

**At the Meeting of Grimley Parish Council held on
20th January 2020
in The Peace Hall, Sinton Green commencing at 7.30pm**

DRAFT

Cllrs Present: D Stanley (Chair), P Ayers, A Bretherton, G James, A Taft, BR Woodhouse.

In Attendance: Mrs L Stevens (Clerk & RFO), District Cllr Dean Clarke,
3 Members of the public.

Notices/docs in place and visible upon entry: 1) Notice informing attendees that their name might be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and that the Clerk can be approached with preferences. 2) Noticeboard displaying following information: GDPR; contact details for P.C. Data Protection Officer; Consent forms; rules for recording public meetings; procedure for speaking at the meeting; how to access parish council documents/information; details of when the precept is set each year; list of future meeting dates. 3) Folder of parish council policies available for public inspection. 4) Draft minutes of previous meeting. 5) Draft Bank Reconciliation for latest month.

001/20 Apologies and approval of reasons for absence

a.	A Atkinson, G Green, A Passey. County Cllr Phil Grove. Apologies considered and duly accepted. Reasons remain confidential to Clerk and Chair.
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002/20 Declarations of interest, dispensations and points of order

a.	Cllrs reviewed and renewed all existing declarations of interest and dispensations. Paperwork duly signed. Absent Cllrs will sign at next meeting – Clerk has accepted and signed in principle until such time.
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003/20 Minutes of previous meetings.

a.	Monday 2 nd December 2019. Previously distributed. Duly approved .
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004/20 To Receive the Report of the County Councillor.

a.	Previously distributed via email and acknowledged by Parish Cllrs.
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005/20 To Receive the Report of the District Councillor.

a.	DCllr Clarke reported on a proposed 2% increase in council tax by MHDC. Also, that the Chief Executive Jack Hegerty is to retire shortly. Damaged bridge on Dark Lane has been reported. DS asked MHDC to concentrate on 'fossil fuel reduction' in future Exec Meetings rather than 'carbon reduction'.
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006/20 Public question time

a.	No comments.
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007/20 Planning - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications

a.	19/01890/CU Moseley Farm, Moseley Road, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6NL. Change of use of land and installation of residential access drive. Applicant: Mr C Genever. Officer: Karen Wightman 01684 862365. Cllrs expressed general support for development of the existing farm buildings on this site but were concerned that the proposed access point is on a highly dangerous bend and that the gateway might need to be considerably widened, which would be achieved with difficulty as the field is significantly elevated at this point. With two existing good access points, Cllrs instructed the Clerk to enquire what the justified need for this access point is and also to point out the inaccurate plan of the site, which overlooks better access options. Cllr voted unanimously to object to this application based on the points described above.
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Clerk

008/20 Environment & Climate Emergency

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	Cllr Stanley described a planned environmental meeting to be held by Holt Parish Council and proposed a similar event again in Grimley. It was agreed that the Climate Emergency Working Party would be set up at that meeting; that the school would be invited, and; that the items in Appendix 2 of the agenda (all suggestions from the public as to enviro projects, including 'Grimley Green Jackets') could be considered. Cllrs agreed and instructed the Clerk to look at dates. Ref Working Party - BE has had to step back as now has other commitments. HW has volunteered.
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Clerk
Cllr Stanley

Clerk
All Cllrs

	The Clerk brief the Cllrs on the forthcoming litter pick on 1 st March 2020 10.30 – 3pm. Cllrs approved purchase of medals for children for this event. The Clerk had organised a loan of 50 litter pickers from MHDC. The Clerk was instructed create a poster advertising the event, also, to ask the pubs if they would participate and to circulate a sign up sheet for Cllrs.
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Clerk

