

Grimley Parish Council

Monday 16th November 2020, 7.30pm

DRAFT

**For sensible containment of Coronavirus
all business at this publicly open meeting has been conducted online**

The meeting was duly advertised online and on three parish noticeboards.

The password to join the meeting was available within the agenda and upon request from the Clerk.

Ref legislation for online meetings: Coronavirus Bill THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/392/contents/made>

Minutes of the meeting

Cllrs Present: D Stanley (Chair), A Taft, A Atkinson, A Bretherton, G Green, G Moore, A Passey and S Wilson.

In Attendance: Mrs L Stevens (Clerk & RFO). DCllr Clarke, nil members of public.

096/20 Public open forum

a.	Nil.
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097/20 Points of order, apologies, approval of reasons for absence, 098/20 declarations of interest and dispensations. Minutes.

a.	<p>i. Apols P Grove, P Ayers.</p> <p>ii. Minutes of previous meetings. Mon 19th October 2020 – Previously distributed and duly approved. Prp: AB. Scn: SW.</p> <p>iii. Nil declarations or points of order.</p>
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099/20 To Receive the Report of the County Councillor.

a.	<p>CCllr Grove notes that due to ill health he will not stand at the next elections. Parish Cllrs expressed sadness at this news and thanked Phil for all his work for the parish.</p> <p>Coronavirus stats are appended to minutes.</p> <p>Divisional funding suggestions welcome up to £700 by end of December 2020. £135.00 has already been requested for litter bin for Sinton Green. Clerk to request additional funding towards toilet facilities at St Bartholomew's Church.</p>
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DCllr Dean Clarke arrived at this point in the meeting, after attending training elsewhere.

0100/20 To Receive the Report of the District Councillor.

a.	<p>DCllr Clarke noted that the planning enforcement team at MHDC is looking to fill a vacancy.</p> <p>The current boundary review may mean that some district councillors have to take on additional areas, since it is possible that the current 37 councillors will be reduced to 31.</p> <p>The government planning reform (including proposals for a new formula to determine local housing numbers) has been put on hold amid the complaints from planning authorities and back benchers. Recent slides presented to district councillors as part of planning training will be distributed to parish councils in due course.</p>
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101/20 Planning

To consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following

	<p>Planning - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications.</p>
a.	<p>Additional stable erected near Retreat Farm. (Nb In addition to the one on sleds). Enforcement are aware. Cllr Stanley to view site and report back.</p>
b.	<p>New stable down red brick road, Grimley Village. Enforcement are aware. No further action.</p>
c.	<p>20/01471/ CU, Northington Farm, WR6 6NQ. Application being validated at time of publication. The Clerk had no updated information to provide. Residents have been in touch and noted concerns. Carry over to next meeting.</p>
d.	<p>20/01516/CLE, Ball Mill, certificate of lawfulness. No update available.</p>
e.	<p>EPRWP3239EKV003 Thorngrove Poultry Farm, Variation application Noise and odour monitoring by EA period finished 8th Nov. Residents lobbied hard to include overnight noise monitoring exercise with no success. It was noted that odour monitoring finishes the day before scheduled shed clean-out and this is unfortunate since residents report that the greatest noise/odour may occur at these times. The applicant's assertion that the chipper is not used on-site and should not therefore, fall within the scope of the Permit, but rather, be monitored by Worcester LA's Regulatory Services Dept, continues to be disputed by the residents. The chipper does not appear to have been used during the period of recent EA public consultation or noise monitoring but may have been used after. Resident information has been sent to S.Hanks (EA) who has forwarded it to the WCC Licensing team for inclusion in their deliberations. Invoice from solicitor is being chased by resident group.</p>
f.	<p>Hallow PC have approved £500 donation but receipt of monies must wait until Hallow PC are able to cover staff sickness. Grimley Parish Cllrs extended their thoughts and best wishes to Hallow PC Clerk. Enforcement update ref Raceway. Enforcement appear unconvinced that access to the site via Dark Lane is illegal or a danger. Their deliberations continue.</p>

102/20 Environment, Green Infrastructure & Climate Emergency

To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>Climate Emergency - Re-establishing the Working Party. Public updates continue to be provided monthly via parish magazine and via Facebook reaching up to 200 online viewings. Climate change briefing for Cllrs via Zoom proposed and agreed. Working party supported by parishioners to be established after this.</p>
b.	<p>Parish Plan Clerk instructed to research Parish Plans, for which there may be a government requirement to have in place. This may be a significant project but would be integrated/driven by our climate declaration.</p>
c.	<p>Hedges Dark Lane and Walton Lane Cllrs expressed thanks to those that have cut them. Grimley hedges still need cutting. DS to contact tenant.</p>

