

# Monthly Meeting of Grimley Parish Council

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, 7.30pm  
Peace Hall, Sinton Green**

## Minutes of the meeting

	<p><b>Present:</b> D Stanley (Chair), P Ayers, J Izamis, A Taft, S Wilson. <b>Attending:</b> DCllr Dean Clarke. Parish Clerk Lisa Stevens. Public 1</p>
1/22	<p><b>Points of order.</b> Information provided at the beginning of each meeting. Nil.</p>
2/22	<p><b>Public open forum – Nil questions.</b> Open forum does not usually form a legal part of the meeting but this restriction is waived in this case only as residents wished to address the parish council on matter relating to local planning applications.</p>
3/22	<p><b>To consider any apologies for absence</b> Parish Cllrs Atkinson, Bretherton, Moore and Passey due to illness. CCllr Scott Richardson Brown due to other work commitments.</p>
4/22	<p><b>Declarations of interest.</b> DS in relation to item missing footpath gate at Church Farm. It was him that put the broken gate to one side.</p>
5/22	<p><b>Minutes of previous meetings</b> – Motion to approve previous minutes. <b>6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.</b> Prps: PA. Scnd: AT</p>
6/22	<p><b>To receive the report of the District Councillor – Dean Clarke.</b> - DCllr noted the likely district council tax increase of £5 pa per household. The County Council increase is likely to be 4% at around £60 increase. Police Commissioner increase will be around 5% (£15.00). Cllrs asked a question regarding the proposed £150 government refund. DCllr Clarke noted that those paying by direct debit will get the money back asap (band D for e.g., as relevant).</p>
7/22	<p><b>Planning</b> - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications.</p>
a.	<p><b>21/01846/FUL Birchall Green Solar Farm.</b></p> <p>i. To note arrangements for Landscape Visual Assessment payment of invoice: £2500 parish council donation and £2,484.44 community raised donation (after gofundme fees).#</p> <p>ii. To also note that the parish council has received £197.82 raised from a previous community crowd funder during EIA Scoping phase, Jan 2021. All unused funds will be placed in reserves available for use towards legal advice during the ongoing process of this planning application/event of an appeal. Use of funds will be subject to full parish council vote before committing to expenditure. Review of unused funds will take place at annual parish meeting 2022 (date to be confirmed)</p> <p>Cllrs approved the above and had no comments.</p>

b.	<p><b>To note Planning appeal:20/01471/CU, Northington Farm, Farm Lane, Holt, WR6 6NQ. Change of use ground floor from agricultural to Class E (Light Industrial) and B8 (Storage).</b></p> <p>- Extension to deadline duly noted. Cllrs did not wish to make additional representation or amend pervious.</p>	
c.	<p><b>21/02027/HP 1 Thorngrove Cottage, Sinton Green, WR2 6NP.</b></p> <p>Replacement of linear staircase (approved 18/01342/HP) with spiral staircase and platform to rear of garage.</p> <p>- Cllrs did not wish to make a representation.</p>	
d.	<p><b>Camp Lane enforcement – update if any.</b></p> <p>There is a new enforcement officer at MHDC. DCllr is chasing update.</p>	DCllr
e.	<p><b>To note that a general enquiry has been made to MHDC ref gate widening and hedge removal between The Old Vicarage and Lynden bungalow.</b> Duly noted. No update available.</p>	
f.	<p><b>Regularising long standing use of right of way 635.</b></p> <p>Cllr Taft is liaising with local residents. RW and RL have sent off the necessary letters to footpaths officer.</p>	Cllr Taft
g.	<p><b>Hedge removal enforcement on Ockeridge land – update if any.</b> No update available.</p>	
h.	<p><b>Electoral Review: Draft recommendations consultation. To formulate a response.</b> Holt has been included with Hallow and Grimley. The Clerk was instructed to write in support as the proposals are a benefit for the community.</p>	Clerk
i.	<p><b>Standing Item:</b> To consider and as required arrange an extra ordinary parish council meeting for planning applications received after date of publication of this agenda. Nil items.</p>	
8/22	<p><b>Infrastructure, highway matters, drainage and flooding</b></p> <p>To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
a.	<p><b>Bins Sinton Green (noticeboard) and Monkwood Green (bus shelter) - update if any.</b></p> <p>Both bins have now been received and the Lengthsman will be instructed to install and invoice as a separate contractor max £100 including equipment. Prp: DS. Sncd: AT.</p>	Clerk
b.	<p><b>Flooding in road outside Church Farm, Grimley.</b></p> <p>Clerk continues to chase. BT reports Dec 2021 Highways have done the drain outside RW's. JH reports: "Highways have investigated. They discovered the drainpipe had been cut just before the Severn Trent manhole/drain so the rain water, even if it got into the drain, had nowhere to go. They've taken photos. Now for Severn Trent to either sort or pay for them to do the work. Timescales unknown."</p>	
c.	<p><b>Speed monitoring tubes. Sinton to Monkwood (13/12/2021).</b></p> <p>WCC have no knowledge of the speed monitoring tubes. HD reports "These cables weren't installed by Highways. From now on there will be a traffic survey permits in place giving details about each installation". No action by PC.</p>	

