

**Graveley Parish Council's Meeting
Tuesday 16th September 2014 at 8pm
Held at Graveley Village Hall**

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

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – HCC Tony Hunter, NHDC Cllrs Sal Jarvis (SJ), and Cathryn Henry (CH)

Declarations of interest-none

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 19th August 2014 were approved and signed

Matters Arising Included below.

1) Highways Report.

Peter Bracey

a) Church Lane – Regarding the increase and speeding of traffic in Church Lane, HN has drafted a letter to David Scholes Chief Executive NHDC with a copy to John Wood (Chief Executive and Director of Environment) PB to have a look at it and Clerk to send.

HN/PB/JT

b) Accidents – Still an ongoing situation there is still the problem of funding the site work by the NHS Trust Email received by PB from. Daniel Parker Assistant Engineer - Development Management -*Further to our telephone conversation last week, I can advise you we are preparing to undertake the works with Ringway but will not be able to physically mobilise until we have the necessary funds. We have had a challenge against calling in the bond by the Bondman's, which has delayed the process. We are in active discussions to resolve the challenge and enable Ringway to undertake the works.*

PB

c) Railings around the culvert in Pondsideside- It was agreed to get a quote for painting the railings on Pondsideside TB to arrange.

Investigation of the smells coming from the culvert appears to fall under the NHDC umbrella for enforcement PB to contact NHDC. PB will draft a letter for the Clerk to send to the Environment Officer at HCC.

PB/TB/JT

d) Overgrown hedges in the High Street-A works order by HH has been raised for the work to be carried out. PB to mention to Trevor Ward to get more information as to when the work will be carried out.

PB

e) Street Drain outside the George & Dragon High Street- Herts Highways have confirmed that the drain has been cleared and checked with CCTV. We now await heavy rain to check if successful.

PB

f) Yellow Lines Church Lane-these have now been completed and hopefully will help cut down on the parking on the road.

2) Planning

Tony Bracey

- a) **Waste Recycling Centre- Land adjacent to B197, north of Graveley, Hertfordshire**-the revised plans have been approved by HCC.
- b) **Cars For Sale outside The Old Forge and High Street Lay-by**- NHDC investigating.

3) Financial Report

Steve Firth

- a) **Bank Account**- Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £20,218.86
- b) **New Bank account signature**-CP has had problems with getting the correct forms from our bank, even though the forms were emailed to the Clerk It seems that they were incorrect. CP now has the correct ones and will process.

CP

4) Playground

Cheryl Peers

- a) **Rent Increase**- PB has found a Solicitor (Hamilton & Davies the Old Town Stevenage) who will undertake to register the new lease with the Land Registry. He will undertake the work involved for an estimated £140.00-a considerable saving on a previous quote. When completed Clerk to return to Suffolk Legal.

JT

- b) **Fence Repairs**- Jarretts have carried out the work PB reported that as work had commenced we could not apply for a grant from Southern Rural so GPC will have to fund the cost involved.

- c) **Trees in Playground**- It was felt that a certain amount of remedial landscaping is needed, to be reviewed after fence has been installed., CP to investigate

CP

- d) **New Bin for Playground**- This has been delivered and will be sited after the fence work has been completed

- e) **Playground Hedges on the footpath** – The hedges either side on the approach to the Playground are very overgrown Clerk to contact Hertfordshire Homes to see if they can trim the hedges on the allotment side

JT

5) Any Other Business

- a) **Caravan (Grinders End)** - A caravan has appeared in the woodland it has reported to Chris Braybrooke to ascertain if planning regulation has been breached. Chris Braybrooke has not, as yet. been able to visit the site. Clerk has spoken to our local Postman who confirmed that he had spoken to his Manager and it was in order for post to be delivered.

6) Matters Arising,

b) NHDC Rural Grant Fund- The completed form for the Environmental Improvement application for Litter Picking/ Grass Cutting/ Hedge Cutting has been received by Alan Fleck who emailed *Your application will be considered with the others when the Panel meets later in the year.*

7) Correspondence received-

a) Local Government Boundary Commission Review HN to look at and report at the next CPC meeting.

HN

8) Cheques Issued

a) Clerks Petty Cash £59.93

b) Plants Galore hedge cutting playground £176.00

9) Any Other Business.

a) Proposed Solar Installation Graveley Hall Farm.- we await further information

b) Graveley Village Hall Funding Request The Parish council have had their request for the release the sum of £1,212.04 from their S106 fund to support this project.

c) Street Light not working- the street light no 3 in Ashwell Close has ceased, once again, not to be working. Clerk has reported it to HCC

d)Village Pond clearing of overgrown reeds. Quotes have been received by the Environmental Group and TB to speak to the group suggesting further quotes. GPC have agreed to fund this project for the sum of £900.00 ex vat.

TB

e) Change of footpath to bridleway between Chesfield & Graveley- HN raised the concern of a local resident regarding this proposed change. TB pointed out that the path in question was already a bridleway. HN to check with her source as it is possibly an extension leading off the bridleway in question.

HN

f) Flooding Church Lane at Chesfield -HN raised the issue of flooding in Church Lane. HN to discuss issue with Herts Highways.

HN

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall
On Tuesday 21st October 2014 at 8 pm.**