103/20 Infrastructure, highway* matters, drainage and flooding

To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

*Highways (roads & pavements) & byways (bridleways and footpaths).

a.	<p>Update on site visit with Highways:</p> <p>i. Speeding in Grimley village approach road. Cllr Stanley to ask the school to put out a reminder.</p> <p>ii. Puddling water near Church Farm. Highways officers had previously agreed that a new drain/kerb culvert is required but have since opted for more ground testing. Clerk to press for more information.</p> <p>Noticeboards. All works complete. Awaiting invoices.</p>
b.	<p>Phone box Grimley (parish council owned) Volunteer for maintenance still required. Similar work conducted professionally at Powick cost £3k. Trees overhanging phone box need cutting back. Cllr Stanley to check who owns trees.</p>
c.	
d.	<p>Name the ponds, Grimley. Cllr Taft had heard from the fisheries, who already reference the two closest together as 'Curlew' and 'Kingfisher'. Residents name their lakes as Hippo Lake, Laughing Lake and Noah's Lake (northern section). OS feel that these features are too small to individually name on their publications. Cllrs suggested installing a map at the site entrances with the names all show but agreed that this would be expensive to maintain over time. Cllrs voted to refer to these features as 'Grimley Lakes' as a whole and not to pursue this project further. The Clerk has noted the resident names for the lakes and will distribute a memo on this to Cllrs for future reference.</p>
e.	<p>Defibrillator at Grimley village and Sinton Green. Two defibrillators will be required and funding for this will need to be sought. Cllrs agreed to ask residents for donations, with AB, AT and GM door knocking. A leaflet will be required and Cllr Stanley to ask the postman if he could deliver these. Cllrs suggested a deadline of three months but the Clerk suggested that April would be a better deadline as this would be in the next financial year.</p> <p>Improving facilities at the Church. See fund raising at xmas fete.</p> <p>Bin near noticeboard, Sinton Green. Clerk pursuing.</p>

104/20 Commons and Village Greens

To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

a.	<p>Sinton Green.</p> <p>i. Parking on the Village Green by workmen in association with new build. Clerk and Cllr Bretherton have witnessed the ongoing parking on the Common and have spoken to the workmen on site who dispute ownership and the level of damage being caused. Workmen merely reference the owners for correspondence but refuse to provide contact details. Cllrs approved writing to the property and also instructed the Clerk to order a new sign for the area stating no parking on the green. Prs: SW. Scn: GW.</p>
b.	<p>Monkwood Green, including</p> <p>i. Community cut and tidy. Weather and lockdown meant that final actions to tidy up round Petty Whin and brambles were cancelled, though residents will continue to treat cut stumps as required. Working parties will be reinstated when possible. Cllrs agreed that the pile of arisings should be left until spring so as to avoid harm to hedgehogs etc.</p>

	<p>ii. Commoners Association and grazing update. Commoner Agreement and Management Plan is ready to be distributed. Commoners are to be reminded to remove all fencing.</p> <p>iv. Pond maintenance. All ponds on Monkwood Green are very dry at present. Works on these features to be put to one side until Management Plan is in place. Cllr Passey to take a look at them.</p> <p>v. Western Power planned works Jan 2021. The Clerk reported that she has meet with a subcontractor for Western Power and has negotiated care of the trees in the vicinity of the high voltage powers lines behind The Fox and The Woodlands, January 2021. Contractor is aware of the SSSI designation and the ant hills. Residents had asked about keeping some of the dead wood for insects as a log pile and the Clerk has requested this.</p> <p>vi. Water seepage outside Langdale. Results of the water testing had been received and the Clerk was asked to pass this on to the Environment Agency for an opinion, as Severn Trent have denied responsibility. EA are not undertaking non urgent site visits at present. The Clerk will continue to chase.</p> <p>vii. Meter reading for trough Residents have assisted with this and the Clerk is to provide the reading to Severn Trent Water care of billing team at Water Plus.</p> <p>viii. Service roads Cllr Wilson agreed to assist the Clerk by speaking to residents about which bagged stone they have ordered in the past.</p>
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105/20 Reports from other Projects and Representatives

To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.

