

Monthly Meeting of Grimley Parish Council

**Monday 21st March 2022, 7.30pm
Peace Hall, Sinton Green**

Minutes of the meeting

	<p>Present: D Stanley (Chair), A Atkinson, P Ayers, A Bretherton, J Izamis, Attending: DCllr Dean Clarke. Parish Clerk Lisa Stevens. Public x 1.</p>	
27/22	<p>Points of order. Information provided at the beginning of each meeting. Cllr Stanley noted that he had verbally accepted the resignation of Cllr Passey. Clerk to confirm and then advertise the Notice of Vacancy once obtained. Cllrs thanked Alan Passey for his input and valuable expertise.</p>	
28/22	<p>Public open forum – Nil questions. 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>	
29/22	<p>To consider any apologies for absence Parish Cllrs G Moore, A Taft, S Wilson. CCllr Scott Richardson Brown due to clashing commitments.</p>	
30/22	<p>Declarations of interest. Nil</p>	
31/22	<p>Minutes of previous meetings – Motion to approve previous minutes. 28th February 2022. Prps: AB. Scnd: PA</p>	
32/22	<p>To receive the report of the District Councillor – Dean Clarke. Congratulations to the Peace Hall Committee for a very successful Ukraine refugee fund raising event – Parish Cllrs seconded this. Various planning and enforcement decision updates. Camp lane enforcement has been delayed due to officer holiday. Bank collapse near Camp Inn (Clerk also to report). DCllr Clarke to send to the parish clerk details ref flytip-field at the Grimley village main road turning. MHDC podcasts on important environmental messages: https://ms-my.facebook.com/MalvernHillsDC/videos/?ref=page_internal Cllr Stanley to email MHDC to note that podcasts should focus on key environmental and climate emergency issues and not issues such as dog nuisances.</p>	<p>Clerk DCllr Cllr Stanley</p>
33/22	<p>Planning - to consider, comment and resolve to respond to the following applications.</p>	
a.	<p>21/01846/FUL Birchall Green Solar Farm. Planning officer had noted parish cllr's concerns relating to timescales. Parish Council has provided additional information in relation to the pylons on site.</p>	
b.	<p>M/22/00322/AGR Whitehouse Farm, Monkwood Green. Repair existing hard standing farm yard with concrete, new drainage/inspection pit. Motion for no objection or comment. Prp: PA. Scnd: JI. Carried.</p>	

c.	M/22/00101/HP Moorcroft Farm, Sinton. Extension to property. Motion for no objection or comment. Prp: AB. Scnd: PA. Carried. Cllrs had no concerns or objections.	
d.	Camp Lane enforcement. DCllr continues to ask regarding progress.	
e.	Enforcement enquiry gate widening/hedge removal Lynden (The Bumbles). MHDC had acknowledged parish council concerns and will make enquiries.	
f.	Application to regularise long standing use of right of way 635. No update as Cllr Taft not present.	
g.	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. - M/22/00235/FUL, Moseley Bank Moseley Road Hallow Worcester WR2 6NL. Siting of three shepherds huts for holiday accommodation to include ancillary parking. Cllrs considered whether they required an extra ordinary meeting in order to debate in public. Parish Cllrs considered longer term concerns about potential unlimited expansion of the site should this application be approved. In particular the nature of the local roads and blind bends which would not be ideal for larger volumes of traffic than is proposed within this application. However in terms of the precise details of this application they had no concerns, supported in general the creation of local employment opportunities and did not require an extra ordinary meeting.	
34/22	Infrastructure, highway matters, drainage and flooding To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.	
a.	Recent flooding and grants/assistance available to residents. Cllr Stanley noted that he had approached the resident/s concerned, made enquiries and signposted them to the district and council councils. Clerk to ascertain whether residents would be eligible for WCC grant of £250. Cllrs considered that length of time flooded should not have a bearing on whether or not a resident can apply for a grant.	Clerk
b.	Bus services in parish, including inconsiderate parking round Grimley lower triangle. Clerk continues to liaise with Highways ref signage.	Clerk
c.	New noticeboard at Peace Hall. Hall Committee will consider their preferences.	Hall
d.	Green bins at St Bartholomew's and Peace Hall. Cllrs approved continuation of provision for the churchyard volunteers and also an additional bin at the Peace Hall, Sinton Green. Prp: AA. Scnd: PA.	Clerk
e.	New Highway Code. Cllrs noted that the 2m separation between vehicle and pedestrian was not possible on many of the roads in the parish and considered that this might be of relevance regarding the proposed solar farm.	
f.	Defra consultation on biodiversity net gain and planning. Deadline 5th of April. Cllr Stanley to put together a response.	Cllr Stanley