d.	<p><b>Eroded grass verge bordering rear of Oak Hall Farm Barn, Sinton Green.</b> Reported to Highways. <b>Motion</b> to support residents and write to WCC requesting barriers to protect the building on this sharp corner. Cllr Wilson undertook a site visit and confirmed that the corner is very tight and the verge is almost entirely gone. Cllr suggested concrete kerbs and that Highways could be requested to install. Prps: SW. Sncd: JI.</p>	Clerk
e.	<p><b>Overgrown hedge at Grimley crossroads.</b> Clerk reported to Highways, who undertook a site visit and confirmed that there is no danger to public and that they will monitor. Cllrs instructed the Clerk to pass this item to the County Cllr for action. Clerk to write to owners all along that section along to Bumbles asking for hedges to be cut before bird nesting season.</p>	Clerk CCllr Clerk
f.	<p><b>Noticeboard brass letters.</b> Total cost for all three noticeboards will be £306.63, which is not far off the cost of an entirely new noticeboard. Clerk confirmed that there is no budget this financial year and put back on agenda in /July 2022.</p>	
g.	<p><b>Broken noticeboard doors at Peace Hall.</b> To discuss options. Doors have already been repaired twice in last three years. Current design is clearly not working. Parish Cllrs agreed to entirely replace the noticeboard. Cllrs have accepted that they cannot keep repairing the existing one, as residents are not taking care to make sure the door is shut. A new design is required. Clerk has investigated and options range from £500 for a single board with up and over door, to similar to what is in situ for £1400. Cllrs agreed that the Hall Committee should decide what sort of noticeboard they would like and submit options to the parish council, max threshold in region of £700 including VAT, not including installation. Prp: AT. Sncd: PA.</p>	Clerk Cllr Bretherton
h.	<p><b>To note the parish council has requested a litter pick by Highways along the A443.</b> Highways have confirmed that they now no longer organise litter picks along Highways owned roads. Previous County Cllrs organised litter picks under their allocation budget. Current County Cllrs are not permitted to do this. Request passed to District Council street and amenities team. DCllr Clarke to chase.</p>	Clerk DCllr
i.	<p><b>To note the upsetting level of litter and drugs paraphernalia left in Monk Wood.</b> Cllrs noted that bins would not address the problem and that the car park cannot be locked at dusk as there are no local operatives who can take charge of such a rota. The Clerk was instructed to write to WWT and ask them to take action to control antisocial behaviour on their own property. Item for future agenda (annual meeting?) is the topic of youth participation in society.</p>	Clerk Clerk
j.	<p><b>To note that the footpaths team will not enforce replacement of the missing footpath gate adjacent to Church Farm in Grimley Village.</b> No further action though Cllrs agreed that it looks messy. It is for the landowner to replace and it is reported that he will not.</p>	

9/22	<p><b>Commons and Village Greens</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
<p>a. i.</p> <p>b. i.</p> <p>ii.</p> <p>iii.</p> <p>iv.</p> <p>v.</p>	<p><b><u>Sinton Green.</u></b> <b>Mowing for village green</b> All Cllrs to examine options in readiness for end Feb/March 2022.</p> <p><b><u>Monkwood Green.</u></b> <b>Broken pipe and standing water in vicinity of Goodwins Farm.</b> Cllr Izamis to have a look once the water table drops. Bill Prosser found broken pipe whilst attending to ditches. Proximity to mains water pipe meant that he did not continue to unblock the pipe. The pipe continues to be blocked one side of the drive. Adjacent pond is overflowing.</p> <p><b>Management update. Including broken trough and urgent requirement to address danger of overgrazing on ant hills section.</b> Cattle have been removed after Clerk contacted Commoner RP direct rather than PW. Cllrs were concerned that the subcontractor of Commoner (not a Commoner) was treating the Common as if it is his own land and business. All extra feed is illegal on the Common and all parties have been informed of this. The Clerk was <b>instructed</b> to write to RP in March and be explicit as to what grazing activities, where and when can be conducted, though as the Clerk pointed out, the parish council cannot be much more clear than the existing grazing agreement, which has been trimmed down and simplified for the benefit of the subcontractor to the point of extremity. The trough has been switched off at present. Clerk and Cllrs to go have a look. Subcontractors of Commoner has been invited to make repairs and invoice the parish council but so far has not taken this offer up. Cllrs had previously shown willing to accept invoice up to £100. Also Cllrs to inspect Petty Whin.</p> <p><b>Potholes on service roads</b> Contractors have not responded to chase for requests for quotes. Bags of stone are imminent – waiting for local residents to buy them in dry weather. Cllr Izamis and Wilson coordinating. Six bags plus one spare required. Cllr Izamis to get price and bring to PC. Cllr Wilson noted that the extra bag will be required for the comfort of properties adjacent to herself, whose occupants have noted the significant amount of dust and debris being brought into homes underfoot. Motion, purchase of 7 bags once price obtained. Prps: DS. Scnd: AT.</p> <p><b>Drains and ditches update</b> Ditches are complete and working correctly/successfully. Bollards and Signs are installed. No invoice from BP as yet. Local resident reported to be happy.</p> <p><b>Worcestershire Wildlife Trust mains water pipeline to service newly purchased land</b> This project has not been progressed by WWT.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>MWG Cllrs Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Izamis Cllr Wilson</p>