<p>a.</p> <p>b.</p> <p>c.</p> <p>d.</p> <p>e.</p>	<p>Broadband projects update Grimley and Monkwood Green projects continue apace, with infrastructure either being installed or due to be installed shortly. The Sinton project will proceed if ten more houses join the scheme. Local resident volunteers are taking this into hand.</p> <p>Peace Hall Management Committee. Cllr Bretherton continues to represent the parish council. The hall will remain closed until such time as social distancing is relaxed. Parish Cllrs agreed to continue with booking the hall for in 2021 in order to continue providing income for this local facility. Some issues with online meetings have been resolved.</p> <p>Parochial Church Council. Three new members have joined the PCC. A church fete (socially distanced) is planned for 11th and 12th December, xmas trees, carols, Father Christmas, a tombola and raffle. The school children will be contributing with their tree decorations. It is hoped that funds will be raised to put towards new toilet facilities at the church. Cllr Stanley to ensure that the PCC maintains links with the Peace Hall.</p> <p>Defibrillator Monkwood Green Monthly inspections by residents is under way and working well.</p> <p>Grimley Smaller Charities – No update.</p> <p>Nora Parsons Day Centre Their AGM was held on the 13th October. Treasurer’s report demonstrates how grateful the Centre is to the Parish Councils who have supported them in the last year. The Centre serves all the Parishes that fall within the area served by the Old Martley Rural District Council. There are plans afoot to utilise the Centre as a much needed Dementia Centre.</p>
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106/20 Lengthsman

a.	<p>To receive updates and jobs. The fixing of the knee rail in Grimley Lane has been completed. Clerk has negotiated with WCC that our Lengthsman keep working during the latest lockdown. WCC have accepted our risk assessment and SS is happy to keep working for essentials including clearance of visibility splays and drain tops. WCC have given their blessing for our new lengthsman contract, which SS has received and made no comments or amendments. Clerk has scheduled a request to WCC in January that our annual grant be increased to take account of the pay rise accorded to our lengthsman from October 2020.</p>
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107/20 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. Appendix 1. Duly approved.
b.	To receive and motion to accept Bank Recon Oct 2020. Duly approved.
c.	<i>Suspend standing orders. Open session accepting suggestions from the public.</i>
d.	<p>To receive and debate draft budget 2021-2022. (2nd debate to take place Nov 2020, with a view to finalising budget in Dec 2020). Suggestions from public welcome until 2nd Dec 2020 in relation to this. Cllrs had previously made their input by email. Cllr Taft advocated no (0%) increase in Precept for the next financial year, stating that the pandemic is causing a great amount of distress and hardship. Cllrs agreed this motion. Prp: AT. Scn: AA. Clerk to confirm with MHDC.</p>

108/20 Correspondence, dates for diary, items for future agenda.

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

a.	- Future meeting of staffing committee for Clerk appraisal.
b.	- Malvern Electoral Review - Boundary Commissions briefing for Parish and Town Councils on Thursday 19 November at 6pm. - Urban Design (intermediate) Urban Design session on the 9th December. 6pm til 7pm.
	Date of Next Scheduled Meeting – 7th December 2020, 7.30pm ONLINE The press and public are cordially invited to attend this meeting

Appendix 1 – Items for payment

Mr Simon Skeys	Lengthsman worksheets for: September 2020: £161 October 2020: £195.50 (Claimed from WCC 08/11/2020)	£356.5	VAT nil.
Mr Simon Skeys	Sinton Green mowing. Invoice 0920 - £75. 1 x mowing in Sept 2020 Invoice 1020 - £75. 1 x mowing in Oct 2020.	£150	Vat Nil.
Mr G. Green	Reimbursement for well expenses.	£300.00	VAT nil.
Mr R. J. Poole	Topping, tidying and strimming MWGreen common and topper hire.	£1495.00	£249.17 VAT
Lisa Stevens	Clerk wages [Oct 2020] As per contract of 12 hours per week, £12.01 per hour.	£576.48	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Expenses Nov 2020. Including £17.99 zoom membership, shredding services and three land registry searches.	£105.07	Under calculation
Lisa Stevens	Reimbursement Helping Hands invoice, Litter pickers for volunteers x 4 plus bag holders. Invoice number 387273	95.69	VAT 15.95

Chair (Online approval 07/12/2020)