



RIPPLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held 8th January 2024 at 7.15pm at Ripple Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs. M. Peters (Chairman), M Davies (Vice Chair), M England, P Turner, Dist Cllr J Owenson, County/Dist Cllr Martin Allen

Attendees: Interim Clerk M White, Heather Lealan and Robs Marsden from Cemex and 8 members of public were in attendance.

08.01.24.1 **The Chairman will formally ask if anyone is intending on recording or filming the Meeting.** There were no requests to record or film the meeting

08.01.24.2 **To receive comments from the public - no decisions will be made on issues raised. Any items requiring decisions will be added to the agenda for the next meeting (NB Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business that are not specified on the agenda (LGA1972 Sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119)**

Nikki Reeves from REACT was present to provide an update on the Cullimore hearing, which took place on the 5th December. The hearing was well attended but GCC, who were in support of the application, chose not to defend the proposal. It is generally felt that the chances of winning are slim. There is still an issue with the common land, and the momentum is slow. Nikki added that it was 4 years to the day that original proposal was submitted.

A member of the public thanked the council for providing her with access to the agendas but pointed out that D Cllr Jeremy Owenson's address on the noticeboard in Naunton was incorrect. The Chairman agreed to review this.

A member of the public commented on how well the Lengthsman had performed since starting in October, but that there were still some footpaths in the parish in need of urgent attention.

08.01.24.3 **To note absence – there were none**

08.01.24.4 **To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda below (Localism Act 2011) and to confirm the meeting quorate.** There were no declarations of interest, and the meeting was declared quorate.

08.01.24.5 **To welcome Heather Lealan and Rob Marsden from Cemex to discuss the proposed extension of Ryall Quarry.**

Rob Marsden addressed the meeting to outline the current and future proposals for the quarry; currently, Cemex are looking for the next phase for development beyond Ripple East, and the planned site is at the existing quarry.

The restoration program would be to return the land to agricultural and introduce wetland areas at the upper and lower end of the site, with some infill. It is anticipated that another 2-3

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years of extraction would take place and a year of restoration. There is no new vehicular access planned for the new site.

Rob promised to email full details and plans that can be added to the website and circulated for residents to see proposals more clearly. Vice Chair Maggi Davies, D Cllr Owenson and members of the public raised concerns over the restoration to date, both the current site and other sites near the M50, expressing disappointment that work so far, almost 9 years later, has been non-existent and falling short of what has been promised.

Indeed, a member of the public raised the matter of abandoned equipment and machinery near the M50 bridge. Rob stated he was not aware of this but promised to raise the issue with the site manager. Rob also suggested that site visits be facilitated for the council and this offer was very welcome. Heather and Rob left the meeting at 20.30.

Other matters resumed at 20.30 hours

08.01.24.6 To confirm and agree minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th November 2023
Minutes approved. Proposed Cllr M England, Seconded Cllr P Turner

08.01.24.7 To Receive Clerk’s Report and agree actions. APPENDIX 1
The Clerk agreed to circulate the report for review for the purpose of expediency, with the exception of asking the Council to agree a new delegate to replace Marian Baum on the Ryall Community Liaison Group, of which the next meeting is 26th January via Teams. Cllr M England agreed to take on this responsibility.

08.01.24.8 To Receive County Councillor’s report and agree actions. APPENDIX 2

08.01.24.9 To Receive District Councillor’s report and agree actions.
D Cllr Owenson asked that any complaints regarding floating glass bottles from the car park recycling centre to raise with MHDC. The bottle banks were compromised during the bad flooding this month, and this highlights again that the bins need to be emptied more frequently, certainly when heavy rain and potential flooding is forecast, or larger bins are provided.

08.01.24.10 Finance, all documents circulated prior to the meeting.

08.01.24.10a) To approve bank reconciliation and Budget Monitoring Report Up to December 2023.
Approved.

