

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Grimley Parish Council

Monday 27th February 2023, 7.30pm
Peace Hall, Sinton Green

16/23	<p>Present: Parish Cllrs D Stanley (Chair), A Bretherton (Deputy), P Ayers, J Izamis, G Moore, G Probert, S Wilson,</p> <p>Attending: Parish Clerk Lisa Stevens,</p> <p>Apologies: Parish Cllr A Atkinson, CCllr S Richardson Brown, DCllr Dean Clarke,</p>	
17/23	Welcome and information provided at the beginning of each parish council meeting. District and County Cllr input and guidance on planning/legal/best practice procedures is welcome as a standard during any point in this meeting. Standing orders remain in place unless otherwise stated.	
18/23	Public open forum. Open forum does not form a legal part of the meeting. No questions.	
19/23	Points of order, apologies for absence and declarations. No declarations.	
20/23	Minutes of previous meetings – Motion to approve previous minutes. 30 th January 2023. Prps: AB. Scnd: GM. Duly approved .	
21/23	To receive the report of the County Councillor – Scott Richardson Brown Not present.	
22/23	To receive the report of the District Councillor – Dean Clarke. Not present.	
23/23	Planning - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications.	
a.	21/01846/FUL BRL Solar UK limited - Development of a solar farm with ancillary infrastructure, security fence, access, landscaping and continued agriculture, to generate power to feed into local network. Birchall Green Farm, WR2 6NT. Refused by MHDC.	
i.	Clerk advised Cllrs on the basic appeals process. Cllrs debated delegated powers in reference to Rule 6 of the appeals process. Motion 1 that applying for joint rule status should proceed as soon as applicable in the event of an appeal and that responding to an appeal within the previous mandate given by residents was essential. Prps: DS. Scnd: AB. Carried unanimous. Motion 2 The Clerk notes that Standing Orders permit delegated persons to speak at planning appeals and therefore Motion to appoint a delegated speaker for the parish council, should the matter indeed go to appeal. Prps: AB. Scnd: SW. Carried unanimous. <u>Add to next agenda.</u>	Clerk
ii.	Motion 3 That the existing Delegation to the Clerk policy would provide sufficient initial supporting budget for this appeal up to a threshold of £500 ¹ Prps: AB. Scnd: SW. Carried unanimous.	

¹ in the event that a planning appeal is called at short notice and given the likely timescale of Mid Summer – when many councillors may be unavailable and when new councillors may not have attended planning training.

iii	<p>Delegated person will have delegated powers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on the basis of 'carried Motion 1' above, instruct the Clerk to apply for joint Rule 6 status on behalf of the parish council AND the local action group in the event that a planning appeal is requested by the applicant. - on the basis of 'carried Motion 3' above, to liaise with Parish Clerk who has further delegated powers (Delegation to the Clerk policy) to commission a consultant (phone consultation advice/meetings) in preparation for the appeal hearing. Up to threshold of £500 (confirmed as being within Delegation to Clerk Policy financial threshold). - to work with local action group to draft a preliminary statement of case for submission pre-hearing and delegated powers to instruct Clerk to submit final version (under the Delegation to the Clerk Policy). - to work with the local action group to formulate a Rule 6 speech/response to be read out at any appeal hearing as required. 	Clerk
b.	<p>M/22/01644/HP Ivy Cottage, Sinton Green, WR2 6NP. Single storey rear extension; garage enlarged, first floor bedroom extension above. Cllrs had received no correspondence on the matter and vote to 'support'. Prps: AB. Scnd: JI. Duly approved. Cllrs requested standard reference to aspire to renewable energies. Clerk to submit.</p>	Clerk
c.	<p>M/22/01773/FUL Ball Mill Bungalow, Main Road, Hallow, Worcester, WR2 6LS. To note Parish Cllrs' 'comment' response 10th Jan ref lack of renewable energy generation expectations by applicant. Prps: DS. Scnd: AB. Duly reaffirmed.</p>	Clerk
d.	<p>M/22/01519/FUL Sandpit Forge At Sandpit Cottage, Walton Lane, GrimleyWR2 6LR. To note previous 'no comment' from cllrs. Cllrs looked again at this application and agreed that applications that they support should be given as such in the response to MHDC. Proposal to provide new response to MHDC. Prps: AB. Scnd: DS. Duly approved. Proposal to 'support' on account that this is a business providing local jobs for local people and that the application does not appear to present any new difficulties or nuisance for neighbouring properties. Prs: DS. Scnd: AB. Duly approved. Cllrs requested standard reference to aspire to renewable energies. Clerk to resubmit.</p>	Clerk
e.	<p>Standing Item: 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>	
24/23	<p>Climate emergency. To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice</p>	
a.	<p>Working party next steps. Councillor consideration of key projects to take forward and budgets. Group consists of DS (Chair), BA, AS, AW, KP, JM, and LS (admin). Cllr Bretherton unable to commit to regular meetings at this time but will re-evaluate in due course. Group is to be named 'TREAD LIGHTLY' ('REACT' until purdah ended). General notes of this working party are attached (appendix 3) to these minutes for info. Cllrs received and accepted these notes with no comments.</p>	Working party
25/23	<p>Commons and Village Greens. Updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
a. i.	<p><u>Sinton Green</u> Motion to accept mowing contract for £85 per mow. Duly approved. Prps: AB. Scnd GM. For the same duties and timetable as 2022.</p>	Clerk