Clerk

009/20 Grimley Village

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	Condition of roads/drains in Grimley Village vicinity of Church Farm. Update - Highways have given an order has been raised to jet and clean the drain at the given location.
b.	Camp Lane potholes. Update - Highways have given the order for further inspection and reminded the parish council that marking the road is classed as graffiti. Cllr Woodhouse reported that some scrapings have been put in some of the holes. Cllrs queried why Highways are not checking the quality of repairs. Cllrs instructed the Clerk to invite Phil Grove to a site meeting.
c.	Grimley Village Broadband project, including roll out options. Update received from R.Stepniewsk (WCC) - Openreach has confirmed that project is all signed off and was going to DCMS (Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport) for voucher approval. The next step would normally see emails going to all individuals asking for them to confirm they agree to the T&Cs – Cllr Stanley requested that this step be dropped as participants have already signed an agreement outlining the T&C. Further forward we are now waiting for the planning and build with the completion expected, hopefully, by next Christmas. There is possibility of a roll out to Monkwood and Elm Hill (very, very early stages) and RS is in the process of confirming which addresses would be included (Nb. OpenReach define areas based on current broadband speeds).
d.	Grit bin top triangle. Update - Cllr Taft has reported incorrect location as a resident and Clerk has also reported again on behalf of the Parish Council: report code 820919. A verbal response had since been received from Rika Martin, Worcestershire Highways, Customer Services, who advised that the risk assessment criteria for grit bins has changed since the original one was installed on the top triangle. Any new grit bin in this location (either on triangle, or near it) would fail this new criteria and would not be approved. It is therefore advised by Customer Services that the Parish Council organise relocation of the bin via the Lengthsman for example, since if Highways gets involved they would remove the facility altogether. Cllr Stanley agreed to chase up the volunteer for moving the bin and salt. <i>Post meeting – A traffic accident in this location damaged the grit bin before it could be moved and also the hedge. No information is known about who was involved. Since that incident, the grit bin has been entirely replaced (near Smaller Charities Land) and refilled by persons unknown, for which the Parish Council is grateful.</i>

Clerk

Cllr Stanley

Cllr Stanley

010/20 Monkwood Green (includes Moseley and vicinity of)

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	Resident correspondence ref service road repairs to The Croft and Holly Cottage. <i>Standing Orders were suspended. Report received from S.W. resident of Monkwood Green and through this Cllrs were able to fully appreciate the impact of the road repairs on the lives of the residents. Potholes have returned more numerous but not as deep. Current road material has quickly reduced to a powder and does not match the quality of material used on the other 'main' service road.</i> Contractors and Parish Cllrs met on site in Nov 2019 to assess the new surface. The Contractors felt that the adverse weather conditions were abnormal and had contributed largely to the mucky condition of the road.
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Cllr Green