g.	<p>Overflowing bins belonging to Canal Trust. Canal Trust had denied ownership of any of the mixed bins along the river. The previous dog waste bin installed by the canal trust has been swept away in recent floods. New resident at Lock Cottages is considering installing two new mixed waste bins of his own volition in order to reduce the amount of litter from right of way users. The Clerk received contact details of the new lock keepers.</p>	
35/22	<p>Commons and Village Greens To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
a.	<p><u>Sinton Green.</u> Nil to report.</p> <p><u>Monkwood Green.</u></p> <p>i. Grazing update – Grazing is still not possible across the whole site as it is too wet and water logged. A resident has nonetheless placed 10/15 cows on the Petty Whin section. This resident, as a close relative of a person with valid Commoners’ rights and, acting in parish council opinion as a sub-contractor of a person with valid Commoners’ Rights, has previously been in receipt of multiple copies of the grazing and management plan for the Common and SSSI. This resident had also previously verbally confirmed that he understands the contents of the management plan and that he will comply with that plan. Cllrs noted that the management plan has already been significantly simplified at the request of the resident and that the parish council has always listened to this feedback and cooperated with these requests as best may be, considering that Natural England has final say on all management practices on the Common.</p> <p>ii. Currently, Cllrs are concerned that there is not sufficient grazing for the cattle (the animals are going hungry) and that the Common will be damaged during the wet conditions or over grazed.</p> <p>iii. The resident has been instructed by phone and text message (at varying times by Cllr Stanley and Cllr Wilson and the Clerk) to remove the cattle but is refusing to comply, stating that he has Commoners’ Rights*, that he has superior practical farming knowledge to Natural England (NE) and that NE have no authority over Commoners or residents. The resident has also confirmed that he is not obliged to listen to the Clerk on the basis that she does not live in the parish and has no farming background. The Clerk reported a concerning level of verbal abuse directed at herself from the resident. Cllrs confirmed at this parish council meeting that as an employee the Clerk is instructed to act on behalf of the parish council as per the grazing agreement, approved by Natural England, Grimley Parish Council and the Commoners’ Association.</p> <p>iv. *(PC position is that the Commoners’ Rights in question lay with a relative of the resident and not with the resident himself. This is confirmed by the district council register of listed Commoners in possession by the parish council)</p> <p>v. The Cllrs instructed the Clerk to write to the resident and require him to remove the cattle with immediate effect, to remove his equipment only from the Common, and to remove the illegal supplementary hay feed that he has placed on the Common and SSSI without parish council consent.</p>	Clerk

vi.	Natural England to be informed in writing if the resident does not cooperate as per the agreed Management Plan for the Common and SSSI.	Clerk
vii.	<p>Cllrs expressed sadness that matters had come to this position, confirming that they have worked well with the resident in the past and had accepted his assistance in grazing the Common as a relative of a Commoner and a sub contactor of a Commoner with Rights. Cllrs also confirmed that no grazing contract is in place with the resident and again confirmed that the resident does not in the opinion of the parish council have Commoners' Rights.</p> <p>Note post meeting. The resident subsequently removed all cattle from the Common as requested and also all equipment as specifically agreed with the Chair and Clerk. Outstanding actions are for the resident to remove supplementary illegal hay remnants.</p>	
c.	<p>Broken pipe and standing water in vicinity of Goodwins Farm Contractor BP has fixed the pipe in the ditch covered under existing valid consent for ditch work by NE.</p>	
d.	<p>Broken trough. Cllr Stanley to take a look.</p>	Cllr Stanley
e.	<p>Potholes on service roads update. Cllrs Izamis and Wilson waiting for dry weather in order to proceed.</p>	Cllrs Wilson and Izamis
f.	<p>To note advice from Western Power ref dead oak tree. No action required by PC. Duly noted. Wester Power opinion is that the oak is not posing a problem or risk to existing power line infrastructure and that the site is too wet in any case for any kind of machinery to remove the tree. WP do not require any action by the PC.</p>	
36/22	<p>Reports from other Projects and Representatives To discuss updates and formulate Motions not requiring written notice.</p>	
a.	<p>Peace Hall Centenary events (3rd June various activities throughout day) and Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 (2nd June 8.30pm onwards)</p>	
i.	<p>15th May is the deadline for adverts for the June parish magazine edition. Cllrs considered the option to hold a 'bring your own bottle and torch' bonfire event, where jacket potatoes would be provided. Subject to numbers and sufficient interest expressed, Cllr Izamis to walk site and conduct a risk assessment. Cllr Izamis to provide the pallets for the bonfire (3m2) and get delivered to the site the day before. Provisionally light bonfire at 9pm. Event might start at 8.30pm. Volunteers would be needed to assist with building the bonfire. Cllr Stanley to approach residents to ascertain interest. Clerk to also approach Sinton residents.</p>	Clerk Cllr Izamis Cllr Stanley
ii.	<p>Cllrs approved hire of skip to assist with rubbish disposal across the whole weekend of events. Prps: PA. Scnd: AB.</p>	Clerk
iii.	<p>Cllrs approved assistance to Hall Committee with printing their centenary flyers. Clerk confirmed this would be covered by existing budget for donations to the Hall Committee. Max £50. Prps: AB. Scnd AA.</p>	Clerk

