

**Graveley Parish Council's Meeting
Tuesday 20th May 2014 at 8pm
Held at Graveley Village Hall**

Present: .Chairman- Mr Peter Bracey (PB) Vice Chair-Mr Steve Firth (SF) Mrs Hilary Napier (HN)
Tony Bracey (TB)

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – NHDC Cllr Cathryn Henry.

Declarations of interest- none

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 15th April 2014 were approved and signed

Matters Arising Included below.

a) Parish Council Election of Officers- PB agreed to serve as Chairman for the coming year proposed by TB and seconded by HN. SF agreed to serve as Vice Chair and Responsible Financial Officer proposed by PB and seconded by TB. All other members agreed to continue with their present roles.

b) Resignation of Mrs Joyce Andrews-Joyce is moving away from the Village and has resigned from the GPC. All members of GPC would like to put on record our thanks for all her hard work over the years, especially her involvement in the Children's Playground. We wish her well in her new home, Joyce will be missed, Clerk to write.

The statutory notice for an election to be called has been displayed on the Parish notice board and in the Bus Shelter; this is due to expire 22nd June 2014. If after the 22nd no election has been requested, Clerk to display a notice informing any interested individual to contact the Clerk for details if they are interested in joining the Parish Council before the 6th June 2014

JT

1) Highways Report.

Peter Bracey

a) Footpath Church Lane – The footpath work has started at the junction of Church Lane and the High Street, concern was raised regarding the height of the kerb PB will raise with Gary Henning. HN raised once again the amount of speeding traffic in Church Lane which has increased in the last six months it is a 30mph limit. PB to draft a letter for the Clerk to send to John Wood at HCC asking for a traffic assessment to be carried out.

PB

b) Accidents – North Road/ High Street safety improvements are planned to start Tuesday 27th June, the work will take three weeks to complete.

c) Parking outside GPS – Clerk has contacted PCSO Elaine Cuzzo who emailed - *Just to let you know where we stand with parking outside the school. I have been up there a couple of times and had no problems. I have only received one complaint about the parking from a resident who I have been unable to contact despite leaving messages at the house. I have also spoken to the school who have had no complaints recently. I will be outside the school again on Friday morning and will hand out some leaflets to parents asking them to be considerate when parking.* GPC urge those who have parking issues to report the problem to the police.

d) Railings around the culvert in Pondsides- PB had a meeting with Herts County Council Flood Risk Management regarding ownership and responsibilities of the railings and ditch. A report was to be issued for by the GPC April meeting. The Flood Risk Management Team has identified the area that is considered Highways but it is not maintainable at public expense. They are now to trying to find out what this means in terms of getting the culvert and watercourse cleared.

PB

e) Street Lights- we are still experiencing problems with faulty lights PB to discuss with Trevor Ward of Ringway at his next walkabout.

PB

2) Planning

Tony Bracey

a) Waste Recycling Centre Amendment to size and height of 3 buildings- TB to let Clerk have a draft of GPC's observations to send to Planning. The advertising signs on the perimeter fence have been removed.

TB

b) Application to record Green Lane off Milksey Lane, Graveley, as a footpath no action required by GPC.

c) Cars For Sale outside The Old Forge- Chris Braybrooke has supplied the search details from the Land Registry and will continue to find out who or if the Land in question is owned.

d) Car for sale in the lay-by- The GPC has received conflicting reports from HCC and NHDC. HCC reporting that the issue should be dealt with by NHDC under the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 and NHDC saying it should be dealt with by HCC under Section 149 of the Highways Act. The help of County Councillor Tony Hunter and District Councillor Cathryn Henry has been requested to resolve this issue.

PB/CH/TH

e) North Herts Local Plan- It seems that the new proposals would mean 86% of green belt land would be built on. It was agreed to discuss more fully at the next GPC meeting.

3) Financial Report

Steve Firth

a) Annual Accounts- The GPC Examined, Agreed and Adopted the 2013-14 Financial and Audit reports together with the Governance Statement for submission to BDO, our External Auditors. Clerk to send by registered post.

A letter to be sent to Hilary Thompson thanking her for carrying out the Internal Audit

JH

b) Bank Account- Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £19,458.90

4) Playground

a) Maintenance- Clerk has issued CPM with an order to carry out the work as agreed at the last GPC meeting, he has spoken to them and the work should be completed in the next week. Clerk to keep an eye on progress.

JT

b) Rent Increase- The new lease was signed and Clerk to send to Suffolk Legal in Ipswich.

JT

c) Fence Repairs- The fence on one side has been severely damaged and it was agreed that Plants Galore & Garden Maintenance, carry out the necessary work the quoted price is £146.00 and will be carried out this week. It was thought that the damage could have occurred by vandalism. Clerk to contact PCSO Elaine Cuzzo and ask her to visit when she is next in the area. The general condition of the fence was discussed and it was agreed that the costs should be obtained for replacement. Clerk to contact Jarretts and CPM to get quotes.

JT

5) Any Other Business

a) Caravan (Grinders End) - A caravan has appeared in the woodland TB to report to Chris Braybrooke to ascertain if it was not against any planning laws. Chris Braybrooke emailed - *it appears there has been an issued with the file being made up in respect of this site; I have passed on the details for a second time for a file to be raised and an investigation to be carried out.*

TB

6) Matters Arising,

b) Salt Supplies at the Village Hall - Our Litter Picker has sorted out the salt supplies, and re-bagged the faulty bags.

c) Insurance- As AEON failed to supply a quote (after two reminders) it was agreed to stay with our current providers Aviva as our remittance is due for the next year.

d) Damaged salt bin- In Church Lane has been removed.

7) Correspondence received-None

8) Cheques Issued

- a)** Hire Village Hall one year £216.00 no vat
- b)** Clerks Petty Cash £112.35
- c)** Came & Co (Aviva Insurance) one year £670.134.
- d)** Paul Baltruschat £134.00 no vat

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall
On
Tuesday 17th June 2014 at 8 pm.**

