

Ryton and Grindle Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7.00pm St Andrew's Church, Ryton

In attendance: Cllrs Caroline Davis, Jonathan Hartnell-Beavis, John Webb, three members of the public including Graeme Manton of Apley Estates, and the Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey)

22.53 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

22.54 Apologies

There were no apologies

Cllr Richard Marshall had an alternative commitment

22.55 Co-Option

There were no expressions of interest in co-option at this time

22.56 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

22.57 Public Forum

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council had considered planting a tree to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III and if not if it would support an initiative made from outside of the Council.

Graeme Manton, Estate Manager from Apley Estates, said that a tree could be provided, and also said that it would be possible for it to be planted on the Triangles. Cllr Jonathan Hartnell-Beavis said that there was also a possible location in the church.

It was agreed that an oak tree would be a suitable tree to plant.

22.58 Apley Estates

Graeme Manton, gave an update from Apley Estates regarding plans to develop the site at Lower Grindle Farm. Mr Manton said that the project was in very early stages, and that there were two potential plans:

- i) To convert all existing buildings to include 10 houses
- ii) To take down the existing farmhouse and replce it with housing, and to build two affordable houses on Green Belt land, resulting in a total of 14 houses

It was noted that the farm house is a listed building, but is in a poor state of repair. Mr Manton said that he had met with the Conservation Officer and there would be a good case for removing the listing status because of the building's poor condition and the difficulty presented in trying to restore and renovate it.

The houses would be small, two or three bedrooms, as it had been thought that this would address housing need. There would be parking for two cars per house. The plans include garden space.

Members of the public and Councillors present gave a positive response to the plans, noting the local need for housing, and that there are currently no young families in Grindle. It was suggested that a play area for children would be something to consider including in the plans.

22.59 Shropshire Councillor's Report:

There were no reports from the Shropshire Councillor for Worfield, Richard Marshall, at this time

It was noted that the plans for a solar farm at Kemberton would be going to Shropshire Council's South Planning Committee at Shire Hall on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

22.60 Minutes:

It was agreed to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 24th January 2023

22.61 Clerk's Report

The Parish Clerk noted the following:

- Web statistics had been circulated prior to the meeting. There had been 9 visitors during the previous month.
- Village gateways costings varied between £700 and £2100. There would also be a requirement for a Section 50 Streetworks License, the price of this on Shropshire Council's website was £450
- The Internal Audit had kindly offered to do the Internal Audit again this year
- Looking into approaches to placing defibrillators on buildings, where it is a public building such as a pub or shop, the host tends to carry the cost. On private buildings, a contribution is sometimes made towards electricity costs, or alternatively, a donation given to a charity instead.

Consideration was given to a potential location for village gateways, in Ryton this would most likely be by the salt bin and another at another entrance. It was questioned where there would be enough spaces in the verges to locate gateways. Cllr John Webb said that the village gateways for Grindle might give a 'sense of place'.

It was agreed to review village gateways in 12 months' time.

22.62 Finance

- a) It was agreed to approve the following payments:-

Travel expenses (March) £14.40
Salary (Quarter 4 & Backpay) £440.46
HMRC (Quarter 4) £110
St Andrew's Church hire - £100
CGH Electrical Ltd - £930 (retrospective)
ICO annual fee - £35 (due by Direct Debit on 23rd March 2023)

- b) There were no receipts to note at this time
- c) It was agreed to approve the Reconciliation and Bank Statements for end of month of January 2022
- d) It was agreed to approve Receipts and Payments including income and expenditure spreadsheets to month of January 2022
- e) It was agreed to approve the updated Assets Register

22.63 Planning

- a) Planning Notifications: there were none at this time
- b) There were no planning notifications received since the publication of the agenda.

Cllr John Webb noted that there had been no movement in the works that had been started at the Lindens.

22.64 Highways

- a) Highway maintenance: there were no matters relating to highways maintenance, it was noted that there roads were in 'no worse state'.
- b) Cllr John Webb noted that he had litter-picked three black bags of rubbish in the lanes in the last month, and that this was just in the Parish.

22.65 Environment

- a) It was agreed to renew the Environmental Maintenance Contract with Riverwood for the upcoming year. Cllr John Webb requested that the contractor be asked to not cut the Triangle area and underneath the noticeboard opposite Ryton Road because of the crocuses.
- b) Cllr Jonathan Hartnell-Beavis requested that the Parish Council considers supporting the Zero Hour campaign.

It was agreed to support the Zero Hour campaign therefore resolving to:

- Support the Climate and Ecology Bill
- Write to Phillip Dunne to let him know that the motion has been passed – urging him to support the Bill
- Write to Zero Hour, organisers of the cross-party support for the Bill, expressing the Parish Council's support

22.66 Correspondence

West Mercia Police has sent a contact contract has been sent to the Parish Council as part of the Local Policy Community Charter initiative

It was agreed to file the same three top concerns as last time: anti-social behavior (fly-tipping), wildlife crime, thefts (outbuildings).

Scrambling on bikes was mentioned as an area of concern, as it was sometimes noisy and caused a nuisance.

22.67 Any other Parish Matters

Cllr Jonathan Hartnell-Beavis said that he had bene contacted by the Church Building Committee to see if the Parish Council would support the restoration of the clock.

It was noted that there were legal impediments to a Parish Council offering financial support towards the fabric of a church building, however, it was considered that there were other types of support that could be offered towards the project. It was suggested that a letter of support towards the restoration of the clock from the Parish Council could be helpful for securing alternative funding.

It was agreed to write an open letter of support for the restoration of the clock.

22.68 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on at St Andrew's Church, Ryton, 7.00pm on Tuesday May 23rd