

**Graveley Parish Council's Meeting**  
**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at 8pm**  
**Held at Graveley Village Hall**

**Present:** .Chairman- Mr Peter Bracey (PB) Vice Chair-Mr Steve Firth (SF) Tony Bracey (TB)  
NHDC Cllr Sal Jarvis (SJ), HCC Cllr Tony Hunter (TH) and Cheryl Peers (CP)

Members of the public were also present

**Apologies** –Mrs Hilary Napier (HN)

**Declarations of interest-** none

**Approval of minutes** - The Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were approved and signed

**Matters Arising** Included below.

**a) Parish Council New Member-** The statutory notices have been displayed on the Village Noticeboard and we received one enquiry for the vacant post for a member of the GPC, owing to the resignation of Mrs Joyce Andrews. PB proposed that Mrs Cheryl Peers was co-opted on to the Council seconded by SF and was welcomed by all the members. CP will take up her- duties looking after the Children's Playground and we are sure she will be of great help in all areas of GPC matters.

**1) Highways Report.**

*Peter Bracey*

**a) Footpath Church Lane** – A reply to the questions raised with regard to the Traffic Assessment for the proposed Roundwood development has not yet been received. PB to follow up.

**PB**

**b) Accidents** – North Road/ High Street safety improvements have not yet started PB to speak to Roger Flowerday to get more information. If no concrete information is given PB will draft a letter for the Clerk to send to John Wood.

**PB/JT**

**c) Parking outside GPS** – PCSO Elaine Cuozzo is keeping a watchfull eye on the problem of paring outside the school.

**d) Railings around the culvert in Pondsideside-** Jack Shepherd is continuing to look into who is responsible for the railings and keeping the culvert clear of debris he will report in due course.

**PB**

**e) Street Lights-** At the moment all street lights in the Village are functioning.

**f) Road resurfacing Pondsideside-**work will not now take place until the end of August this year due to environmental issues..

**g) Overgrown hedges in the high Street-**A works order by HH has been raised for the work to be carried out.

**h) Dead Tree in Ashwell Close-**a member of the public has requested that this tree (corner of

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Ashwell Close and Common) be removed PB to organize with the appropriate authority.

**PB**

**2) Planning**

*Tony Bracey*

**a) Waste Recycling Centre Amendment to size and height of 3 buildings-** TB supplied the Clerk with GPC's observations which Clerk has sent off to NHDC

**b) Waters Edge Ponds, Graveley, -** Case Ref No: 14/01473/1L B Listed Building: Replace all existing windows and the French doors on west elevation with timber, double-glazed windows and French doors together with internal alterations-*Graveley Parish have no objections to the proposed alterations/refurbishment. GPC Comment If the planners/NHDC (are minded) to grant the application to install double glazing The Graveley Parish Council request that the glazing bars are timber and fixed externally on the double glazing panel.*

**JT(done 19/06/14)**

**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. Andy Goodman emailed-*A field officer has been out and has established that, according to the Highway Authority, the land around The Old Forge is classified as highway (and therefore subject to control via the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005). The two vehicles exposed for sale are not currently registered to any individual but are "in trade" pending disposal. Contact will be made with the vendor tomorrow to establish their identity and relationship to The Old Forge.*

**d) Car for sale in the lay-by-** Still no movement on the sign deterring selling of cars Andy Goodman emailed-*The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 doesn't make reference to the term 'motor trader' as such but makes it an offence to expose, for sale, two or more vehicles on the highway within 500 metres: 3 Exposing vehicles for sale on a road -(1) A person is guilty of an offence if at any time-(a) he leaves two or more motor vehicles parked within 500 metres of each other on a road or roads where they are exposed or advertised for sale, or -(b) he causes two or more motor vehicles to be so left. I'm in the process of checking the registered keeper details of the latest vehicle and will get back to you once the DVLA has provided this.*

**TB/JT**

**e) North Herts Local Plan-** It seems that the new proposals would mean 86% of green belt land would be built on. SJ pointed out that the meeting for NHDC to discuss plans has been deferred until September this year, so we will have to wait.

### **3) Financial Report**

***Steve Firth***

**a) Annual Accounts-** BDO, our External Auditors have raised one or two small points the SF will answer.

**SF**

**b) Bank Account-** Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £22,278.55

### **4) Playground**

***Cheryl Peers***

**a) Maintenance-** CPM have completed the repair work and have carried out the 3 monthly inspection, the report was read out by PB and passed to CP for consideration.

**b) Rent Increase-** The new lease was signed and Clerk has sent to Suffolk Legal in Ipswich who

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require a cheque made out to NHDC for one year's rent..

**JT(sent)**

**c) Fence Repairs-** Plants Galore & Garden Maintenance have completed the fence repairs. The general condition of the fence was discussed and it was agreed that the costs should be obtained for replacement. PB and TB obtained three quotes and it was agreed to give the work to Jarretts whose quote was the best (£2,458.44 inclusive of VAT) TB to speak to Richard Jarrett and get a time schedule. Clerk to raise an order. TB will keep an eye on progress and will be the primary contact.  
**TB/JT**

**d) Trees in Playground-** A householder, whose house abuts the Playground, is concerned about the three trees that overlook her property and would like them to be pollarded. PB has visited the site and requested the householder to get a quote from the Tree Surgeon they are currently using; PB will get quotes from two other sources.

**e) New Bin for Playground-** It was pointed out that whilst litter is not being put in the bin it may be that a lidded one would help as the Crows have a habit of pecking out litter to get at food. JT to look into and get costs.

**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,**

**a) Bank Details-** Clerk to contact NatWest in Hitchin to get the necessary forms for CP to complete so she can countersign Cheques.

**JT**

**b) Litter from Car showroom in the High Street-** SF noticed that a lot of shreds of plastic emanating from the car showroom littered the surrounding pavement and roadway. TB to have a word with the owners of the garage.

**TB**

## **7) Correspondence received-None**

## **8) Cheques Issued**

**a) NHDC Playground Rent** £100.00 one year.

**b) CPM Playground repairs/inspection** £378.00 incl vat

**c) Plants Galore Playground fence repairs** £148.00 no vat

**The meeting closed at 9.10 pm**

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall  
On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at 8 pm.**

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