

**At the Meeting of Grimley Parish Council held on
2nd December 2019
in The Peace Hall, Sinton Green commencing at 7.30pm**

DRAFT

- Cllrs Present:** D Stanley (Chair), A Atkinson, P Ayers, A Bretherton, G Green, G James, BR Woodhouse.
- In Attendance:** Mrs L Stevens (Clerk & RFO), District Cllr Dean Clarke, 2 Members of the public.
- Apologies:** County Cllr Phil Grove, Cllr Passey, Cllr Taft.

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.

144/19 Apologies for absence – as above.

145/19 Declarations of interest and points of order – nil.

146/19 Minutes of previous meetings.

a.	Monday 18 th November 2019 – Duly approved .
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147/19 To Receive the Report of the County Councillor.

a.	Not received.
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148/19 To Receive the Report of the District Councillor.

a.	Congratulated the residents on the success of the Peace Hall Christmas fayre. Noted the MHDC tree planting scheme of which more information to follow. Noted that three potholes in Camp Lane have been filled but that the quality of work is extremely poor. The Clerk was instructed by Cllrs to register a complaint with Highways. Cllrs agreed to meet at Camp Lane to note the location of all potholes and take photos, so that a complete report on the road condition can be submitted to Highways.
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Cllr Woodhouse,
Taft, Passey &
Clerk

149/19 Climate Emergency Declaration

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

a.	<p>Declaration of Climate Emergency. Including an open forum and Update and Cllr signatures on adopted Declaration of Climate Emergency.</p> <p>Cllrs formally but voluntarily signed the declaration – attached Appendix 2. DCllr Dean Clarke accepted the option to guest sign the declaration in support. Absent Parish Cllrs and the County Cllr will be given provided due opportunity to sign in January 2020 if they wish.</p> <p>The Parish Council is in the process of advertising for volunteers with an interest in the future, environment, conservation/biodiversity, food, farming, woodlands, transport, buildings, Climate Change, energy etc, - all ages from school children, students to the retired to join an Environment Working Party. Anyone interested should contact the Parish Clerk.</p>
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Clerk

Clerk

150/19 2020/21 Parish Council Budget

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice

a.	<p>Draft 2020/21 Parish Council budget.</p> <p>Public Open Forum accepting suggestions and comments from residents. <i>Standing Orders were suspended. There were no comments from the public.</i></p>
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	<p>The Chair referred to the debate in the recent November meeting and Cllrs had no additional comments to make. Cllrs again spoke in favour of increasing the current precept by 10% for 2020/21. This will raise each individual household precept by approx. £6 p.a.</p> <p>The following was therefore formally approved: Motion to approve 10% increase to the parish council precept. Increasing annual contribution per Band D property by £6.00 approx. over the one year (Nb NOT a monthly increase). Proposed (RW), Seconded (AB) and all voted in favour.</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed make the necessary request to the District Council for £19,112.18.</p>
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Clerk

151/19 Encouraging active childhood

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice

a.	<p>Consideration of future projects that might best fulfil resident's requests for facilities/opportunities for parish youngsters.</p> <p>Cllrs suggested cutting a section of Sinton Green shorter for use for cricket etc activities, with other sections left longer for wildlife. Cllrs expressed some concern that if we start allocating specific areas to specific activities then mowing becomes more difficult/expensive. Cllr Bretherton volunteered to table a proposal on how to take this forward. The Clerk was instructed to add to future agenda.</p>
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Cllr
Bretherton

Clerk

152/19 Project and Representative Reports.