	<p>Cllr Green and the contractor are due to re-visit the site in March 2020 and re-asses. Speed signs have been purchased for installation across the Common generally to try to remind visitors to keep the speed down to 5mph. The quality of stone used by the contractor was dictated by Natural England and realistically by the price. Cllrs are not aware of which type of stone residents have used to fill potholes in the past and would be interested to know specifically which type, so that a quotation can be obtained for this material in the future - Clerk was instructed to enquire of resident and to check material used by contractor.</p>	Clerk
b.	<p>Resident correspondence ref access to Waverley Cottage. Resident AR had made enquiries about resurfacing the service road. At the moment the residents just top up the potholes from time to time, which is not too expensive, but this is always temporary and the track is getting quite worn. Clerk reported that the Solicitors has confirmed that a deed of access and right of way resides with the Land Registry and that the Parish Council is liable for 50% of costs of maintenance, with the resident/s liable for the remainder. Cllrs agreed that given there have been some issues with the work done on other service roads, leave the matter till later in the year once those issues have been resolved.</p>	Clerk
c.	<p>Grazing on Monkwood Common. Update - Letter has been sent to Resident and awaiting a response. Cllrs Woodhouse and Ayers agreed to make contact with RP and agree a way forward. Clerk reported that in light of the ongoing fencing on site and the difficulties contacting the residents, she had applied for a temporary enclosure licence for that section of the Common and submitted this to NE and the Planning Inspectorate. An application for future Common maintenance works over the next five years will also shortly be submitted to NE for approval. This will cover vegetation, tree works, pond margins, Petty Whin car, grazing, mowing, ditch works etc.</p>	Cllr Woodhouse Cllr Ayers
d.	<p>Resident correspondence ref nettle/bramble mounds adjacent to The Croft. Recap - Feb 2019 quotation for removing illegally buried metal/waste £1300. Cllr agreed no action for the time being. Once Grimley Green Jacket working parties are set up, this could be re-addressed.</p>	Clerk
e.	<p>Resident correspondence ref overgrown vegetation by Commoner's electric fencing. Cllr Ayers to chase up with RP and ask him to tidy.</p>	Cllr Ayers
f.	<p>Resident correspondence ref ditches on the Common. SW informed Cllrs that the ditch in front of CB right round to the pond is stagnate and not flowing. Cllr Ayers confirmed that she had inspected the pipe in front of Green Farm (on the Common) and tried to get the water flowing again - to no avail - it needs rodding. Given that the land is totally saturated, Cllrs agreed no action until the summer, when the situation will be reviewed and if nec. a contractor will be brought in to inspect and quote.</p>	Clerk
g.	<p>Alleged Worcestershire Hunt damage to private service roads. Cllr Ayers reported that the horses had used the services roads on the Common at speed and that damage to the surface occurred as a result. She had spoken to a member of the hunt and also asked them to stop parking on the Common as it is SSSI land. Cllr James will email the hunt asking them to be more respectful.</p>	Cllr James
h.	<p>Water damaged noticeboard - update on completed repairs. BJ will conduct repairs asap. Water damage can be further prevented by raising the doors up.</p>	
i.	<p>Defibrillator. BJ will free of charge replace the back board on the K6 phone box and BA will give it a coat of paint - with grateful thanks from Parish Cllrs.</p>	Clerk

	<p>Cllrs instructed the Clerk to accept the managed solution package from The Community Heartbeat Trust, which means that the means that the Charity covers the VAT element of purchases. Also instructed the Clerk to accept the annual support (maintenance and parts) at £135 + VAT per year.</p> <p>Clerk confirmed the other prices involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defibrillator Lifeline AED £600. No VAT if Managed Solution (This is our Get Started Offer normal price is £895) - Spare Pad £35 (optional but recommended) - Sentry Locked with coded lock & Signage £745. No VAT if a Managed Solution. - Installation is £200 plus VAT. No VAT if a Managed Solution. - Training is £175 plus VAT. No VAT if a Managed Solution. 	Clerk
j.	<p>Request by Malvern Hills Trust to harvest some petty whin seeds.</p> <p>Andy Pearce, Conservation Officer, Malvern Hills Trust is looking to reintroduce the plant, Petty Whin to Castlemorton Common. A few years ago Castlemorton lost their Petty Whin population and would like to restore it. In order to successfully propagate this plant they need to find a seed source, and more importantly, the seeds are only viable if the plant has been pollinated by another Petty Whin plant and not by itself, so they need to find a number of Petty Whin plants growing together. Cllr agreed that this would be an excellent project to be part of and that it would be something for the Environment Working party in the future. In the meantime, the Clerk was instructed to ask Chris Betts to make contact with the Malvern Hills Trust to discuss options.</p>	Clerk

Standing Orders were instated.