08.01.24.10b) To consider and resolve to agree Payment List and payments made since the last meeting.
Approved:

Payments Required		
Company	Amount	Comments
Ripple Parish Hall	£121.50	
M White WFH allowance	£18.00	
	£136.50	



Paid since last meeting		
Payslip M. White	£814.84	
M White WFH allowance	£24.00	
M White expenses	£73.97	
Payslip M. Hinde	£725.32	
Portch services	£220.00	
Community Heartbeat	£198.00	
Tim Hughes	£527.45	
Three	£6.00	
	£2,589.58	
Received since last meeting		
Lengthsman Scheme	£200.00	Tim's salary

08.01.24.11 To discuss and agree the Council budget and Precept for 2024. APPENDIX 3

The Chairman ran through the draft budget, proposing a Precept of £26,776.00 for 2024-25. The precept represents an increase of 11% on the 2023/2024 precept, but when compared at a household level it only represent an increase of £3.81 for Band D properties. It was suggested that an extra bin be included within the budget to be installed in The Beeches. The Chairman confirmed that the funds set aside for bins would cover this.

The precept was Proposed Cllr P Turner Seconded Vice Chair M Davies

08.01.24.12 To discuss the progress with the installation of bollards at Holly Green regarding the parking and dangerous driving and follow up on meeting with Martin Allen and Tanya Crake on the 7th December.

C Cllr M Allen confirmed that Verge Master bollards will be installed at Holly Green. No time frame has been given.

08.01.24.13 To discuss the overhanging branches at the vacant property at 5 The Beeches.

It was proposed that the Clerk will write to the owner of the property to request that they maintain the trees appropriately. Council was reminded that the Lengthsman could only intervene to cut the branches back with the permission of the landowner.

08.01.24.14 To review and agree situation of dog fouling and lack of bins at The Beeches.

A member of the public confirmed that there are irresponsible dog owners in the area who allow their pets to foul on residents verges and pavements, and that bins are not used. It was agreed that one more bin will be installed and added to the budget for 2024/2025 and placed at the noticeboard at The Beeches. It was also agreed that the unofficial bin that has been placed at Ryall Court Lane and now full, must be removed.



- 08.01.24.15** **To discuss and agree the position of the final bin in Ripple.**
The Chairman confirmed that the new position was stipulated as next to the noticeboard in Ripple, and that permission must be sought from the landowner. C Cllr Allen suggested emailing Tanya Crake to ask her to clarify ownership.
- 08.01.24.16** **To discuss the following planning applications/appeals made since the last meeting and agree actions:**
- 08.01.24.16a** **Pre-order consultation – Proposed diversion and partial extinguishment of footpaths in Earl’s Croome and Ripple - applications from CEMEX to divert and partially extinguish public rights of way. Received and forwarded to Council on 11th December.**
The proposed diversion creates more paths than it removes – no objections.
- 08.01.24.16b** **Ongoing 15/000012/CM Ryall House Farm Quarry - consultation regarding the carrying out of development pursuant to planning permission reference number: 15/000012/CM (15/00440/COM), dated 23 May 2016 without complying with condition 12 of that permission – comments required by 12th January 2024 – forwarded to Council on 18th December.**
Council suggested liaising with Cemex as previously proposed during their presentation earlier in the meeting and ask for a site visit and detailed plans outlining the restoration plans. It was agreed that the Clerk would add this as a comment on the planning website by 12th January.
- 08.01.24.16c** **NEW M/23/01422/HP Wells Furlong, Uckinghall – Single storey rear extension to detached dwelling – forwarded to Council on the 20th December.**
No objections.
- 08.01.24.16d** **NEW M/23/01774/HP Grove Cottage, Ryall – single storey extension (part replacement) – forwarded to Council on the 30th December.**
No objections.

Date of Next Meeting : Parish Council Meeting 19th February 2024.

