

**Graveley Parish Council's Meeting**  
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 at 8pm**  
**Held at Graveley Village Hall**

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

Members of the public were also present

**Apologies** – Hilary Napier (HN) and NHDC Cllr Cathryn Henry (CH) )

**Declarations of interest**-none

**Approval of minutes** - The Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017 were approved and signed.

**Matters Arising** – None

**1. Highways Report**

*Jack Rigg*

**a) SBC Plan- Travellers Site-** All GPC members have agreed to use the services of a firm of Solicitors at 4-5 Gray's Inn Square Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5AH to represent GPC on the 29th March 2017 at the SBC hearing regarding the siting of a Travellers site in Graveley. We have been advised that the cost would be £2,500.00 + VAT for the services of Mr Toby Davey

**b) Forster Society-** it was agreed by all GPC members that Graveley Parish Council would contribute £750.00 (see 8c below) towards their legal costs involved in opposing SBC plans for building on the Green Belt to the south of Graveley, at the current Examination of Stevenage's Proposed Local Plan.

**c) NHDC Local Plan** – There was a meeting on the 23rd March 2017 for planners to update Councillors on the status on the Local Plan in preparation for a full Council Meeting to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to decide/approve submission of the Local Plan to the Secretary of State.

**2. Planning Report**

*Tony Bracey*

**a) 1a High Street-** GPC have received many complaints regarding the erection of a very large, high scaffold structure, including container sized office buildings on the gantries on this site. TB and other members of GPC had a meeting with the Planning Enforcement Officer of NHDC to ascertain if the construction is in violation of planning laws, he will be contacting all parties involved and request that a retrospective planning request is applied for, we await his reply.

Joanne Leane owner of Scaffold yard attended the meeting and stated they would welcome any suggestion the Parish Council or Villagers may have to improve the appearance of the yard.

The Clerk has also received three emails from local residents voicing their concerns. TB advised members of the council and public, who attended the meeting, that a notice was posted on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in the Comet applying for a Goods Vehicle Operators Licence to operate 3 goods vehicles and 2 trailers from the yard, any residents of Graveley that had any concerns, must write within 21 days to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9

6NF and the owners of the yard at Pearce Leane Scaffolding Ltd Rear of 400 Edgware Road, London, NW2 6ND voicing their concerns. Legally GPC cannot make any comments on requests for an Operator's Licence, such comments being restricted to local residents. GPC will however be able to comment on the erection of the scaffolding structures in the yard on receipt of the planning application to NHDC noted above.

**TB**

### **3. Financial Report**

*Steve Firth*

**a) Bank Account-** Current Account and Deposit Account £13,601.77

### **4. Playground**

*Cheryl Norgan*

**a) Playground Report-** CN reported that all was in order. Alan Eaton has been able to carry out some necessary repairs.

**b) CPM-**inspection report to be discussed at the next meeting

### **5. Correspondence Received**

**a) Dr Scott** handed JR a Letter of Complaint regarding the proposed planting on HH land outside her property, which is on hold at the moment. JR to arrange for Clerk to circulate the letter to all GPC members for discussion at the next meeting

**All**

### **6. Matters Arising**

**a) Local residents concerns** regarding the railings in Church Lane. Clerk reported it to Trevor Ward at NHDC who is contacting Gary Henning of HH. Clerk to chase up.

**JT**

### **7. Any Other Business**

**a) Village Hall** -have requested a grant from GPC for work they need to carry out on the railings on the steps leading up to the entrance. The absence of a guard rail within the railing has been identified as a Health and Safety issue as a small child from the Pre School Play group could easily slip and fall onto the concrete below. The Village Hall Committee have received a grant of £1,000.00 from NHDC and a further £300.00 from Cllr Catherine Henry's Locality budget. The cost to carry out this work is likely to be at least £1980 plus VAT = £2380 (the VAT is unable to be claimed back). Mention was also made of additional required maintenance work (emergency lights need updating at an estimated cost of £920.00 ; remedial work to other electrical faults found £250.00 and installing a separate kitchen sink solely for hand washing £320.00 (Health & Safety)) all of which would be met from VH own funds.

Following comments from the public and discussion among councillors it was agreed by a majority of 3 to 1 that GPC provide a grant £500.00 towards the cost of the railings. Clerk to get the necessary paperwork from Alan Lines.

**JT**

**c) Cars offered for sale on HH land at the corner of High St., and Church Lane** - This is a long standing issue. TB has received a proposal from the NHDC Environmental Crime Officer that as the land in question is HH that it be included in our proposed planting operation, which is on hold at the moment. Following a discussion by all GPC members it was felt that the removal of two parking spaces, given the limited parking in the village, was not the answer to the problem of car sales from this site, rather HH need to deal with the underlying problem. TB to process.

**TB**

#### **8. Cheques Issued**

- a) CPM Playground inspection Feb 2017 £50.00 +vat
- b) Graveley Village Hall rent one year £180.00
- c) Forster Society contribution £750.00

**The meeting closed at 9.52 pm**

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall**

**On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017**