

**Graveley Parish Council's Meeting
Tuesday 17th November 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) and Hilary Napier (HN)

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – HCC Tony Hunter and NHDC Sal Jarvis and Cathryn Henry

Declarations of interest- none

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 20th October 2015 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

Highways Report

Jack Rigg

a) Accidents- No new accidents were reported by members present this month. As noted in last month's minutes given the frequency of accidents at this junction JR to draft a letter for Clerk to send to Robert Gordon (leader of the council), Terry Douris (portfolio holder for Highways), HCC Tony Hunter, NHDC Sal Jarvis and Cathryn Henry
JR/JT

b) Hedges and clearance of debris- work on the footpath in the High Street has now been completed. Clerk to thank TH for his help.
JT

c) Church Lane Potholes-Whilst some patching of the numerous pot holes has been carried out, one very large one has been missed. JR advised he had contacted Trevor Ward who said that the issue was being taken up by his boss Derek Jerrard. JR has contacted Derek and is awaiting a reply
JR

d) Local Plan meeting at Stevenage- JR, CP and HN attended a meeting with Richard Javes, Planning Policy Manager and Caroline Danby Principle Planning Officer at SBC's Council Offices on 26/10/15. The purpose of the meeting, at SBC's invitation, was to discuss where SBC was with their Local Plan and their views on the future development of Stevenage Town Centre. As their Local Plan had yet to be approved Richard was only able to discuss their proposals in general terms but we will be meeting again in early December once the Plan is approved. Redevelopment of office buildings in the town centre and the Matalan site currently being undertaken/recently approved will provide some 2,500 homes. It was interesting to note that Richard stated that SBC's plans for development North of Stevenage was on a standalone basis and did not require the development proposed by NHDC South of Graveley to make the project viable.

e) Retaining Wall 2 and 4 High Street- JR has spoken to Trevor Ward who advised it has been agreed that the wall needs some remedial work. JR to find out when this work will be carried out.
JR

f) Graveley Neighbourhood Plan- JR to speak to Stuart Izzard to find out what is required to put

such a plan in place and what benefits might accrue to the village..

JR

2 Planning.

Tony Bracey

a) None received

3) Financial Report

Steve Firth

a) **Bank Account-** Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £17,983.82

b) **Precept for 2016/7-**Antonio Ciampa (Accountancy Manager) at NHDC Gernon Road requested the amount we need for the next Precept payment. It was agreed that we would request an amount of £6,000.00 (the same amount as in previous years) Clerk to write to Anionia Ciampa enclosing a copy of these minutes which record GPC's decision.

JT

4) Playground

Cheryl Peers

a) **Playground Inspection-** Clerk to write to Andrew Bunker at CPM asking if he would consider continuing with the Playground Inspections, which they have carried out satisfactorily for the past few years. Clerk to send his draft letter to JR for approval before sending.

JT/JR.

5) Any Other Business -none

6) Matters Arising

a) **Graveley Web Site** – Tim Cooke, who has volunteered to take over running the Village website, reported that he has been in touch with Andy Sears and in due course will take over. TC pointed out that there would be small costs involved a Register cost for the Domain of £2.00 per year and £36.00 per year for Hosting costs. It was agreed that this was in order as it was felt that the Graveley website was important to the village. GPC members thanked TC for his involvement.

b) **Pondside Road Repairs-** There is still one area that has not been resurfaced and will be done later this month.

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) **Inconsiderate Parking-**a member of the public raised the issue of parking by cars and vans on the junction of Ashwell Close/Common which caused drivers coming up from Ashwell Close to have a limited view of oncoming traffic which could make an accident very likely. Photographs of the problems were viewed and it was agreed that the Clerk send these together with a letter requesting action to Herts Homes who replied saying it was a Police problem. Our local PCSO Michelle Trussell replied and said she would keep an eye on the problem and take action if necessary. Clerk also sent details to TH who replied *Happy to add to my highways locality budget list for next year.* Clerk to ask GM to put in the PCSO's contact details.

JT

7) Correspondence received

- a) NHDC Precept Requirements 2016/7 (see 3b above)
- b) St Mary's Request for a contribution to their Grass cutting costs was agreed by GPC.
- c) Connected Counties- Edmund Wellington emailed with details of Fibre Broadband speeds available in our Parish, Clerk to forward to GM to request the Editor to put the details in the magazine.

8) Cheques Issued

- a) CPM Playground Inspection £50 plus vat
- b) Paul Baltruschat Litter Picking (3months) £156.00
- c) St. Mary's Church £1,000.00 (see 7b above)

9) Any Other Business

- a) Graveley Neighbourhood Plan (see 1f above)
- b) Graveley Website – up date (see 6a above)

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

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