- To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice

a.	<p>Peace Hall Management Committee.</p> <p>The barn dance has been rescheduled for spring 2020. £159.00 was raised by the Christmas fayre and was well attended. Cllrs extended their congratulations to the committee for organising at short notice. A resident had suggested that next Christmas include a Father Christmas 'drive round the parish' on a tractor. Cllrs instructed the Clerk to add this to a future agenda.</p> <p>The fire doors are broken and the Clerk has assisted in providing details of the contractor that initially installed them.</p>
b.	<p>Lengthsman. Also, motion to receive and approve future items of work. The Clerk reported receipt of November invoice.</p> <p>Cllr Ayers noted that the noticeboard on Monkwood Green is allowing water to leak into the cork board. Cllr Ayers has already liaised with BJ ref repairs. Repairs were formally approved to proceed without quotation, unanimously by Cllrs, as being a necessity and as BJ has provided all repairs of excellent quality in the past. (Proposed AB. Seconded RW).</p>

Clerk

Clerk

153/19 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 duly inspected and approved.
b.	To receive and motion to accept the latest Bank Reconciliation, Nov 2019. All duly inspected and approved.

154/19 Correspondence, dates for diary, items for future agenda

To note and discuss as required correspondence already circulated to Cllrs, or available for inspection at the meeting. Cllrs may use this opportunity to report minor matters of info not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise future items.

a	<p>Climate Emergency Declaration - Set up of Working Party. The Clerk was instructed to advertise in the parish magazine.</p>	Clerk
b	<p>Smart water update. The Clerk was instructed to send repeat letters to all participants and to advertise in the parish magazine.</p>	Clerk
c	<p>Correspondence and actions arising from Monkwood Green.</p> <p>i. Grazing Cllr Green has liaised with RWeaver and spoken to the resident (not a Commoner) who has refused to remove the electric fence from the Common and who has threatened to unsafely released his livestock onto the Common. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to the Commoner and invite a useful dialogue. Cllrs Green and Woodhouse to meet with the Commoner. The Clerk was instructed to write to the resident (not a Commoner) to ask for the battery back.</p> <p>ii. Service roads Cllr Green has spoken to the contractor James Ford ref the road to The Croft etc and agreed to return to look at the road in march 2020. The contractor is of the opinion that the stone road will always get potholes and that the surface is much better than it used to be.</p>	Clerk Clerk Clerk Cllr Green Clerk
d	<p>Swan man. The Clerk was instructed to invite MM of the Swan Food Project to the next Annual Meeting to talk about swans in the parish.</p>	Clerk
e	<p>Pot holes Camp lane, Grimley village. Already covered.</p>	
f	<p>19/00914/FUL at Elm Hill, Sinton GreenHallowWorcesterWR2 6NU. Planning Inspectorate Ref:- APP/J1860/W/19/3239165 – To decide whether an extra ordinary meeting is required.</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to resubmit the previous planning concerns. No additional meeting required.</p>	Clerk
g	<p>Grit bins top triangle Grimley. Cllrs continue to express concern that the replacement bin has been placed in a location that nulls the usefulness of the facility. The salt is too heavy to move to the slope where it is needed. The Clerk reported that Highways have declined to move the salt bin as the risk that it will be involved in a similar traffic incident are considered by them to be high. Cllr Stanley to liaise with JH.</p>	Cllr Stanley Clerk
h	<p>Request to support the local electricity bill. Ref item 149/19 above. The Clerk was instructed to distribute this inform to Cllrs.</p>	Clerk
i	<p>Broadband update. Cllr Stanley reported that the project is 2 businesses short of achieving the required grant threshold. Cllr Woodhouse agreed to liaise with SR asap ref the above. R.Stepniewski has confirmed that the project can now go ahead and that any shortfall can be dealt with at a later date, though this is less of a concern as there funding they can secure against the school (no requirements on the school).</p>	Cllr Woodhouse

