

Graveley Parish Council's Meeting
Tuesday 16th June 2015 at 8pm
Held at Graveley Village Hall

Present: Chair Cheryl Peers (CP) Financial Officer Steve Firth (SF) Tony Bracey (TB) and Cllr Sal Jarvis (SJ)

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – Jack Rigg (JR) Hilary Napier (HN) HCC Cllr Tony Hunter (TH) and Cllr Cathryn Henry (CH)

Declarations of interest-TB regarding item below 6a

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 19th May 2015 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

1. Highways Report

Jack Rigg

As JR was unable to attend this meeting he supplied the following report:-

a) Contacted Roger Flowerday on outstanding matters relating to Highways. He has now changed jobs and the new person to contact is Daniel Parker Ass't Engineer Develop Management. (Daniel.Parker@hertfordshire.gov.uk : Tel 01992 658 274)

Status is that the remedial works in relation to the embankment have been completed and were inspected on 6 May 2015 confirming they are to a satisfactory standard. However, the work to the embankment is not deemed complete until the embankment has been established with vegetation. It is now currently with the Developer to take appropriate measures to ensure vegetation establishes in the embankment over the coming months going into Autumn 2015 for final approval and adoption by HCC as the Highway Authority.

b) Fault Reference number for Pot Hole opposite 1 Ashwell Common is 201007044031.

c) Hedges and clearance of debris. Have written to Daniel Parker

d) **Accidents** – Clerk has sent to CH and MT the paperwork regarding the Accidents at the junction of North Road and the High Street as this problem has been going on for many months and needs a solution. We await their findings.

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Tony Bracey

a) **1a High Street- and Caravan (Grinders End)** – Chris Braybrooke has just returned from holiday. TB to follow up and report at the next meeting

TB

b) **Planning Applications**-none received.

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3) Financial Report

Steve Firth

a) **Bank Account**- Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £19,188.15

b) **BDO**- Have pointed out to SF that the GPC need to spend more on projects as our Bank Account is too healthy and could result in our Precept funding being cut. SF asked for any new projects that need funding to apply to GPC.

4) Playground

Cheryl Peers

a) **Playground Inspection**- the playground inspection is due this month CP to liaise with CPM to get this done. It was agreed that the basket ball equipment, which is damaged, will be removed.

CP

b) **Vandalism**-due to the recent vandalism CP has contacted Jarrett Fencing (who put up the fence) regarding cost of the remedial work to repair the fence they have made a site visit and will contact CP. To be discussed at the next meeting.

CP

5) Any Other Business

a) **Ideas To Benefit the Village**- two local residents provoked a lively discussion on various topics

one was a suggestion to provide an area for the local older children to mitigate the vandalism and inappropriate behaviour in the playground but the problem is where, as the GPC do not have any land that could be considered. The two residents who raised this issue are going to do a "survey" on what local youths might want in the way of activities, and report back with it to GPC. Also it was suggested that GPC have a Facebook or some other social media site where local residents could be able to voice their suggestions concerning the Parish. The Clerk pointed out that apart from the open meetings held every month in the village hall, the contact details of the Clerk and GPC members are displayed on the GPC notice board in the High Street, published in Graveley Matters and also in the GPC minutes posted on the Graveley website. The two local residents have suggested they look into the feasibility of this and will report back to GPC for consideration.

b) Parish Council Possible Vacancy- A local resident expressed an interest that if there became a vacancy they would like to be considered. At the moment there is not one but if there was there are procedures that GPC are obliged to carry out – firstly they have to inform NHDC Returning Officer, a notice has to be displayed for 14 days. If ten or more electors for the Parish write to the Returning Officer requesting that an election be held to fill the vacancy an election has to be called if no one applies the GPC can co-opt someone.

c) Graveley Environmental Group- two members of the GEG attended the meeting and gave an up date on the voluntary work they carry out to enhance the village. The central reservations in the High Street have been replanted and regular maintenance takes place, They are also responsible for the pond upkeep, recently the invasive reeds were cut back and planting of water plants have been put in position. In recent years bulbs have been planted around the village and saplings planted.

6) Matters Arising

a) Painting of the Benches and Railings around the Pond- Clerk has received two quotes and discussion will take place at the July meeting as TB could not take part as he declared an interest in

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one of the company's who quoted. Clerk to email the two company's who quoted informing them of the current situation.

JT

7) Correspondence received

a) Police & Crime Commissioner-Report received detailing the crime figures for May 2015 in the Parish-one burglary was reported at Jacks Hill and enquiries were completed by the police.

8) Cheques Issued

- a)** Graveley Environmental Group £86.00
- b)** Clerks Petty Cash £65.89
- c)** A. Eaton Grass Cutting Playground £180.00

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall
On Tuesday 21st July 2015 at 8 pm.**

