

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ripple Parish Council
held at Beechwood Residential Care Home on 8th January 2018 at 7.00pm**

Minutes

Present: Cllrs Aldridge, Blake, Jones, Sutton, Weyman & Sutton
In Attendance: Cllr Middleborough, Cllr Owenson and 3 members of the public
 Mrs Portch - Clerk

1.	Apologies - To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence. Cllr Owenson sent apologies for arriving late due to business commitments. (Arrived at 7.45pm)
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 declared 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. None
3.	Minutes - To consider the approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 18 th December, 2017. Amendment to minutes, Point 5 final sentence should read "In relation to the A4104 and A38 junction in LT4, it was felt by Alan Amos that joint pressure by the two parishes and town council could be effective in creating a head of steam to get work going as early as possible, but do <i>not</i> expect it to be immediate". The reference to Ryall should be amended to Ryall Road, Holly Green. Subject to these amendments the minutes were agreed and approved. Proposed by Cllr Jones Seconded by Cllr Wilson
4.	To receive report from District Councillor. Cllr Owenson provided an update on the change of rubbish collection services commencing in the spring of 2018. Old waste bins were of 240 litre capacity and would be replaced by new bins of 180 litre capacity holding approximately 4 black rubbish sacks. These would be collected on a two week alternating rota of waste and recycling. Cllr Owenson declared an interest in respect of the planning application submitted for his own property (this item was not discussed at the meeting). The Chairman raised the matter of excess of litter, it was agreed that various agencies including the tenants at the Strensham services, district and county council agencies and NFU would be contacted to raise public awareness of the need to help keep the area clean and tidy. A campaign of publicity and a further Litter Pick to be actioned. Keep Britain Tidy have a campaign scheduled nationally for early March. Cllr Jones raised the Pennywell site ongoing planning issues. Cllr Owenson advised that the landscaping behind Hill View Gardens, play area and bus stop were all subject of ongoing investigation. Cllr Wilson commented that the contractor parking on the corner of The Beeches junction onto Ryall Road was a serious danger and the vehicles should be made to park on the site. Cllr Sutton suggested the matter should be raised with the local police prior to an accident happening. Cllr Owenson suggested the site office should be contacted and asked to address the matter. Cllr Jones asked for clarification on the MHDC Policy for distribution of notices to neighbours when a planning application was submitted. Cllr Owenson advised the policy of MHDC was to write to direct neighbours and those with 60m. Any other notification was at the discretion of the individual planning officer.
5.	To receive report from County Councillor. Cllr Middleborough thanked Cllr Wilson for attending the WCC Highways meeting. It was agreed that a review of speed limits on the A38 was required and would be undertaken. The A38/A4104 junction re-designing consultation was ongoing with preference being made towards traffic lights on grounds of cost and possible issues regarding land ownership should the roundabout route be instigated. Any photographs to illustrate the congestion would be appreciated. All local authorities/parishes including Upton to be involved in ongoing discussions and public are urged to make comments. Cllr Jones asked where funding for the project would come from, and was advised that CIL/Section 106 monies will be potentially available together with government funds. The raising of the A4104 was currently at a standstill, signs have been recently installed advising works will commence January 2018. It

was confirmed that there would not be traffic light control during the festival periods. The gas works in Upton have commenced at Minge Lane, the works will be controlled by traffic lights for approximately a three month period. It is understood that it is the contractors' responsibility to keep residents updated on diversion information and timescales. Council tax will be subject to an increase of circa 4%, The WCC adult care budget covering care of vulnerable people/disabled and children was in the region of £325million.
 Cllr Middleborough departed at 8.00pm in order to attend the Kempsey Council meeting.

6. Progress reports from:

a. Clerk

The Church Warden had submitted a letter as requested at the previous meeting requesting funds be made available to assist in the upkeep of the churchyard. The Chairman suggested that as in previous years the proceeds from the collection at the Annual Parish Meeting be donated to St Mary's Church funds, it was not felt appropriate for a specific amount to be allocated to the church on an annual basis. Instead the parish council would undertake to make a donation of the Annual Parish Meeting collection funds together with a further donation subject to an application from the church. Each application would be reviewed on its merits at the time. A policy regarding grants and donations would be drafted by Cllr Aldridge and circulated for review. Clerk to write to the Church Warden. General administration of correspondence, emails and post. Administration of Lengthsman Scheme. Minutes of last meeting. Communication regarding new noticeboards. Discussions with owners of properties regarding overhanging hedges and trees. Clerk awaiting date for inspection from tree surgeon. Communication with landowner regarding the replacement of memorial trees outside the village hall. Discussion with MHDC regarding Section 106 funds. Research into potential architects suitable to provide plans and advice on the development of the recreation ground site into a public amenity area. Investigation into appropriate leisure equipment suitable for the recreation ground. Distribution of newsletter. Communication with WCC regarding the grit bins. Communication with BT regarding damage to surround of new telephone cabinet located in Ripple, subsequently fully repaired.

b. Management Group

Management Group met to review on-going issues and set agenda for this meeting. Review of minutes of last meeting, on-going discussion with Greenbarnes with regard to additional noticeboard purchase and the installation of items. Discussion regarding feasibility of potential projects for Section 106 funding within parish. Review of the various proposed planned road works affecting Upton.

c. Finance Group & Approval of Invoices

Cheques from last meeting distributed. Ledger updated.

d. Urgent Decisions Group

Approval to purchase an external hard drive as a back up storage device for records and emails.

e. Planning Group (schedule circulated)