10/22	<p><b>Reports from other Projects and Representatives</b> To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
a.	<p><b>Review of parish wide Christmas celebrations and thanks to residents and volunteers.</b> All activities very successful and thanks to PC and residents alike for contributions. Contribution by children at school/church fete was mch appreciated.</p>	
b.	<p><b>Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022, including tree planting and beacon. To note the successful application for free trees from 'I Dig Trees'. Small Plot Pack: 10 x Rowan, 10 x Bird Cherry, 10 x Downy Birch, 10 x Field Maple, 10 x Goat Willow, plus 30 spiral guards. Residents who require a free tree to plant may approach the parish clerk.</b> Clerk to distribute trees once they arrive. To be readvertised. Cllrs considered that a combined parish wide parish council event was not necessary, considering the efforts being made by the Peace Hall. Residents at MWGreen are organising their own get together. Parish Council to continue to assist with organising/funding the beacon bonfire on the Friday.</p>	Clerk
c.	<p><b>Broadband projects Grimley, Monkwood Green and north of Sinton Green – update.</b> All progressing. No specific update.</p>	
d.	<p><b>Defibrillators at Grimley village and Sinton Green.</b> Grimley village installed and operational. Additional volunteer for weekly inspection required. Sinton unit on order and awaiting manufacture. Clerk liaising with Hall Committee. Clerk to check that hall rewiring will not delay further. Cllr agreed that the manufacturing delay was unfortunate but unavoidable.</p>	Clerk
e.	<p><b>Peace Hall.</b> Cllr considered option for an electric car charger (jubilee project). Cllrs agreed that users would not be traveling far enough to make proper use of the facility. No benefit to parish. No further action.</p>	
f.	<p><b>Lengthsman.</b> No update</p>	
g.	<p><b>School parking. Update if any and to explore option to provide lollypop lady.</b> (No financial decisions to be made). Cllr agreed that since this is not a fast-flowing road and since it is up to parents to park considerately, that this would not be a sensible use of parish funds. No further action.</p>	
h.	<p><b>Improving facilities at Church. Update on community project.</b> DS reported that the school wishes to use the church more but that the lack of toilets makes this a problem. Initial estimates for an earth toilet suggest funds would be required in region of £30k. Clerk to check how much involvement the parish council would be legally allowed in such a project. DS to check with Kalantha as to how much this project has progressed.</p>	Clerk Cllr Stanley
i.	<p><b>Police charter has been renewed for 2022.</b> Duly noted.</p>	

