A4104. Cllr. Ostick was very pleased to hear this and asked for meetings to be set up with local traders to discuss timings and for local social media to be used for up to



date information. The time frame for the work has been outlined but a start date is not yet known.

Pavements on the A38 have turf growing on them. Cllr. Blake said that several years ago similar work was completed as part of Community Service. Cllr. Middleborough to investigate this. Cllr. Middleborough said the county council has a machine that may do the job.

Broadband – some money is available but not sure if this will help. Ripple and Uckinghall very poorly served. BT is aware of the problem and work is ongoing.

Bus routes still a major issue, Ripple and Naunton in particular. Cllr. Baum mentioned that the estates in Upton are very well served by buses. Cllr. Middleborough said that there seem to be very different attitudes to more rural areas as opposed to the built up areas. He is in talks with Tewkesbury Town Council.

Grove House Planning Appeal has been turned down by the inspectorate, the applicants are now bringing an action against the planning inspectorate. This is a high court matter. Cllr. Jones asked if this included the parking area, it was not known but Cllr. Owenson thought that MHDC should be enforcing the closure of this space.

The Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia is looking to centralise Fire Services for Hereford and Worcester, this is out for consultation, comments from parish councils welcome.

6. Progress Reports:

a. **Clerk** - Report circulated.

b. **Management group** – Cllrs Aldridge and Wilson to look into training.

c. **Finance** - There was some discussion as to whether some money should be moved to a deposit account. It was deemed unnecessary.

d. **Planning** – Land levels at Taylor Wimpey are being lowered but flooding risks for neighbours have not been alleviated, this will be mentioned in response. Gas tanks will be submerged with a temporary tank above ground while the work is carried out.

7. Approval of Invoices

Invoices to Gallagher & Co and Smart Cut were approved. Proposer Cllr. Jones, seconded by (Barbara to advise from her notes) *Cllr. Aldridge*

8. Review of Phone Boxes

There has been no interest in adopting the Ryall Road and The Grove telephone boxes. The Ripple Box is a listed building and further enquiries need to be made as to how this will affect the purchase. Several residents, including Cllr. Blake, are interested in preserving the Naunton box. The Parish Council will purchase this box, residents will maintain it. Proposed by Cllr. Sutton Seconded by Cllr. Aldridge. Cllr. Aldridge to publicise information regarding phone boxes on Facebook page.

9. Noticeboard Update

Enough money has been secured to purchase four boards and remove all the others. These will be at: Naunton, The Grove, Ryall (by the Care Home), and Uckinghall. The board on the wall at Ripple will continue to be used.

Cemex and Cargill are still to be asked for donations. Lottery funding may now be announced. Cllr. Blake intends to try to get a reduction on the quote before accepting it. Notification needs to be given to residents regarding the removal of noticeboards and positioning of new ones.

NGD

10. Review of Litter Pick

Ten people took part in the litter pick, approximately twenty bags of litter were collected. The A4104 already has lots of litter on it again. Cllr. Baum suggested buying some litter pickers to use regularly on an informal basis. Next year's big litter pick is to be the end of March or early April before the grass grows.

11. Grass Cutting Update

The grassed areas are looking better now. There are lots of weeds on the pavements and verges, Cllr. Middleborough will discuss with Hannah Jones. The ditches are still a concern, Cllr. Ostick to discuss with Clerk.

12. BT/Openreach Update

Cllr. Blake advised that there is now a project manager who is dealing with the case. He stated that our clerk was well aware of problems as she is directly involved and is pursuing matters.

13. Draft Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

Draft minutes circulated and to be posted in "Draft" format on RPC website.

14. Speedwatch Update

Phone calls and emails have been sent to Ali Adnan but we seem no further forwards. Cllr. Middleborough suggested writing to John Campion.

Social Media Update

Cllr. Blake thanked Cllr. Aldridge for setting up the Facebook Page. Cllr. Aldridge encouraged councillors to post items on the page. He said it is being looked at by up to fifty people. A mention in the Autumn newsletter will alert residents to its presence. Ripple Fete is to be added to the page.

Councillor Comments and Items for next agenda – None

Signed 

Nicholas Blake - Chairman to Ripple Parish Council

Date 

Minutes taken by Cllr. Wilson in the absence of the Clerk