

## Update from your Grimley Parish Councillors

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Grimley Parish Council serves (in no particular order) the communities of  
Grimley Village, Monkwood Green, Sinton Green, Oakall Green, Birchall Green, Moseley, Worlds End,  
Dark Lane, Walton Lane, Camp Lane and all inbetween!

Chair Adam Collett (MonkWGreen)	P. Ayers (MonkWGreen)	S. Wilson (MonkWGreen)	S. Russell (Grimley village)	R. Woodhouse (Grimley village)
A. Sinclair (MonkWGreen)	G. Moore (Grimley village))	G. Probert (Wider parish)	M. Boyle (Worlds End, Moseley & wider parish)	

Mr John Harper has kindly offered to donate a permanent Christmas tree to be planted on Sinton Green village green. The parish council is happy to receive ideas before the end of March 2025 as to where best to plant this tree on the village green. As a default, unless we hear suggestions otherwise, the tree will be planted in the same spot as the temporary tree each year. Thank you to John for this gift to the parish. A similar option cannot be pursued for Monkwood Green due to the SSSI restrictions. The £50 allocation per village/hamlet for decorations will remain in place each year.

Sinton Green village green will be fully used for the fete being organised at the Peace Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. We look forward to hearing and giving more details very soon.

Thank you to all residents that have cut hedges and made the parish look so tidy ready for spring. Please could residents, landowners and contractors make sure that they tidy up cutting and remove debris and mud from the road afterwards. This avoids the parish and county councils having to arrange to clear drains and gullies and reduces the risk of flooding.

A number of complaints have been received about dog mess in residential areas, on Monkwood Green Common and Sinton Green village green. More signs will be going up, arranged by the district council. Malvern Hills District Council can issue a fixed penalty notice for dog fouling and information on offenders can be submitted to the district council website. The number of complaints about dogs been exercised off the lead through crop fields is also increasing. Farmers cannot sell or use crops/grass etc that has been contaminated with dog waste. (This also goes for grass that hay will be made of and this is particularly relevant at Monkwood Green Common – the parish council is unable to competitively sell grass cut from the common if it is contaminated – thereby losing a potential source of income for the parish as a consequence).

The parish council has been working hard to report problems with public footpaths and rights of way. Residents can report issues direct to the county council via their website. If you do choose to let the parish council know when you spot any issues, please remember to take photos – and we will forward the report to the county council for action. Landowners and occupiers can help too and are responsible for maintenance of stiles and gates, clearance of verges, re-instatement of paths after ploughing and keep paths clear of vegetation.

What3Words is a really easy way to mark the location of a problem that requires reporting. Using this app, every 3m<sup>2</sup> of the worlds has been given a unique combination of three words, which allows the authorities to quickly identify where a problem is. Of course, we still accept the good old fashion map coordinates or addresses.

Residents have been writing to tell us of concerns about roads flooding, caused by poorly maintained ditches. Please can we remind residents of the matter of riparian duties, which are the legal rights and responsibilities of landowners who own land next to a body of water/ditches. These duties include the right to use water, the responsibility to protect property (yours and others), and prevent flooding of land, homes and infrastructure.

The parish council has a “ditch-and-water working party” that continues to work with the relevant authorities and land owners to solve all the ongoing issues around the parish.

The new parish council website is being created. Thank you to all residents that have submitted landscape photos to use on the website – please keep them coming.

What else have we been up to.....The parish clerk has been talking to the Citizens Advice Bureau to try to ensure that residents continue to have access to this service – the service is not under threat but it helps if the Clerk keeps annual contact. Cllrs are exploring the national Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries Campaign (e-scooter batteries are not currently tested to any particular standard before sale) – admittedly there may not be many in our parish, but all parish councils can work together for positive change. Cllrs have signed up to the Sunshine Bill - which is a parliamentary debate calling for solar PV on all new homes. MPs will continue this debate in July. Cllrs are keeping an eye on the Fitcher’s Brook solar application near Hallow and are also waiting to hear of progress on the idea for a new mobile phone mast in the parish. We will keep you informed.

Thank you to the residents that have offered to help with weekly checks of the defibrillators. This is a big help to the parish clerk.

We hear more and more about Devolution these days. The English devolution white paper, published on 16 December 2024, sets out the government’s intended approach to accelerate and standardise the processes by which it passes powers, funding and programmes from Westminster to local areas. In Worcestershire this means that ultimately our district and county councils will be abolished to form a single unitary council - this is not an optional process. At present there are no timescales for this that we are aware of. The main message is that nothing will immediately change in the way that services for residents and businesses are delivered. The parish councils are reported to be remaining in place, for now. It is a big thing that we have all seats on our parish council full and this demonstrates a good deal of local faith in our parish democratic services. Cllrs would like to pass on thanks to all residents and extend an invitation to come join us at our meetings.

Contact the parish clerk if you would like to receive agendas or minutes by email.

Parish Clerk Mrs Lisa Stevens, 9 The Limes, Kempsey, WR5 3LG. 01905 820956 / 07950256363 [clerkgrimleypc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkgrimleypc@gmail.com)

Date of next meeting: Monday **24<sup>th</sup> March**, 7.30pm – **Annual Parish Meeting of**

**Residents.** NB. The Annual Parish Meeting is not a ‘normal’ monthly parish council meeting. It is a meeting of the parish or town electors, organised by the Parish Council. Electors can contribute to the agenda and in practice these meetings often celebrate local activities and debate current issues in the community. It is an opportunity for parishioners on the Electoral Roll to raise any matters of concern to them that relates to their local community. It would be helpful to have written notice of any matters to be raised but it is not essential. Matters can be raised at the meeting without prior notice. (Annual Parish Meetings must be held between 1st March 1st June each year).