<p>11/22</p> <p>a.</p> <p>b.</p> <p>c.</p> <p>d.</p> <p>e.</p> <p>f.</p> <p>g.</p>	<p><b>Finance and Administration</b> - To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice</p> <p><b>To note that the Parish Council precept for 2022/2023 has been requested from Malvern Hills District Council.</b> Noted.</p> <p><b>Petition for hybrid meetings.</b> To note that as per debate via email, the Clerk added the parish council signature to the LGA petition for hybrid (online AND in person) parish council meetings. <b>Motion</b> to approve this in retrospect and to confirm parish cllr desire that <u>residents</u> have the option to access meetings both in person or online, thereby maintaining the transparency of our democratic process, cope with ever changing Covid19 social distancing requirements and also work towards options to reduce transport emissions. To note that at this time, Parish Cllrs have not specifically debated <u>councillor</u> virtual attendance/online voting and await further LGA guidance/options. Cllrs accepted the above.</p> <p><b>To consider and motion to approve the payment of outstanding accounts.</b> Appendix1. Carried. Prps: PA. Scnd: JI.</p> <p><b>To consider and retrospectively approve payment of urgent accounts, as per emergency Clerk procedures (Delegation to Clerk policy).</b> Appendix2. Carried. Prps: PA. Scnd: JI.</p> <p><b>To receive and motion to accept December Bank Reconciliation 2021 and Q3 report.</b> Carried. Prps: SW. Scnd: AT.</p> <p><b>To note VAT reclaim submitted for £848.68. Previous claim was rejected by HMRC due to a ZOOM VAT number query (based in the Netherlands for tax purposes).</b> Duly noted.</p> <p><b>To consider option to increase annual donation to CPRE from £36 to £100. Parish Council has donated £36 pa for the past ten years.</b> Defer til next meeting when more Cllrs will be present.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>12/22</p>	<p><b>Correspondence, dates for diary, items for future agenda.</b></p> <p>WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (C2069 Ockeridge, Grimley) (Temporary Closure) Order 2022. Proposed Order: to close that part of C2069 Ockeridge from its junction with C2241 Ockeridge to its junction with U64003 Northington Lane. Reason: Installation works by Openreach. Exemptions: to permit access to any land or premises fronting the highway affected where there is no other form of access; and to allow the works to be undertaken. Maximum duration: 18 months. Anticipated duration: 1 day Commencing: 23 February 2022</p>	
<p>12/22b</p>	<p><b>Cllr Scott Richardson Brown</b> arrived and gave a report.</p> <p>- <b>Parking and bus in Grimley.</b> Going to combine both issues and make sure that they are looked at. Yellow lines are expensive so will probably explore non enforceable signage.</p> <p>- <b>Jubilee</b> – if holding an event, let him know as there is potentially a bit of funding. Action Clerk</p> <p>- <b>Buses</b> – at the moment no need for a subsidy from the parish council. Will explore option for a County Council subsidy trail for a few months, to reduce costs of bus fares from residents of the parish and see if this increases bus usage. Action Clerk to write in support.</p>	<p>Cllr</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

13/22	<b>Date of next scheduled meeting</b> <b>Mon 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021 7.30pm.</b> Peace Hall, Sinton Green. The press and public are cordially invited to attend this meeting.	CCLlr
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### Appendix 1 – Invoices/payments to be made (or date paid if contracted monthly)

Glasdon UK Limited	Bin for MWGreen near bus shelter	£289.11	VAT £48.19
Glasdon UK Limited	Pole and ground lock for installation of MWG bin. Inv 3076465	£68.29	VAT £11.38

### Appendix 2 - Invoices/payments previously made under delegation to clerk policy.


08/12/2021	Mr P. Williams	Fencing equipment (replace stolen) and emergency work on drainage and fencing.	£243.75
09/12/2021	Sinton Tree and Landscapes	Emergency tree work near Pound Farm.	£420
08/12/2021	Mrs S. Wilson	MWGreen Xmas tree reimbursement.	£80
09/12/2021	Ms. S. Loach	Sinton Xmas tree reimbursement.	£50
15/12/2021	Mrs E.A Taft	Grimley Xmas tree reimbursement	£35
07/12/2022	Mr S.J Russell	Grimley Xmas tree reimbursement	£32.39
15/12/2021	Mr S Skeys	Mowing Sinton Green	£375
13/01/2021	Mr S Skeys	Lengthsman Oct worksheet 2021	£272
13/01/2021	Mr S Skeys	Lengthsman Nov worksheet 2021	£119
22/12/2021	Mrs Lisa Stevens	Purchase of dangerous ditch signs MWGreen.	£83.4
22/12/2021	Mrs Lisa Stevens	Solar farm map printing reimbursement	£20
22/12/2021	Mrs Lisa Stevens	Jacksons bollards x3 for MWGreen ditches	£123.6
12/01/2021	Mrs Lisa Stevens	Severn Trent water maps ref standing water MWGreen.	£48
09/12/2021	A M & A S Collett	Services for video editing project	£480
07/01/2022	WaterPlus	Trough water bill MWGreen. 3yrs water.	£198.99
25/01/2022	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Annual membership renewal	£36.00
25/01/2022	Mrs C J Tinkler	Landscape and visual review of solar farm application. NB. £2500 contrib from PC. £2500 contrib from community. PC to pay the invoice. CT21316	£5000.00
25/01/2022	Mr S. Skeys	Lengthsman invoice Dec 2021.	£229.50
25/01/2022	Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly expenses Dec 2021 /Jan 2022	£57.71
25/01/2022	Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly wage Dec 2021	£576.48
25/01/2022	Mrs Lisa Stevens	Overtime ref solar farm. 20 hours x £12.01 hourly wage.	£240.20

### Appendix 3 – Review of previously agreed wildlife areas cut once a year.



Key Yellow left as a "meadow" to attract wildlife. Only cut once per year

Cut around footpaths and all ditches, approximately 1 meter wide

Footpath marked thus  leave until grass is 6 - 9 inches and then with a rotary mower create a meandering path with a circle in the middle for the children to run around