Application Number	Location	Proposal	Status
17/01725/HP	Green Street Farm, Strensham Road Naunton Upton Upon Severn, Worcester WR8 0QA	Retrospective application to build a single storey oak framed annexe building with conservatory in the garden.	Response Submitted
17/00372/OUT	Land North East of Upton Marina, East Waterside, Upton Upon Severn, Worcester, WR8 0PB	Outline planning application for the erection of up to 70 residential units with all matters reserved except for means of access.	Pending Decision
17/01987/FUL	Scarecrow Stables, Bow Lane, Ripple	Temporary stationing for a period of three years of mobile Home.	Response to be Submitted

	f. Staffing and Training Group Feedback to CALC regarding Cllrs Aldridge and Wilson's recent training.
7.	Communications Update – Website/Face Book/Speed Watch. The current website for the parish was unsupported. It was agreed to be re-direct to the My Parish facility offered by WCC in order to assist with compliance with the Transparency Code. Clerk and Cllr Jones to work towards uploading documentation to new site. The number of followers on FaceBook had increased to 53 following distribution of the newsletter. The feedback on the December newsletter had been very positive. It was agreed by those present that agendas and minutes of meetings would be included on the FaceBook page moving forward. Cllr Aldridge to post items. Proposed by Cllr Aldridge Seconded by Cllr Wilson
8.	Footpaths Update. A meeting between the new footpath officer, Cllr Blake, the Lengthsman, Mrs R Rand (previous footpath officer) and Clerk to be arranged, date to be agreed. (Subsequently confirmed as 10.00am on 30 th January 2018)
9.	Noticeboard Update. The five new noticeboards are scheduled for delivery on 9 th and 10 th January. Cllr Jones awaiting confirmation from the installation contractor. Boards to be installed at Naunton, The Grove, The Beeches, A4104 and Uckinghall. Cllrs Aldridge, Blake and Jones to oversee installation.
10.	Section 106 Funding Update. MHDC have advised that the matter is with the legal department and RPC would be advised when a decision had been reached if a Deed of Variation could be entered into in order that RPC would benefit from section 106 funds from the Taylor Wimpey development.
11.	Grit Bins. The County Council have been contacted and requested to fill all the grit bins. An additional request to repair the site of the bin located at Saxon Lode in Uckinghall on the bridge has been made. The bin is in danger of sliding down the embankment into the field behind. The green grit bin owned by the parish can be re-filled by WCC at a charge of £140.00 per ton. It was agreed that an alternative source of grit would be investigated for this bin.
12.	Upton Upon Severn Traffic Issues. Covered under District Councillors report. Compensation to traders is being considered, concerns raised regarding the potential diversions especially the impact on emergency services, buses and access to Tunnel Hill doctors surgery and dentist. Free parking and the re-opening of the rear entrance to the Hanley Road car park had been suggested to MHDC/WCC.
13.	Resident Input – TurnBac (Bus Services) & A4104/A38 Junction. Notices requesting support from residents posted on the noticeboards and on FaceBook. Residents urged to contact Cllr Owenson directly with suggestions and confirmation of their support for the reinstatement of the service. Cllr Owenson will also be visiting door to door to canvas support.
14.	Litter Issues. Covered under District Councillors report.
15.	Councillor comments and items for next agenda. Cllr Wilson advised that a further defibrillator had been installed at The Bluebell. Cllr Wilson requested consideration be given to a larger “No Entry/Resident Only” sign for the Ryall Road. It should also be noted that The Beeches is located in Holly Green not Ryall. Cllr Weyman reported that no meeting date had been set for a Library Committee meeting. Cllr Jones requested that RPC respond to MHDC that the parish council wished to be involved on the naming of streets. This was unanimously agreed.
Meeting concluded at 8.45pm	
Date of next meeting – Monday, 12th February, 2018 at 7.00pm	

Signed: Date:

Nicholas Blake – Chairman, Ripple Parish Council

Public Question Time:

From 7.00pm residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman, before the start of the Parish Council Meeting.

A resident of Holly Green requested consideration be given to the provision of an "official" bus stop on the route from Holly Green towards Upton. Cllr Wilson had raised this request at the recent WCC Highways meeting and Cllr Middleborough agreed to raise matter with WCC Highways.

A resident reported that the Church Warden had drafted a response regarding the A4104/A38 junction traffic calming measures. Concerns were raised regarding the Ripple Brook overflowing. Cllr Jones advised that the Stratford Bridge area of the brook on the Ripple side had been cleared, the gully under the A38 at Stratford Bridge had also been cleared. The Naunton side of the brook had suffered some re-landscaping which was now an area collecting water, the fields were considered to be water meadow. A local resident explained that the Ripple Brook flow from the rear of the Mythe Garden Centre was controlled by a flood gate which caused issues with a back up of water.

The Chairman requested Cllr Middleborough if it would be possible to place a further grit bin at Holly Green as raised by a local resident at the December meeting.

A local resident provided a list of projects that he would like RPC to undertake in the coming year, detailed as follows:-

1. Vigorously pursue the roundabout solution at the A38/A4104 junction.
2. Do NOT do a neighbourhood Plan, tried before and no need or support.
3. Raise the Precept by at least 3%, and with all the new houses this will increase from £16.5K to £18.9K.
4. Task the Lengthsman to clean on a quarterly basis all traffic signs, bollards and street name plates etc.
5. Clean up Ryall Recreation area, and cut trees/hedges before the Spring.
6. Get the website up and running again and keep it promptly up to date. Are you still subscribing to maintenance ?
7. Spend as little time as possible on fatuous objections to planning applications. It has been a wasted effort.
8. Complete the Notice Board project ASAP and ensure they are actively used with visible documents.
9. Use some of the extra Precept on a planned approach to PROW maintenance. Bring back the volunteers.
10. Set up a maintenance programme for all the trees in public spaces, including professional advice.