	<p>Cllrs debated and agreed that the shortfall could be covered by parish council funds, though the Clerk advised that this would be highly unlikely to be necessary as the requirement for the parish council to sign any paperwork has been waived by BT. NB. Openreach have now confirmed that the project can go ahead without having to have a legal entity in place (only 5 projects across the country can proceed on this basis).</p> <p>Residents were praised for their commitment to the scheme and their willingness to take part in this project that will benefit the entire village and hopefully may lead to future roll out across the parish.</p> <p>Motion to proceed with the project with the acknowledged risk that the parish council may need to top up the scheme. The Clerk intervened to clarify that this may mean by up to two vouchers. (DS, seconded AA). Duly carried unanimously.</p>	Clerk
j	<p>Raceway The raceway event on Remembrance Sunday concluded with a fireworks display that some residents felt was disrespectful. Cllrs agreed that a courtesy letter could be send asking that a similar clash be avoided in the future.</p>	Clerk
k	<p>Date of next Parish Council meeting: Monday 20th January 2020, 7.30pm. Venue: Peace Hall, Sinton Green. All residents and Press very welcome to attend.</p>	

Appendix 1: Items for payment.

Mr Bryan Jones	Peace Hall noticeboard repairs	£250.00	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Clerk wages [November 2019] As per contract of 12 hours per week, £12.01 per hour.	£576.48	VAT nil
Lisa Stevens	Expenses November 2019. GPC201903.	£36.41	VAT under calculation

Chair (20th January 2020)

Appendix 2

GRIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL - CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY DECLARATION.

Introduction. Following the recent IPPC Climate Change report which warned that humanity has only 12 years to take emergency action in order to prevent global warming greater than 1.5°C, and the Government amending the Climate Change Act 2008, Grimley Parish Council declares that it recognises the urgency of addressing this Climate Change crisis. The Parish Council acknowledges that whilst its ability to take direct action is very limited, the Council will also endeavour to exercise further action through information, education and influence.

Objectives. The Council will pursue its actions and support in the delivery of three objectives:

First. A significant and ongoing reduction in the use of energy in buildings, transport, food, and consumption. This contributes to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, pollution and biodiversity loss. The consumption of energy, particularly fossil fuels is a primary cause of Climate Change.

Second. The regeneration and rebuilding of our natural ecosystems which will contribute to drawing down carbon from the air into carbon stores in our soils, woodlands and grasslands. Such opportunities in our gardens, allotments, woodland, grassland, verges, wetlands, farmland etc will also contribute to the enhancement of biodiversity, wildlife, flood/drought mitigation, pollution reduction.

Third. Promote and support adaptation measures to reduce the risks to our community arising from Climate Change. Areas of our parish are regularly inundated by floodwater with distressing impacts to homes, businesses and farmland. The forecast with climate change is for the frequency and severity of such occurrences to increase. More extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and expanding ranges of new species of insects, birds, plants etc will have pose a threat to our familiar native species of wildlife, crops and farm animals.

This may appear to involve pain and frugality. This is not so, but does require a change of mindset. It is an opportunity to improve our future.

As an example consider transport. Taking a car to drive into town is considered to be readily accessible, convenient in terms of time of leaving, comfortable, low-cost – maybe parking!

In contrast walking, cycling, taking public transport results in a reduction of fossil fuel use and climate change. It is also an opportunity to achieve reductions in noise and local air pollution that benefits residents and our children's health and mental wellbeing, hence a reduction in NHS costs, road maintenance costs etc

Our Emergency Declaration is an opportunity to create a better and sustainable future for ourselves and our children, that will enhance our community, environment, local economy and our overall well-being.

Grimley Parish Council will have full regard for the above Objectives specifically in regard to:

- 1) The management of Parish staff, land, commons and greens.
- 2) Contracts and the commissioning of projects.
- 3) Promoting local food production, businesses and enterprises.
- 4) Commenting on planning applications, developments – green spaces, transport, infrastructure.
- 5) Information to individuals and Parish, businesses, organisations and schools in our area.
- 6) Information to wider authorities and colleagues, lobbying higher tier councils and Government.
- 7) Creation of an Environment Working Party of local volunteers, in order to harvest resident ideas on changes that can contribute towards a more sustainable, climate friendly Parish.
- 8) This declaration will be reviewed annually. It will be supplemented by supporting documents identifying specific targets and actions that will be developed by the Council and Environmental Working Party.

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