011/20 Sinton Green (including Worlds End, Oakall Green, Birchall Green and vicinity of) - To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>Resident request – ‘caution children playing’ signs.</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to forward this request to Highways.</p>	Clerk
b.	<p>Update – pond maintenance and algae prevention.</p> <p>Cllr Bretherton had previously distributed a proposal to plant aquatic plants on the margins. Newts need well established marginal/submerged vegetation to lay their eggs on. The pond has some but this could be enhanced through additional planting of the right species. Newts hibernate and need dry sheltered places to survive the winter months. A well thought out planting programme for the pond to try and compete with the reeds that dominate could be cheaply sourced through local donations of plants from neighbouring ponds. The maintenance of the pond could thereby potentially be less onerous. Cllrs discounted the option of obtaining plants from neighbouring properties on the grounds that plant health would be difficult to ascertain and asked Cllr Bretherton to obtain quotes for plants.</p>	Cllr Bretherton
c.	<p>Potholes Dark lane and throughout the village.</p> <p>Reported to highways.</p>	
d.	<p>Dangerous condition of bridge and collapsed road Dark Lane.</p> <p>The Clerk had been unable to find any information.</p>	
e.	<p>Peace Hall 100 years old this year.</p> <p>Cllrs instructed the Clerk to invite The Peace Hall Committee to a meeting to discuss celebrations and also the resident ideas for Christmas. Cllrs AB, DS, GJ and RW would attend.</p>	Clerk

012/20 Various project proposals for Christmas 2020

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>Plant appropriately sized Christmas trees at Grimley, Sinton Green and Monkwood Green and purchase solar powered lights to decorate. (Cllrs Atkinson & Woodhouse). – <i>Deferred until meeting with Peace Hall Committee had taken place.</i></p>	
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b.	Organise a fundraising Father Christmas drive through parish. (Correspondence HW). - <i>Deferred until meeting with Peace Hall Committee had taken place.</i>
c.	Christmas lights for the Peace Hall. (Suggestion from resident). - <i>Deferred until meeting with Peace Hall Committee had taken place.</i>

013/20 Reports from Projects and Representatives

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	Peace Hall Management Committee. The Peace Hall Committee are in the process of securing funds to improve the grounds and are anticipating these funds will be in place by the Spring. The rear fire doors have been repaired. The film "Blinded by the Light" was very much enjoyed by all that attended, even though numbers were low, possibly due to the awful weather.
b.	Lengthsman. Also motion to receive and approve future items of work. The Clerk was chasing the latest monthly invoice.
c.	Smart Water - General reminder for residents to register their SmartWater packs asap. Registering will make the difference in being able to return your stolen valuables to you or helping the police with evidence to secure a criminal conviction. If you do not register your bottle, then the DNA substance within is useless and cannot be traced back to your address in the event of a theft. www.smartwater.com/registration The police have implied that they would visit those properties/residents who have purchased and not registered. Cllr James commented that the website is not self-explanatory or easy to use.

Clerk

014/20 General Finance and Administration

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	To consider and motion to approve the payment of outstanding accounts. All previously distributed via email. Duly inspected & approved.
b.	To receive and motion to accept the latest Bank Reconciliation and Q3 report. Previously distributed via email. Duly inspected & approved.
c.	Review of Declarations of Interest. Motion to accept all interests declared. All duly inspected and approved. No amendments.

015/20 Correspondence, dates for diary, items for future agenda

-To note/discuss correspondence and formulate Motions not requiring written notice. Cllrs may use this opportunity to report minor matters of info not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise future items.

a.	Welcome to Reverend Kalantha Brewis as Priest in Charge of the Benefice of Hallow and Grimley with Holt & also Curate in Charge of Lower Broadheath.
b.	Two 2020 meetings will be at St Bartholomew's church, Grimley village: - Monday 20th April, 7.30pm - Annual Parish Meeting. - Monday 21st September, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly Proposal and motion for donation for cost of these meetings. Cllr Taft proposed £30. Duly carried.
c.	Date of next Parish Council meeting: Monday 24 th February 2020, 7.30pm. Venue: Peace Hall, Sinton Green. All residents and Press very welcome to attend.

Clerk

Clerk

Appendix 1: Items for payment.

Campaign to Protect Rural England	Membership renewal 2020/2021	£36.00	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Clerk wages [Dec 2019] As per contract of 12 hours per week, £12.01 per hour.	£576.48	VAT nil

Chair (24th February 2020)