

Ryton and Grindle Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th March 2021 at 7.30pm
on ZOOM Meeting ID: 854 1233 4032**

Present: Cllrs John Webb (Chairman), Sarah Williams (Vice-Chairman), Richard Holt, Anne Banks, Neil Dodd, PCSO Sam Newbrook, Vanessa Voysey (Parish Clerk)

20.44 Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies as all councilors were present.

20.45 Declarations of Interest

There were none at this time

20.46 Public Forum

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Sam Newbrook from the Shifnal and Albrighton Safer Neighbourhood Team. He works with PCSO Jacqui Fletcher and Officer Amanda Cooper in the area. The coverage is not 24/7 but it is aimed to get out to all areas.

Sam reported that there had been some Covid related referrals in the area and reports of hare-coursing. PC Phil Nock is the Wildlife Officer and he has been dealing with wildlife crime reports. In response to questions from Councillors on wildlife and rural crime, he advised that if something is happening then and now it should be called into 999 for deployment.

Councillors raised the issue of numerous bottles lying empty in the lanes of the parish, and the implication of drink driving incidents. Sam advised that this would be looked into. 'Nottingham Knockers', protecting vulnerable residents, and outbuilding theft were also raised as potential issues. The Parish Clerk said that neighbouring Kemberton had raised the poor condition of the local roads as a road safety issue with PCSO Jacqui Fletcher when she attended their meeting in the previous week, the Councillors of Ryton and Grindle had been pressing on this issue and shared similar concerns.

20.47 Report from Shropshire Councillor

There was none at this time.

20.48 Minutes

It was proposed, seconded and resolved to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th December 2020

20.49 Matters Arising

There were none at this time.

20.50 Payments

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to approve the following payments:-

Salary Quarter 4	salary	£388.44
Clerk's Expenses	memory stick	£14.99
Garden4Less	two benches	£690.00

20.51 Finance

- a) It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to approve the Reconciliation and Bank Statements for the month of December 2020
- b) It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to approve Receipts and Payments including income and expenditure spreadsheets for December 2020

20.52 Parish Council Website and email addresses

20.52.1 Parish Council Website

Cllr Sarah Williams had requested this item. She said that despite having a training session with Web Orchard, and having some experience of building websites, she found the current website user-unfriendly and expressed concern at how this could impede expanding its use and making it a community resource - making it a news portal including police and Neighbourhood Watch notifications. The Parish Clerk concurred with this view.

It was agreed to look at costs and another solution that could be used in-house. Cllr Anne Banks suggested looking at Google Drive as a cost-effective solution that could be used in-house. There was also discussion about template site options, and the need for transparency and to adhere to legislation on access requirements.

It was agreed that Cllr Sarah Williams and the Parish Clerk would look at costings, requirements, and renewal dates for the current website.

10.52.2. Dedicated email addresses

Cllr Sarah Williams said that she had found that setting up a specific email for Council business had made finding items easier. It is also advisable for GDPR compliance.

It was agreed that this would be looked into as part of the website review.

20.53 Planning

21/00689/TCA Notification of tree works to include the reduction by 30% to 40% three evergreens, one silver birch and one cherry tree all within Ryton Conservation Area

A comment on this application had already been filed with Shropshire Council and there was no further comment at this time

21/00834/TCA Work to trees as per description of works within Ryton Conservation Area

Cllrs Sarah Williams and John Webb had met up with the Shropshire Council Tree Officer to discuss this application and reported that their concerns had been addressed including assurances of ongoing planting schemes and conservative management of trees.

There was no further comment to file.

20.54 Environment and Highways

20.53.1 Maintenance of the Triangle Areas

Cllr John Webb reported that it had been challenging to get quotes for this work. Cllr Richard Holt suggested sourcing the materials and forming a work party. Sleepers placed at 1 meters depth were suggested as suitable for the signpost triangle area.

Cllr Neil Dodd raised the need to seek the permission of Highways for undertaking the work.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to source materials of up to £400, to form a work party to place sleepers in the Signpost Triangle area.

The Parish Clerk agreed to seek the permission of Highways to undertake the work, and to liaise with the Chairman, Cllr John Webb, in undertaking a risk assessment.

In respect of the larger triangle areas, grass areas on the junction into Grindle Road, Cllr John Webb advised that he had received permission from Apley Estates as the owners to undertake work to make it a wildflower area.

Cllr Richard Holt said that this should be preparatory year and that long-term this would be a sustainable plan. He advised informing the public as to the appearance of the area in the preparatory period. The plan would be to have a meter boundary around the two triangles with a wildflower area in the middle.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to spray off and prepare the area of the larger triangles, seeding at the end of 2021 and for this to be done in-house.

It was agreed that a risk assessment would be undertaken by Cllr John Webb and the Parish Clerk, Cllr Webb said that this would include the need to have a spray application license, and that he was compliant in this respect.

It was agreed to look into providing signs to explain to the public what is going on. Exploring grants options was also considered as an option to look into.

20.53.2 Benches

The replacement memorial benches are now in place. There was some discussion on the pre-existing plaque on the War Memorial bench, and the inscription on the Jubilee Bench. The plaque from the Memorial Bench has been preserved and it was agreed that this should remain the case.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to replace the Queen's Diamond Jubilee bench with an inscription saying: replacement of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee bench, 2021, Ryton and Grindle Parish Council

20.53.3 Any other environmental matters

There were none at this time.

20.54 Highways

It was agreed to contact both Shropshire Council Customer Services and Highways to complain about the lack of response over Highways issues. Of concern are sweeping the chippings, potholes and the general condition of the roads as a safety issue.

The use of the track by the church by delivery riders was discussed. Cllr Neil Dodd said that it is a safety issue as younger children play outside and some of the traffic drives at inappropriate speeds. Bollards were suggested as a solution, and contacting SATNAV companies to advise it is not a through road.

It was agreed that as a way forward, Cllr Neil Dodd will speak to affected tenants as a preliminary to taking action

20.55 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs John Webb, Sarah Williams and Richard Holt had attended an online meeting about Neighbourhood Plans and gave a verbal report.

Cllr Sarah Williams expressed the need to proceed with caution, and her concerns about the Neighbourhood Plan not preventing development as had been the case in Shifnal where a plan is in place. It can't conflict with local plans or the national plan. There are few plans in place in Shropshire. There is also a large amount of work involved.

Cllr John Webb said that he did not see how the parish could undertake a Neighbourhood Plan on its own, and suggested contacting the Chairs of others of the six parishes to see if there was any interest in an online meeting to discuss it There was general agreement that this was something to pursue

20.56 Correspondence

There was none at this time.

20.57 To approve the dates of the meetings for the year 2021/2022

There are to be a minimum of four meetings in the year of which one will be the annual meeting in May. The Chairman, Cllr John Webb, proposes to move to bi-monthly meetings the first which is to be held in May 2021.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to meet every two months.

The dates agreed were the third Wednesday in the month the dates of which will be:

19th May 2021 – to include a separate public meeting
21st July 2021
15th September 2021
17th November 2021
19th January 2022
16th March 2022

20.58 Other Parish Matters

There were none at this time

20.59 Confidential Session

Exclusion of Public and Press: in accordance with Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters. It is therefore recommended, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded.

PCSO Sam Newbrook left the meeting

20.60 Confidential Planning Matters

There was discussion a planning enforcement issue.

Cllr Richard Holt advocated requesting information on the non-confidential aspects of the case through a Freedom of Information request. There was general agreement on this matter and that questions should be determined through email

20.61 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on to 19th May 2021 following the local government elections