25/23 con.	<p>Monkwood Green. Confirmed Motion 1 (agreed in principle at January meeting). General maintenance across the year by A.Biggam and L.Roberts, on Monkwood Green Common and SSSI, to continue to tidy key areas (petty whin section, adjacent to Betts' drive, behind Fox Inn, around telegraph poles, visibility splays and behind the Croft), as per existing NE permissions: £16 per hour plus 50p per hour for fuel up to max of £500 <u>per person</u> initially with a review for further work in June. Prps: SW. Scnd: GP. Duly approved. Clerk to speak to C.Betts about current equipment loan. Clerk to send contract.</p>	Clerk
b i.	<p>Confirmed Motion 2. In absence of grazing on petty whin section and to avoid damage to ancient ant hills, for A.Biggam and L.Roberts to trim that section after the seeds have dropped (roughly September time, as guided by Chris Betts) and as per existing NE permissions. £16 per hour plus 50p per hour for fuel up to max of £250 <u>per person</u>. Prps: PA. Scnd: JI. Duly approved. Clerk to speak to C.Betts about current equipment loan. Clerk to send contract.</p>	Clerk
ii.	<p>Cllr Wilson reported that volunteer locals have finishing clearing round the pond by Betts' drive. This work is covered by the existing NE permissions was undertaken at volunteer/s' own risk. Cllr approved Motion for reimbursement of fuel expenses £25 by B.Prosser. Estimated value of volunteer work: Clerk had obtained quote for £650 plus VAT due to difficulty of access. Prps: SW. Scnd: DS. Duly approved. Cllr Wilson to pay and Clerk to reimburse.</p>	Clerk Cllr Wilson
iii.	<p>Motion to approve Resident and Commoner Association consultation event coffee, cake and biscuits, ref 5 year rolling management plan. Duly approved. Prps: PA. Scnd: AB. Cllr Wilson to speak to Fox Inn and to speak to residents about a suitable date.</p>	Cllr Wilson Clerk
iv.	<p>Pollarding of willows will proceed over next two weeks.</p>	
26/23	<p>King's Coronation - To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
a.	<p>Saturday 6 May 2023. The Peace Hall intend to open up on the Saturday and put the Coronation up on the big screen. No further action from the parish council.</p>	
27/23	<p>Highways and infrastructure - updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
a.	<p>Bank erosion River Severn near Camp Inn. Clerk to send follow up letter to foot paths officer.</p>	Clerk
b.	<p>Public rights of way and footpaths Cllr Izamis is due to meet the Darbys and walk the problem areas. Cllr Stanley to make enquiries about applications for footpaths officers.</p>	Cllr Izamis. Cllr Stanley
c.	<p>Allotment provision exploration. County Cllr not present. Move to next agenda.</p>	Clerk
d.	<p>Memorial seats at Sinton and Monkwood. Benches are in the process of being ordered by the families involved.</p>	
e.	<p>Peace Hall Management Committee update.</p>	
i.	<p>a. Queen's Oak project update. Cllr Stanley has received two trees for £60 each plus VAT and postage and packaging, 2 metres tall. Cllr Prosser to assist with</p>	Cllr Izamis

Appendix 1 - Payments to be made this month (or date paid if contracted monthly)