Meeting closed at 21.00 hours

Signed _____

Dated _____



APPENDIX 1

Clerk Report 8th January 2024

Ryall Community Liaison Group

Are looking to organise dates for meetings for 2024 – the next one is via Teams on the 26th January. Previously, Marian Baum was the RPC representative for this group. Can we please nominate a replacement delegate? The last meeting was in March 23 and there is supposed to be 2 per year, and Cemex are responsible for facilitating and minute taking.

Safer Neighbourhood Team -West Mercia Police

I have renewed the next quarter's SNT contract with Nick Elwell with speeding, antisocial behaviour and other traffic offences being the priority issues. The next review will be on 1/4/24.

Overflowing manholes and drains

Several issues have arisen, all apparently long-standing, on the A4104 with drains overflowing in bad weather. I have raised this with Highways and Severn Trent Water and both have stated that this is a matter for the Environment Agency. I have raised a complaint, but I understand from various sources that this has been an ongoing issue for years. Given the increasingly wet winters being experienced it will be necessary to continue to alert the EA to these problems to ensure reparations are made. Emails forwarded to council members on 18th December.

Lengthsman

Priorities will be reviewed and discuss at the meeting on 19th February

IONOS web management

It has been decided that we will remain with IONOS for another year. Rates increase this month when the contract is renewed on the 13th as follows:

IONOS have offered RPC a 15% discount.

The increase is to £16.00 pm ex VAT which is £19.20 INCLUDING VAT

Wix offer £7.20 per month for the first year and increase £16 per month thereafter, so not much in it, but they offer better platforms.



APPENDIX 2

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARTIN ALLEN

REPORT TO RIPPLE PARISH COUNCIL JANUARY 2024

Good evening,

COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

BOW FARM MINERAL EXTRACTION

This was heard by a planning inspector In December 2024. I believe we will have an answer on the 19th of January.

RYALL EAST QUARY APPLICATION – Nr Ripple and Uckinghall.

As I said at our last two meetings, I have spoken to officers at WCC, and they are still waiting for the applicant to send in more information.

I have asked for another briefing prior to this application going to WCC planning committee.

RIPPLE SCHOOL LANE QUARY FOR MINERALS APPLICATION

Just to confirm that still no formal planning application has yet been received.

ON DEMAND BUS

This service is running and appears to be doing well. The current leaflets are not up to scratch. I am still waiting for leaflets that show the areas that the service cover and the phone number to call.

The official start is I am told today on the 8th of Jan 2024. The last Community Bus will run week commencing Monday 22/01/2024.

I have been assured that Tewkesbury will be a destination that residents can go to from the 8th of Jan.

HOLLY GROVE ON THE RYALL ROAD #6279

Complaints about parking on the grass. Following the site meeting we have agreed to install 3 x Verge Masters, the work has been authorised, I am waiting for a date for the work to be done.

20222333



THE GROVE SIDE OF THE BLUE BELL PUB ADDITIONAL GULLY REQUIRED #5282

Water is not draining away from the lowest part of the road; the camber forces the water to pool in one location by the side of the pub. An extra Gully needs to be installed and connected to the other Gullies.

01/12/2023 I received this email below

Hi Martin,

This has been added to the program for 22/01/2024. The plan is to install an additional gully and they may have to look at re-profiling the road, but they will know more when they get out there in January. This has been planned with the usual caveats of the weather etc.

Kind regards

Highways.

THE GROVE ON THE A38 SPEED ADDITIONAL ROUNDAL #6357 20/12/23

I have asked for an additional roundel to be installed on the northbound side of the A38 just before you reach the cross roads to the Ryall Road and The Grove.

THE GROVE ON THE A38 PEDESTRIANS IN THE ROAD REQUIRED EITHER END OF THE VILLAGE #6301 12/12/23

I have also asked for this to be considered.

RYALL ROAD GULLY AT ENTRANCE TO THE BEECHES #5072

There are defects with the Gully at the point, the work to rectify the faults have been booked for 19/02/2023.

UCKINGHALLS FLOOD DEFENSE

Behind the scenes I have been working with Cllr Harrison who heads Planning and Flooding at MHDC. We have both had some concerns about Uckinghall defences on Ferry Lane. We have now had this communique from Mr Charles Chandler of the EA, who wanted to make the EA's position clear, please see below the part pertaining to Uckinghall:

- A) Uckinghall Flood Risk Management Scheme: all lengths of flood wall at Uckinghall are all made from the same sheet piled foundation. These foundations extend approximately 5m down into the ground to prevent failure of the flood wall when fully loaded by flood water. The sheet piles lock together in a tongue and groove style arrangement, this therefore provides a good barrier to water passing through.

20222334



The brick cladding is primarily a visual element to help the flood wall blend into the local setting.

David is right in that the brick cladding to the north of the road was replaced several years ago; this was due to the condition of the brick rather than the operation of the scheme. We are aware that close to the wall we do get ponding of water and we do see water coming up close to the wall, from our monitoring and investigations we believe that this is for several reasons: we believe that there is at least one spring that discharges close to the gate area that is normal conditions passes through the normal highway drainage but comes to the surface during periods of flooding; we know that surface water collects in the low area close to the gate; we know that the wall acts as an area that allows ground water to rise to the surface. For these reasons we have recently improved the drainage in the area close to the gate, allowing all water that is collected to be pumped by the main pumping station. If water exceeds the drainage capacity, we would look to install a local pump like we have done in the past.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to make a flood risk management scheme that is 100% waterproof, but we look to deliver and manage schemes that will keep water out of people's houses. We inspect all our flood risk management assets to ensure that they will operate at the required standard and are safe for the public, we will continue to do this and will continue to monitor the performance of the wall sections at Uckinghall.

DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

PLANNING MATTERS

70 Homes on the A4104 at Holly Green – I still have no more news when this will come before the Southern Area Planning Committee.

LORRIES PARKED OFF SCHOOL LANE AT THE OLD OIL DEPOT.

04/01/2023 I sent you the latest I had from Seb Ash, MHDC Enforcement Team.

As you will have seen, land C is now ok. The land at A and B is still a problem and MHDC are waiting for the Planning Contravention Notices for both areas to be returned by the owner of the land. I will be chasing this up again in a couple of weeks.

Warmest Regards

CLlr Martin Allen

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APPENDIX 3

Ripple Parish Council

Budget

	2023-24	2024-25
Subscriptions/Association Membership	£1,013.00	£1,200.00
Newsletter/Adverts/Flyers	£301.00	£350.00
Media Donations	£58.00	£0.00
Insurance	£700.00	£750.00
Grass Cutting/Trees	£7,300.00	£5,460.00
Lengthsman	£4,385.00	£3,200.00
Chairmans Allowance	£100.00	£100.00
Prof Fees/Audit	£230.00	£260.00
Clerks Expenses	£756.00	£800.00
Clerks Salary, including payroll costs	£10,479.00	£11,500.00
Annual Public Meeting	£257.00	£300.00
Hall Hire	£114.00	£160.00
Repairs	£662.00	£700.00
Vehicle Activated Sign	£0.00	£0.00
Recreation Ground Maintenance	£0.00	£2,000.00
Tree Survey/Maintenance	£0.00	£750.00
Website	£0.00	£500.00
Admin/Training	£100.00	£200.00
Clerks Equipment	£131.00	£200.00
Defib	£0.00	£500.00
Bus Support	£150.00	£500.00
Handyman	£0.00	£250.00
Waste Bins	£2,000.00	£1,500.00
Bench	£500.00	£0.00
Election fees	£0.00	£0.00
	£29,236.00	£31,180.00

Income

Precept	£24,140.00	£26,776.00
Deposit Account Interest	£5.00	£4.00
Lengthsman Scheme	£2,391.37	£2,400.00
Grass Cutting	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Other Income	£700.00	
	£29,236.37	£31,180.00

£0.00

TaxBase	691.62	691.62
Cost per household	£34.90	£38.71

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