

**Graveley Parish Council's Meeting**  
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014 at 8pm**  
**Held at Graveley Village Hall**

**Present:** .Chairman- Mr Peter Bracey (PB) Vice Chair-Mr Steve Firth (SF) Mr Tony Bracey (TB), Mrs Joyce Andrews (JA), Mrs Hilary Napier (HN) and NHDC Cllr Sal Jarvis (SJ)

Members of the public were also present

**Apologies** – NHDC Cllr.Cathryn Henry (CH) and HC Cllr Tony Hunter (TH)

**Declarations of interest-** none

**Approval of minutes** - The Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013 were approved and signed

**Matters Arising** Included below.

**1)Highways Report.**

*Peter Bracey*

Clerk emailed PB's letter regarding various issues to Roger Flowerday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2013 who passed the email to Rob Payne Design Service Manager who emailed his reply - see the following comments:-

*a) **Street Lighting** – Terry has checked the status of the faults for all of these sites and informs me that they should all now be in lighting (They are). The time-scale for repair of publicly reported street lighting faults is 20 working days, however I understand that due to an issue in High Street with the column not being identified during the routine night scouting of this road, this column took considerably longer to get repaired for which I can only apologise.*

*b) **Hedges** – The hedges adjacent to the foot way heading out of Graveley towards Stevenage and the bus stop have both been inspected by our local area team. I understand and appreciate these may be a unsightly, they are not something that are considered to be hazardous at the present time warranting immediate works . these identified sites will be put onto a cyclical hedge cutting programme for future maintenance.*

*c)**Drainage** - The gully in High Street (outside the George and Dragon pub) was last attended to by a gully emptier in March 2013. At the time d the connection lines were jetted and found to be running fine, the site has been logged for consideration of possible further investigation with CCTV, but at the present time it is a low priority within our maintenance programmes.*

*d) **Church Lane** is currently being programmed and due to the site constraints will need to be carried out under a road closure (which usually takes around 3 months to put in place due to the statutory procedures that have to be followed). As you can appreciate there are strict processes when planning, programming and carrying out all works on the public highway. This includes securing the relevant permits, arranging the required traffic management, obtaining details of any underground plant and apparatus that may be in the vicinity and applying for any Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTRO's) for road closures (where required). In addition, significant amounts of our works are weather dependent and so at this time of the year, our planned programmes can be significantly affected by adverse weather. However, in respect of the Church Lane HLB scheme, Terry has confirmed with me that as soon as this has a confirmed programmed date he will email the Parish a copy of the resident's letter.*

PB will draft a reply for Clerk to send to Rob Payne and Roger Flowerday

**PB/JT**

**(1)**

**e) Railings around the culvert in Ponside-** The railings have been repaired and painted on Ponside and Clerk to get quotes for painting the ones by the grass verge from JDL Construction and Barry Crouch, we suggest the work is carried out in the Spring. As there is some confusion over ownership/responsibility of the culvert it been established that under the 2010 Flood & Management Act that Hertfordshire County Council are the relevant authority. They have been contacted we await their response.

**PB**

## 2) Planning

*Tony Bracey*

**a) 9 Ashwell Close, Graveley** Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing store and outhouse- Ref:13/02895/1HH GPC had no objections, clerk to action.

JT (completed 22/01/14)

**b) Graveley Fruit Farm-** Chris Braybrooke has contacted the land owner regarding a few points, and is now discussing a way forward, he will report back in due course.

**c) Cars For Sale outside The Old Forge-** TB is still pursuing this with Chris Braybrooke as there is still confusing as to who owns the land.

**TB**

**d) North Herts Housing-** a newspaper article on a meeting between North Herts representatives and the Secretary of State was discussed, it was agreed to send a letter of support to the North Herts representatives.(copy to SJ & CH)

**HN**

## 3) Financial Report

*Steve Firth*

**a) Bank Account-** our current and reserve account now stands at £19,048.50

**b) NHDC Grant for Hedge and Grass Cutting-**a grant of £1,000.00 has been received.

## 4) Playground

*Joyce Andrews*

**a) CPM's Quarterly Report** JA read out that all is in order but it was pointed out that the Basket Ball/Football equipment needed re-painting but JA felt that this was little used and suggested any work was put on hold. The other problem was leaves and weeds on the new surfaces-JA will speak to Alan to see if he has the time to do extra work apart from his grass cutting duties. If not as it was felt by all GPC members that maintenance was important. JA pointed out that the playground is being used by the younger children from the Pre School Group from The Village Hall. JA to report developments at the next meeting.

**JA**

## 5) Any Other Business

**a) Road Repairs Ashwell Close in front of new parking spaces** – Sarah Paxton emailed a reply from *Chris Rowley Capital Works Manager* believe they are commenting on the tarmac area in front of the new parking spaces, this was never part of our works. I have asked my contractor for a price and if there is sufficient budget left and David agrees I will get area resurfaced. I am not sure how quickly this will happen. Clerk to follow up in due course.

**JT**

(2)

**b) Fence on the elevated roadway by the Yard in the High Street-** It has been reported to Highways their response:- will be considered for works as part of future planned routine

maintenance work

## **6) Matters Arising,**

**a) Parking outside the school-** PCSO Elaine Cuozzo emailed January 2014-*Sorry I was off sick at the end of last year but Chris has been outside the school once before they broke up for the holidays. I will attend the school next week when it reopens and speak to the Head and I will ask her to give out some letters to the children for their parents and I will monitor the parking at school times as often as possible.* Clerk to follow up in due course

**JT**

**b) NHDC Housing Strategy 2013-2018 Questionnaire** – HN has completed and submitted.

**c) No Cars for Sale Sign-** CH has forwarded an email from Andy Goodman at North Herts who asked for more information, which the Clerk has provided, we await further developments-Clerk to keep an eye on progress.

**JT**

## **7) Correspondence received**

**a) Spatial & Land Planning Use-to SF**

**b) NHDC Grant award for grass/hedge cutting £1,000.00**

**c) Herts Travel Plan Business/Residential development -**

**d) NHAPTCC AGM – PB will attend.**

## **8) Cheques Issued**

**a) CPM Playground Inspection £48.00 inc vat**

**b) Clerks Petty Cash £45.80**

**The meeting closed at 9.00 pm**

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall**

**On**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 8 pm.**