Community Heartbeat Trust Ltd Invoice due 27th Feb 2023. Peace Hall defib annual care package	Invoice cancelled. Trust is instead going to issue one invoice a year for all three defib packages, so as to reduce admin and ensure care package is properly maintained.	£151.2	VAT £25.20
Peace Hall Committee	Annual donation for defibrillator electricity provision. Scheduled for payment 28 th Feb.	£10.00	VAT n/a
Worcs CALC	On Your Marks Clerks Elections Training Scheduled for payment 28 th Feb.	£30.00	VAT £5.00
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly Expenses Feb 2023.	£37.50	VAT various
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly wage Jan 2023	£553.42	VAT nil
Nest pensions	Pension payment. Includes Clerk contribution as part payment. Standing order 16/02/23	£40.35	VAT n/a

Appendix 2 - Payments made in previous month under delegation to Clerk policy and in line with annual budget previously approved by Cllrs.

Pencroft Limited	Machinery hire Monkwood Green SSSI pond	£1200.00	VAT £200
Mr Simon Skeys	Lengthsman worksheet Jan received Feb 2023. Claimed from WCC 16 th February.	£221.00	VAT nil
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Malwarebytes annual subscription. Costs discounted via share of package with Severn Stoke PC.	£19.99	VAT various individual

Appendix 3

Notes 13th Feb 2023 Climate change working party Hereafter named 'TREAD LIGHTLY' ('REACT' until purdah ended)

Present: DS, BA, AS, AW, KP, JM,. LS (admin). Chair: those present nominated DS unanimous. Carried.

Group Name – 'Tread Lightly', agreed unanimous.

Budget – Parish Council has £1k set aside if the group applies for it at full council meeting.

Key messages:

To other parish councils/church/local authorities:

- The global headline messages and challenges contained in DS' presentation as an overarching context
- The example of our climate declaration and case studies of our working group activities.

To individuals:

- **Energy (including fuel) and Education** are the focus for the group.
- **"Growth is at the expense of waste"**. Can we tackle the perception that 'growth (economic) MUST happen and is a human right'.

To families, where children can also be the drivers:

- Anyone can drive the change in a household. (1) What changes are families WILLING to take compared to (2) what changes are families ABLE to take. (NB. A survey could establish what is the difference between the two and how do we bring the two closer together?)

At a corporate/business level:

- **Farming** has a major part to play. Efficiency of farming has dropped because of our use of fossil fuels and damage to soils through nitrate fertilisers. Best way to store carbon is through regenerative farming.

Objectives:

- Narrow down from DS' presentation to a more local level and **educate** families on what they can be doing to help.
- **Change perception and encourage hope:** Convince local communities that change in lifestyle is **meaningful, possible and quantifiable** and that individual cans have a positive impact on climate change.

- **Education:** Climate change is not emphasised by the school curriculum – (i) plug that gap locally and (ii) lobby nationally. Get the children themselves involved in changing this.
- **Encourage move to organic farming** and beyond this emphasis on farming community, also encourage individual consumer purchase of organic goods in the first instance where available. Where price prohibitive, check is this really the case, and if so encourage local and/or seasonal purchases instead or to opt for options with less plastic packaging. (ie a tick through list of consumer shopping habits – where one not an option, move on to the next best thing).
- **Look for fossil fuel reduction**, covering the key themes of transport and food production.
- **'Recruit' a local expert** to give a case study and be a mouthpiece for our project – maybe a university rep or for example Worcester Bosch who are currently looking at hydrogen boilers.

Actions:

- **SCHEME:** Create a scheme that residents (including children) can work through that concentrates on one or two things locally that are pioneering and news worthy:
 - o **SURVEY:** Access parents and families by surveying schools (3/14 age focus). Assess awareness of the effect that we have on our planet due to our habits (e.g. pick local apples over bananas as a regular habit). As mentioned above assess WILLINGNESS to change vs ABILITY to change and plugging the gap.
 - o Survey residents in 2023 and then again in 2024 and measure the difference in attitudes and actions. As part of this, use last slide of DS' presentation to create a score system to help track change when surveying the parish.
 - o Show people the change they can make in a quantifiable way. ie driving x amount for x distance VS xx amount and xx distance will save you £xxx and xxx in pollutants. -end-

The Electoral Commission

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REMEMBER TO
1- Register to vote
2- Check my photo ID
3- Vote at a polling station!

No ID? You can apply for free voter ID
Find out more at
electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID