

Graveley Parish Council's Meeting
Tuesday 15th September 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 Cathryn Henry (CH)

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – HCC Tony Hunter

Declarations of interest- none

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 18th August 2015 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

1. Highways Report

Jack Rigg

a) Accidents- There has been another accident at the North Road and High Street Junction since the August GPC meeting. At the moment there is little more we can do, but we will keep an eye on the situation. A member of the public has written to GPC regarding the poor lighting. Clerk to reply giving information on which person to contact at Herts Highways

JT

b) Hedges and clearance of debris- This has now been completed

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-awaiting a reply
JR

c) Wagon & Horses- there are still a problem with breaks in the fencing on their side, they have been painted JR to find out when these repairs will be carried out.
JR

d) Retaining Wall 2 and 4 High Street- JR has spoken to Trevor Ward who is getting a specialised contractor to have a look at the problem and will report back in due course.
JR

e) Hedge in Church Lane- a member of the public pointed out that the hedge is very overgrown and makes it difficult for pedestrians. Clerk to write to the land owner pointing this out and seek his help in cutting it back
JT

2 Planning.

Tony Bracey

a) 1a High Street- it was reported by CP that the operators have decided to vacate the yard by the end of the year.

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b) Local Development Plan- Information received from NHDC Cllr Sal Jarvis- the plan progress has slipped a bit the consultation document is to be discussed later this week and the draft version of the document will be ready for the councils consideration early next year.

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.

3) Financial Report

Steve Firth

a) Bank Account- Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £15,726.86 There was a vat refund of £390.00

b) NHDC Rural Fund Grant- Clerk has spoken to Stuart Izzard re our applications for grants for

the Hedge Cutting/Grass Cutting/Litter Picker and the replanting of the piece of land on the corner of the High Street and Church Lane (5a below) and playground equipment both forms must be in by the end of the month.

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 and the order has been raised by the Clerk. CP to chase.

CP

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

JT

c) Trimming of Hedge- 4Seasons Specialist Tree Surgeons of Hitchin, have been sent an order for this work which has been done CP to check that all is in order before passing the invoice for payment.

CP

d) New equipment-CP suggested that with the removal of equipment(see 5b above) we could add another suitable piece of equipment. CP to get details and let the Clerk have them so that he can complete the form for a Playground Grant under the NHDC Rural Grant scheme. This was discussed and carried three votes for and two against. The Clerk pointed out that the submission deadline was tight.

CP/JT

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e) Noticeboard repair- it has been pointed out that a new backboard of marine ply is needed. CP to get a quote from CPM so Clerk can raise an order

CP/JT

5) Any Other Business

a) Ideas To Benefit the Village- GEG has given details of improvements to re-work the patch of land on the corner of Church Lane/High Street. The plan involves clearing the site completely laying down a waterproof membrane and planting low growing plants in the centre with a border of wild flowers around the edge and covering with bark. As the GEC members carry out their work on a voluntary basis it was suggested that we try for a Rural Grant (see 3b above) if not GPC will fund the cost is in the region of £1,200.00

6) Matters Arising

a) A member of the public contacted the Clerk re 5 a above Clerk to inform him of the plans.
JT

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

7) Correspondence received

a) A Member of the public wrote re Accidents North Rd/High Street (see 1a above)

8) Cheques Issued

a) SLCC Subscription £30.00

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall
On Tuesday 20th October 2015 at 8 pm.**

