

Graveley Parish Council's Meeting
Tuesday 18th August 2015 at 8pm
Held at Graveley Village Hall

Present: Chair Jack Rigg (JR) Vice Chair Cheryl Peers (CP) Financial Officer Steve Firth (SF)
Tony Bracey (TB) Hilary Napier (HN) and NHDC Cllr Sal Jarvis

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – HCC Tony Hunter

Declarations of interest- none

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 11th July 2015 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

1. Highways Report

Jack Rigg

a) Accidents- There have been two more accidents at the North Road and High Street Junction since the July GPC meeting. At the moment there is little more we can do but we will keep an eye on the situation.

b) Hedges and clearance of debris- Email received from Tony Hunter *Reference the vegetation around bus shelter and footway team due to return and cut by hand.*

Please note first attempt using mechanical equipment was an error hence no extra cost in putting it right .JR to chase if not implemented soon as it is causing problems particularly for wheel chair users.

JR

c) Church Lane Potholes-Whilst some patching of the numerous pot holes has been carried out one very large one has been missed. JR contacted Trevor Ward pointing this out. Still no action JR to chase again

JR

d) Retaining wall in High Street- Ringways surveyor is looking into the safety of the wall and will let GPC know what, if anything can be done. JR to keep an eye on progress.

JR

e) Faulty Street Light- SF pointed out a light in Church Lane needs attention. SF to report
SF

2 Planning

Tony Bracey

a) **1a High Street-and Caravan (Grinders End)** – Chris Braybrooke emailed regarding the Caravan and the sign and it is with the Legal Dept and will progress in due course.

b) Letters were sent regarding 1a High Street to HCC Chief Executive John Wood, cc Tony Hunter, and to David Scholes Chief Executive NHDC, cc Mary Caldwell (Planning), Cllrs Cathryn Henry and Sal Jarvis.

c) Chris Braybrooke advised regarding 1a High street as CP had written to MP Peter Lilley he could not take any action pending the latter's response. SJ was surprised at Chris Braybrooke's

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d) stance and undertook to follow up with him. CP has since received a response from Peter Lilley. To be discussed at the next meeting.

TB to send Chris Braybrookes email and CP to send Peter Lilley's reply to SJ.

CP/TB

b) Stevenage Council's Housing Consultation-JR drafted a reply which all GPC members agreed and and Clerk has sent. No further action required.

c) George and Dragon-Chris Braybrooke has consulted the owners of this public House, Green King, regarding the 'Pagoda' that has been erected in the car park. They will be seeking retrospective planning permission.

GPC have received complaints about very late night noise coming from the pub. This is not a planning issue. If local residents are concerned about late night noise they should contact the Environmental Health Dept at NHDC north-herts.gov.uk/.../environmental/noise-smokeand-other-nuisances with details time and date and any other information. For action to be taken by Environmental Health a pattern of nuisance will have to be established.

d) **Bridleways to the north of Stevenage** – GPC have no objection, no action needs to be taken.

3) Financial Report

Steve Firth

a) **Bank Account-** Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £18,22.77 but note some cheques still need clearing,

c) **NHDC Rural Fund Grant-** Clerk has chased Stuart Izzard re the £1,000.00 grant awarded for Grass Cutting/hedge trimming in the playground and litter picking ref 3 411 but so far no reply – it is the holiday season !

JT

4) Playground

Cheryl Peers

a) **Playground Inspection-** the playground inspection has been carried out by CPM They have pointed out that the Playdale Twistm/play needs some work which they will undertake for £20.00 (agreed by GPC). The Clerk has received a price for the removal of the Basket/football goal for £150.00

On the same quote they have itemized that the Play dale equipment would cost £511.00 to replace but in the inspection report it was suggested at this stage just to tighten the brackets. Clerk to sort out with CPM

JT

b) **Repair of Fence-**CP to contacted Jarrett Fencing asking when the remedial work on the fence will be carried out. The order has already been raised

CP

Trimming of Hedge- CP to contacted Sheila Read, of Plants Galore & Garden Maintance, and 4Seasons Specialist Tree Surgeons of Hitchin, whose quote was cheaper. It was pointed out that there are overhangin branches on adjoining properties that need cutting back, the hedge around the entrance needs removing so that the noticeboard is visible.CP to speak to the neighbours and with

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Four Seasons to get a firm price for all this work before an order is raised CP to inform Sheila Read that her quote was not successful

CP/JT

5) Any Other Business

a) **Ideas To Benefit the Village-** GEG will give details of improvement to re-work the patch of land on the corner of Church Lane/High Street. They will get quotes for the work and submit them at the next GPC meeting.

6) Matters Arising

a) High Street Parking- a local resident raised the issue of inconsiderate parking in the High Street and has been in touch with NHDC and is prepared to get involved, in what could be a lengthy process but sought the support of GPC which all agreed to.

b) Culvert Railings- the railings on the the Wagon & Horses side have been painted but there is still some concern regarding the broken ones JR to investigate.

JR

c) Kissing Gate- SF pointed out that it needs some repairs and it was agreed that SF will get a quote for the work

SF

d) Crime Figurers- the police have reported that there was one incident involving a Vehicle Crime in the Parish which they are still pursuing

7) Correspondence received

a) none

8) Cheques Issued

a) CPRE Subscription £36.00

b) Clerks Petty Cash £48.91

c) Litter Picker (3 months) £156.00

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall
On Tuesday 15th September 2015 at 8 pm.**