iv.	Cllrs did not wish to contribute towards Hall Committee suggestion for jubilee branded give away items.	
v.	Cllrs noted the CCllr donation of £500 towards the whole weekend's events with thanks.	
b.	Peace Hall general update including graffiti and vandalism and purchase of kitchen utensils and sundries (purchase already approved in 2020 but delayed due to covid, separate budget of £50),	Clerk
c.	Cllrs reconfirmed and carried over a £50 pre-existing (pre covid budget for 2020/2021 financial year) donation to Hall for purchase of children's beakers and plates (so that children's parties can be better catered for). Prps: PA. Scnd: AB. Cllrs noted the vandalism to the rear of the portacabin with regret.	
d.	Broadband projects Grimley, Monkwood Green and Sinton Green. Including UK Gigabit Voucher Scheme – Voucher pending cancellation warning for Sinton Green, which requires no action from residents.	
e.	Defibrillators (existing at Monkwood and Grimley village) (installation imminent at Sinton Green). Clerk, Cllr Stanley, Cllr Wilson and Cllr Ayers continue to conduct weekly checks. Resident volunteers will be needed. Parish council is currently on the waiting list for a resident training event.	Clerk
f.	Lengthsman. To note increase in budget from WCC to £ 2,362.47. Duly noted with thanks. The Clerk noted that she has issued a new contract to the Lengthsman for the 2022/2023 financial year and is awaiting a response.	Clerk
g.	Situation in Ukraine. DCllr advised that the parish council does not have the power to provide a donation to this cause.	
37/22	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. Appendix1. Carried. Prps: AB. Scnd: JI.	
b.	To consider and retrospectively approve payment of urgent accounts, as per emergency Clerk procedures (Delegation to Clerk policy). Nil required.	
c.	To receive and motion to accept March Bank Reconciliation 2021. Carried. Prps: JI. Scnd: AB.	
d.	Request from the parish magazine editor to submit a monthly update (not minutes). Cllr Bretherton to consider and take this on of able.	Cllr Bretherton
e.	The Clerk noted an invoice for HMRC PAYE of £13.35. This will be deducted from the Clerk wage and will be paid from the parish council account. Prps: JI. Scnd: AB.	Clerk
38/22	Correspondence, dates for diary, items for future agenda.	
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WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC NOTICE
Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
(C2068 Monkwood Green, Grimley) (Temporary Closure) Order 2022
Order made: to close that part of C2068 Monkwood Green from its junction with U64006 White House Lane for a distance of 650 metres in a westerly direction.
Reason: Masonry repairs by WCC.
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.
Alternative route: C2068 Wichenford, C2069 Ockeridge, C2069 Sinton Green, C2069 Worlds End, C2068 Moseley Road and vice versa.
Maximum duration: 18 months. Anticipated duration: **12 days** Commencing: **14 March 2022**
 Thomas Pollock Head of Commercial Law (Legal & Governance) County Hall Spetchley Road Worcester
10 March 2022

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC NOTICE
Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
(C2256 Sinton Green, Grimley)(Temporary Closure) Order 2022
Proposed Order: to close that part of C2256 Sinton Green from its junction with U64007 Gumborn Lane to its junction with U64008 Walton Lane.
Reason: New Customer Connection BT connection by Sunbelt Rentals UK Ltd
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.
Alternative route: C2069 Sinton Green, C2069 Worlds End, C2069 Moseley Road, A443 Main Road, C2256 Dark Lane and vice versa.
Maximum duration: 18 Months. Anticipated duration: **1 day** Commencing: **6 April 2022**
 Thomas Pollock Head of Commercial Law (Legal & Governance) County Hall Spetchley Road Worcester
10 March 2022

Saved items for next meeting / next financial year:

- Increasing instances of homeless in Worcester and surrounding.
- Antisocial behaviour at Monkwood – follow up and response from WWT.
- Painting bus shelters.
- Replacement of all parish council noticeboards / lettering on existing boards.
- Flooding in road outside Church Farm, Grimley.
- Eroded grass verge Oak Hall Green (Oak Hall Farm Barn).
- Worcestershire Wildlife Trust mains water pipeline across Monkwood Green Common.
- Improving facilities at Church. Update on community project if any.

39/22

Date of next scheduled meeting
Mon 25th April 2022 7.30pm. Peace Hall, Sinton Green.
 The press and public are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

Appendix 1 – Invoices/payments to be made (or date paid if contracted monthly)

Mr S. Skeys	Lengthsman invoice Feb 2022.	£255.00
Mr S. Skeys	Two litter bins installation at MWG and Sinton. Invoice. GPC 0222	£45.00
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly expenses March 2022, including stationery in prep for end of year audit.	£47.50
Mrs Lisa Stevens	Monthly wage Feb 2022.	£576.48
{Scribe} Starboard Systems Limited	Scribe Accounts Annual Subscription. Commencing 1 May 2022. VAT £57.60	£345.60

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