

# Monthly Meeting of Grimley Parish Council

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021, 7.30pm**  
**Peace Hall, Sinton Green**

## Minutes of the meeting

	<p><b>Present:</b> D Stanley (Chair), A Bretherton, P Ayers, J Izamis, G Moore, S Wilson.</p> <p><b>Attending:</b> DCllr Dean Clarke, CCllr Scott Richardson Brown Parish Clerk Lisa Stevens. Member of public BT.</p>
101/21	<p><b>Points of order</b> Welcome. Information provided at the beginning of each meeting in relation to social distancing and procedure for open forum.</p>
102/21	<p><b>Public open forum</b> Parish Cllrs voted to reorganise the agenda at this point Pr AB. Scnd SW.</p> <p><b>11g)</b> Resident BT gave an update on the project to improve facilities at the church. The churchyard volunteer maintenance group are meeting every other Saturday and will scale back activities as winter weather sets in. Tidying has been carried out in the churchyard and also inside. Following the success of the 2019 Christmas and 2021 Autumn fairs, the PCC/Friends of Grimley Church hope to employ an architect or surveyor to advise on what can be achieved in the way of improvements. The project ref the war graves sign is ongoing.</p> <p>- Parish Cllrs confirmed that they had previously agreed a budget of <b>£200</b> (2021/2022 budget), increasing by <b>£100 pa</b>, towards church facility improvements/refurbishments. This budget is available to the PCC upon written application with details submitted to the parish cllrs about the intended use of the funds. Cllrs would then vote on whether to release the funds.</p> <p>- The parish council is also holding <b>£565</b> in reserves for the project – monies which were awarded as a divisional grant by previous County Cllr Phil Grove. This divisional grant money is available to the PCC upon written request at any time. No vote is required of Cllrs as the parish council is merely holding the funds on behalf of the PCC.</p> <p>The autumn fair on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept was a huge success with everyone having an enjoyable time meeting up with friends after the long spells of covid isolation. £925.30 profit was made from the event, all of which will go towards the refurbishment project. Friends of Grimley Church has <b>£2300</b> approx saved as a result of all fund raising events (excluding the amount held by the PC).</p> <p>Parish Cllrs thanked the volunteer maintenance group on behalf of the whole parish. Prp AB. Scnd SW, unanimously supported by all Cllrs.</p>
103/21	<p><b>To consider any apologies for absence</b> Parish Cllrs Passey and Taft due to ill health.</p>
104/21	<p><b>Declarations of interest.</b> Cllrs Ayers and Wilson in relation to ditch and drainage work on Monkwood Green, which has the potential to affect their properties. Approved unanimously.</p>
105/21	<p><b>Minutes of previous meetings</b> – Motion to approve previous minutes.</p>
a.	<p>12<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – Minutes remain unsigned pending clarification ref County Cllr points of contact. Clerk to make amendments and submit for signature in Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021 – Duly approved. Prp AB. Scnd PA.</p>
106/21	<p><b>To receive the report of the District Councillor – Dean Clarke.</b> £100 defibrillator donation request has been processed by MHDC and will be paid shortly. Cllrs had an off-agenda discussion on homelessness. DCllr Clarke to check whether the number of</p>

	<p>homeless persons is increasing or decreasing in the county and in Worcester City. The Clerk was not aware of any homeless persons in the parish. Cllrs suggested that Worcester city is looking tired, with only basic shops and services, with empty units left filthy inside and with a very visible presence of homeless people in the shopping areas. Cllrs agreed that homelessness requires action and that one option would be to provide more, basic, single unit accommodation. Cllr Bretherton to attend the Housing Needs Survey training. CCllr Scott later confirmed that Afghan refugee coordination continues in Worcestershire with 5 homes been found in the county.</p>	<p>DCllr  Cllr Bretherton</p>
<p>107/21</p>	<p><b>To receive the report of the County Councillor – Scott Richardson Brown – arrived 7.53pm.</b></p> <p>Cllr Stanley queried parish council July minute item 80/21 which confirmed WCC lack of compensation to businesses in the parishes of Hallow, Holt and Grimley and concern as to how this decision was made by County Hall and on what basis. Cllrs had previously agreed that it is important that this is addressed in the event that the road have to be dug up again to allow gas mains installation for the same estate. CCllr Richardson Brown confirmed that the County Council had made a decision not to compensate because it had no legal obligation to do so. The decision to close the road was not made by the County Council, which is only required to facilitate and mitigate road closures made necessary as a result of the house building.</p> <p>Cllr asked if a lessons learnt exercise had been carried out? A – Not yet, but County Council has learnt lessons and proved very reactive to issues arising as they happened. The job requirement was that contractors at Hallow would work weekends – when this directive was ignored the county council changed contractors twice and enforced and supervised longer working hours. The signs that were placed in the road at Holt causing a danger to vehicles will be part of the lessons learnt exercise. Part of the problem is that the utility companies do not have accurate maps for where their services are – this extends and complicates the work.</p> <p>Cllr asked if the road will be dug up again for gas installation. A – Yes, and as this works will be considered essential the County Council will not be able to stop it and will have to work with Piper Homes in order to accommodate. The district council had a part to play in this for approving planning applications that initially are favourable to the community but then later accepting plans where all part of public good have been removed on the excuse of unprofitability. Acknowledgement that even in this the district councils are legally bound by what they can and cannot ask for.</p> <p>Parish Cllrs expressed dismay at the arrogance of the housing developer in causing so much disruption without compensating the community sufficiently. In general housing developers have a tactic of ignoring communities and that a way of holding them to account must be devised. Planning law appears to be set against communities and their efforts to protect what is important to them and to tackle climate change.</p>	

	The issue of speeding remains an ongoing issue county wide. Community reports of speeding must be back up by evidence if the County Council is to take matters further. Reducing speed limits has been proven not to reduce incidence of speeding.	
108/21	<b>Planning</b> - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications.	
a.	<b>Sinton/Birchall Green proposed solar photovoltaic farm.</b> No update available. Submission expected shortly.	
b.	<b>Camp Lane enforcement.</b> No update available. Clerk to chase.	Clerk
c.	<b>Application to regularise long standing right of way 635.</b> No update available. Clerk to chase.	Clerk
d.	<b>To note, consider and as required arrange an extra ordinary parish council meeting for planning applications or items related to assets of community value received after date of publication of this agenda.</b> Duly noted. No matters arising.	
109/21	<b>Infrastructure, highway matters, drainage and flooding</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.	
a.	<b>Bins Sinton Green noticeboard &amp; Monkwood Green bus shelter</b> The clerk confirmed that these are on order and remain out of stock.	
b.	<b>Flooding in road outside Church Farm, Grimley.</b> No update available. The Clerk keeps chasing. Additional photos had been provided by the resident.	Clerk
c.	<b>Litter pick of parish.</b> This item remains with Anne Taft who was absent. An advert to be placed on Facebook once her thoughts have been considered. No residents have expressed an interest in signing up for the MHDC adopt a street scheme. The Clerk to push this again and provide the link to all Cllrs.	Clerk
110/21	<b>Commons and Village Greens</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.	
a. i.	<b><u>Sinton Green.</u></b> <b>Mowing for village green</b> Cllr Bretherton reported that he had met with SS two weeks ago but that a resolution to the need to remove cut grass has not been found. The contractor does not have the required equipment and has not provided an alternative solution. Ongoing and at this moment unresolvable. The nominal deadline for a response from the current contractor is 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct. Parish Cllrs to look at existing contract and consider other persons to approach for a quote.	Clerk All Cllrs
ii.	<b>Seagulls numbers reaching nuisance levels</b> Cllr Izamis had provided Cllr Bretherton will a number of deterrent options and quotes but these are all much above parish council ability to pay for. Cllrs agreed to monitor the situation.	

b. i.	<b>Monkwood Green. Management update.</b> Volunteers working party being arranged for weekend in October. The Clerk is to make contact with the Commoners and ask them to remove cattle so that this work can proceed.	Clerk
ii.	<b>Potholes on service roads</b> Cllrs Wilson, Ayers and Clerk meeting with a contractor later this week to assess requirements and obtain a quote. Cllr Wilson to progress filing potholes if no response from contractors.	MWG Cllrs Clerk
iii.	<b>Drains and ditches update</b> Contractor has been offered updated contract capped at £2500 ref additional ditch outside Langdale and Cllr Wilson to chase and confirm understanding.	Cllr Wilson
iv.	<b>Worcester Wildlife correspondence ref Monkwood</b> Worcestershire Wildlife Trust have raised funds to purchase land at Green Farm. Meeting with M.Perry 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept to view site and consider parish council input.	All Cllrs
v.	<b>Worcester Wildlife mains water pipeline to service newly purchased land</b> No update as yet. To remain on agenda until further notice.	
111/21	<b>Reports from other Projects and Representatives</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.	
a.	<b>Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022, including tree planting and option for a beacon</b> The Clerk has applied for grant of £333 from the county council towards this project. Cllr Bretherton confirmed that the hall management committee are happy to accept a tree and the beacon on the hall land subject to beacon spec. Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022 is the date selected for the jubilee celebration day – Cllrs to keep this date free please. Cllr Izamis to provide detailed beacon quotes as soon as may be. Options include: i) Build own bonfire – cllrs not keen. ii) Gas cylinder powered - £490plus VAT iii) Steel cage on pole option as advocated by national jubilee organisers. Fuelled by wood. This was the option most preferred by Cllrs.	Clerk  Cllr Izamis
b.	<b>Broadband projects update Grimley and Monkwood Green</b> Grimley - All participants have signed super fast contracts with providers and only one participant outstanding on claiming the voucher – which will be done soon. Project is drawing to a close. Monkwood – Minor delays with provision of infrastructure. Nothing that requires intervention – installation possible end of Oct and go live thereafter. G.Green has agreed to continue to project manage with thanks from the Cllrs.	
c.	<b>Defibrillators Grimley village and Sinton Green</b> Repair and painting of the phone box will finish within two weeks. Wooden door repairs ongoing. The Grimley Smaller Charities has agreed to cover all remaining costs of the project and resident SR is coordinating this. Cllrs voted to accept the smaller charity donations unanimously with sincere thanks. Prps AA. Sncd GM. Cllrs voted to instruct the Clerk to purchase the defib for Grimley village on the	Clerk

	<p>basis that the donation from Smaller Charities would be forthcoming in due course. Prps AB. Scnd GM. Defib for Sinton Green will be purchased once hosting agreement is in place with the Peace Hall committee. Cllrs expressed thanks all round for all the hard work and donations. Formal thanks will be issued by Cllr Taft once the projects are finished.</p>	
d.	<p><b>Peace Hall.</b> Film nights are due to start in October. Cllr Bretherton and Atkinson to liaise with the committee re the jubilee and confirming accounts for donations to be paid in to. Cllr Atkinson reported that the committee meeting went well and was very interesting with lots of ideas for the future of the hall. Hopes to clear boundary area and looking for grants for this. Caravan club continue to hold annual events on site. Committee has passed thanks to parish council for £200 donation.</p>	
e.	<p><b>Lengthsman</b> - Covered previously as part of Sinton mowing. Lengthsman worksheets remain regularly outstanding in spite of reminders from the Clerk.</p>	
f.	<p><b>Project to improve facilities at church.</b> Covered in open forum.</p>	
g.	<p><b>School facilities and parking</b> Cllr Stanley is liaising with the headteacher with a view to a meeting in a months time once return to school has settled down. Cllrs Taft and Moore to be involved in discussions. A number of options have been suggested by various sources, some with a more serious basis or intent than others. One suggestion was of sufficient concern regarding public safety that the Clerk had informed the police. The PCSOs have requested that the parish council mediate and contact the school and keep the police informed. The County Cllr may also be assistance in due course. On this basis Cllr Stanley asked for the item to be discussed at a future meeting once he had approached the school for their opinion. Cllr Atkinson asked for clarification but Cllr Stanley requested patience due to ongoing circumstances and will update all Cllrs in due course.</p>	<p>Clerk Cllr Stanley</p> <p>Grimley village Cllrs at later date</p>
102/21	<p><b>Finance and Administration</b> - To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice</p>	
a.	<p>To consider and <b>motion</b> to approve the payment of outstanding accounts. Duly approved.</p>	Clerk
b.	<p>To receive and <b>motion</b> to accept Aug Bank Reconciliation 2021. Duly approved.</p>	Clerk
103/21	<p><b>Correspondence, dates for diary, items for future agenda.</b></p> <p>i. October agenda – beginning to draft budget for 2022/2023. Parishioner input welcome. Clerk to pass round existing budget and suggestions received.</p> <p>ii. Requirement to register all unregistered/unlisted footpaths by deadline. Clerk to investigate and add to future agenda.</p>	

	<p>iii. Housing needs workshop, Oct and Nov 2021. Dates to be distributed asap.</p> <p>iv. Bank account to be added to next agenda.</p> <p>v. Review of standing orders. Cllr Taft gave apologies in advance so item moved to future agenda.</p>	
104/12	<p><b>Date of next scheduled meeting</b>  <b>Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 7.30pm.</b> Peace Hall, Sinton Green.  The press and public are cordially invited to attend this meeting.</p>	

### Appendix 1 – Payments to be made (or date paid if contracted monthly payment)

Mr R Parkes	Emergency elm work Monkwood Green	£90.00	VAT nil
<del>Sinton Tree and Landscapes</del>	<del>Emergency work to tree on village green near Pound Farm. Invoice due third week Sept.</del>		
Mr S Skeys	Lengthsman July worksheet 2021	£229.50	VAT nil
<del>Mr S Skeys</del>	<del>Mowing Sinton Green June/July 2021. Estimated. Worksheet due shortly</del>	<del>Not exceeding £75.00</del>	<del>VAT nil</del>
Grimley Peace Hall Foundation	Annual hire of hall. 2020 figure was £350. Invoice due third week in Sept.	No exceeding £400.00	VAT nil
Grimley Peace Hall Foundation	Coffee morning donation. <b>Previously agreed at Aug meeting.</b> Awaiting confirm of payment details in order to make payment.	£200.00	VAT nil
<del>Phone box repair volunteers</del>	<del>Receipts for expenses towards repair of the red phone box in Grimley village. Undertaken by resident volunteers. Received in the week of publication of this agenda.</del>	<del>Not exceeding £75.00</del>	<del>VAT unknown at present.</del>
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly expenses Sept 2021.	£56.12	VAT. Chasing VAT receipt from PC world.
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly wage Aug 2021	£576.48	VAT nil
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Land drainage searches ref Monkwood. <b>Reimbursement</b> already made 03/09/2021	£40.01	VAT nil

Items crossed through were invoices not received in time or declined by the cllrs pending further information.

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