

**Graveley Parish Council's Meeting  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 8pm  
Held at Graveley Village Hall**

**Present:** Chair Jack Rigg (JR) Vice Chair Cheryl Norgan (CN), Financial Officer Steve Firth (SF) Hilary Napier (HN) Tony Bracey(TB ) and NHDC Terry Tyler (TT)

Members of the public were also present

**Apologies** – none

**Declarations of interest**-none

**Approval of minutes** - The Minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016 were approved and signed.

**Matters Arising** - none

**1. Highways Report**

*Jack Rigg*

**a) Road Works at Junction of B197/North Road**-Martin Wright Engineering Assistant emailed - *A start date in the second half of September had been scheduled for the highway contractor to deliver these works. However we have been unable to confirm this date as we now understand that an adjacent stretch of the B197 has previously been booked around the same time for another small roadworks scheme. Our contractor is now in discussion with HCC's Network Management to resolve the matter. We anticipate that the works will be approximately two weeks in duration. The temporary traffic management is likely to consist of three-way traffic light controls at the junction, although some of the works activities may need to be undertaken at night if a full road closure is deemed necessary. We will, of course, seek to minimise disruption to traffic and residents as far as possible. Once the road booking and the arrangements for the temporary traffic management have been confirmed by our contractor, we will inform the Parish Council accordingly, in advance of the works. The contractor will be required to post advanced warning notices on site at least two weeks before the works are due to begin in any event.* There has, in the last month, been two more accidents at the junction. TT to investigate Clerk to send him the correspondence and plans (available on the Graveley website)

**TT/JT**

**b) Overhanging trees Turf Lane**-Clerk received an email from a local resident as the overhanging trees are still obscuring the street lights on the approach to the Garages. Clerk to chase up Trevor Ward, again, to get some action.

**JT**

**c) Proposed Travellers Site opposite the Garden Centre** - JR has spoken to Chief Inspector Perk at Stevenage Police Station, regarding the Police policy in not opposing a further expansion of the Dyers Lane site in Stevenage JR to follow up to get a definitive answer.

**JR**

**2. Planning.**

*Tony Bracey*

**a) 1a High Street**- JR has followed up with TH regarding the parking of cars for sale on the road

verge. TH advised-*Have spoken to enforcement to take action to stop parking on the highway who are currently completing their review of applicable law in determine the most appropriate course of action.* TH to send Clerk details of the Enforcement officer responsible. Still not received Clerk to follow up with TH

Chris Braybrook to be chased by TB when a planning application, regarding the change of use, will be submitted to Stevenage Cars- still no information.

**TH/TB/JT**

**b) Roundwood**-Land At Roundwood, Back Lane, Graveley - Case Ref No: 16/01713/1 residential development of up to 360 dwellings. Phase1: full application for 108 dwellings. A lively discussion took place. GPC's main concern is the possible increase in the traffic coming down Church Lane and through the Village. JR compiled a letter for the Clerk to send with GPC's observations.

The proposals by Croudace are being strongly opposed by local residents and by ourselves in Graveley and Weston. As a result Simon Ellis from NHDC has agreed with Robert Logan, Chairman of Great Ashby Community Council for a public meeting at Round Diamond School in Great Ashby from 7pm to 9pm on Tuesday 13th September 2016 held to discuss the application. Members of GPC attended. It was also reported that the Consultation Period has been extended to the end of this year. TH stated that Highways had registered an objection to the proposal on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 regarding poor access to the site because of the current road network.

**c) Planning Permission :** Manor Farmhouse, Manor Farm, Church Lane, Graveley, Hitchin, SG4 7BN – Case Ref No: 16/02051/1 Erection of residential annex to Farm house following the demolition of existing store building. GPC have no objection Clerk to action.

**JT (done 22/09/16)**

### **3. Financial Report**

*Steve Firth*

**a) Bank Account**- Current Account and Deposit Account £15,942.87

**b) Accounts**- These have been approved by BDO and Clerk to display on the Village noticeboard the 'Notice of the Conclusion of Audit'

**JT**

**c) Account date**- SF has decided that next year's accounts will be discussed on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

### **4. Playground**

*Cheryl Norgan*

**a) Playground Report**- CPM have carried out their inspection and apart from a few small things all is in order.

**b) Fallen Tree**- The land owner has removed the fallen tree, GPC thanks him for doing so. The fence has been damaged, Alan has made a temporary repair It will need to be repaired CN to get Jarrets ( who erected the new fence) to quote for a suitable repair

**CN**

**Hedge cutting**- Trevor Ward's Community Payback Team have cut back the hedge, at no cost to GPC, TB to have a word with the land owner to cut the top, probably later this year.

**TB**

**d) Bird Strips**- new strips have been securely fitted over the swings by Alan Eaton and are working well in deterring the bird mess problem.

**e) Bags of Help-** Clerk received an email from this Tesco run initiative for funding community projects. CN and JT to investigate if we are eligible for a grant for new playground equipment to perhaps replace one of our ageing existing ones.

**CN/JT**

**5) Correspondence Received-**From a local resident see 1b above

**6. Matters Arising-**none

**7. Any Other Business**

**a) Pond Signs-** SF will organise a new sign to go on the Notice board in the pond. (cost in the region of £50.00/£60.00) GEG have provided the wording and size of the proposed notice. In hand.

**b) Screening for Bus Shelter-** Clerk chased up Mercer Leyton (Building) Ltd `who emailed that they are still under pressure but hope to complete the job by October. Clerk to keep an eye on progress.

**JT**

**c) GEC Planting-** Clerk contacted Stephen Murphy at Herts Highways to get a definitive answer regarding a License To Plant on the waste land at the corner of the High Street and Church Lane. He emailed a reply that there is only the one granted to GPC otherwise no other person has the right to Plant on this site. It is clear that the land belongs to Herts Highways. Clerk to contact the GEG to get their thoughts

**JT**

**d) Grinders End -.** A new litter bin has been placed on the waste ground for a trial period of six months by NHDC. It seems to be working as the area has been litter free since it was sited.

**e) NHDC Local Plan-** The possibility of getting professional help in opposing various aspects of this plan were discussed TT will give JR details of Jim Adcock (a great Ashby resident) who may be able to help. JR to meet with Great Ashby Community Council and Weston PC representatives on 20<sup>th</sup> October to identify how we might work together in opposing the Local Plan.

**JR/TT**

**8. Cheques Issued**

**a)** Clerks Petty Cash £98.45

**b)** CPM Playground Inspection £60.00 incl. Vat

**c)** Hire Village Hall two years £432.00

**d)** SLCC Subscription £30.00

**e)** BDO Accounting fee £30.00

**The meeting closed at 9.52 pm**

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall  
On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016**