

Graveley Parish Council's Meeting

Tuesday 20th January 2015 at 8pm

Held at Graveley Village Hall

Present: Chairman- Peter Bracey (PB) Vice Chair- Steve Firth (SF) Cheryl Peers (CP) Hilary Napier (HN) Tony Bracey (TB) and HCC Tony Hunter (TH)

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – NHDC Cllrs Cathryn Henry (CH) and Sal Jarvis (SJ)

Declarations of interest-none

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 16th December 2014 were approved and signed

Matters Arising Included below.

1) Highways Report.

Peter Bracey

a) Church Lane – Regarding the increase and speeding of traffic in Church Lane, a letter has been sent to David Scholes Chief Executive NHDC with a copy to John Wood (Chief Executive and Director of Environment), so far no reply has been received – Clerk to chase.

JT

b) Accidents – During December and January there have been six accidents, four that resulted in road closures and two less serious. PB drafted a letter (18th December 2014) sent to John Wood and a further letter 14th January 2015 (re two more accidents) Clerk has chased but no reply has been received. Clerk to chase again. TH will speak to Rob Smith of Herts Highways regarding the remedial work on the new road works.

JT/TH

c) Investigation of the smells coming from the culvert appears to fall under the NHDC umbrella for enforcement. PB has contacted Daniel Rose, Environmental Officer who will report back.

PB

d) Overgrown hedges in the High Street- They have been cut back but were unable to cut back the hedge by the Bus Shelter owing to the equipment used PB has contacted Trevor Ward (Ringway) requesting that the work is completed.

PB

e) Flooding on the Road outside the George & Dragon-still seems to be a problem Trevor Ward is on the case, a further problem has been identified south of the problem area (outside Bow Cottage) where the drain is totally blocked. This has been reported.

PB

f) 'No Parking' Post- outside the Old School House in Church Lane could be considered a hazard PB to report to Herts. Highways.

PB

g) Retaining Wall-in the High Street by 1a High Street, it appears that sections of the wall are crumbling and could become dangerous to passers-by. Highways Structures Department are to investigate

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2) Planning

Tony Bracey

a) Cars For Sale outside The Old Forge and High Street Lay-by-.Peter Carey is our new contact. His reply was debated, The ongoing situation to be monitored.

JT

b) Caravan (Grinders End) - Chris Braybroke has been in touch with TB and informed him that it will be moved and the sign overlooking the AIM as it flouts planning laws.

TB/JT

c) Planning Application- Manor Farm House Graveley Tanking of cellar etc., GPC have no objections. Clerk to action

JT (Done 22/01/14)

c) Draft housing allocations unveiled for North Herts., Local Plan- GPC discussed the next move that the GPC and GASP could take in opposing the proposal for the building on the green belt. A leaflet urging local residents to contact the Council with their view has been distributed by GASP to all the Graveley households. A draft response has been written by HN, a copy was distributed to all GPC members for their comments/approval, on behalf of the Parish Council. TH also gave us an insight as to how the Planning system works. GPC have received many emails, with their thoughts on the plan, from neighbouring Parish Councils and Jack Rigg (GASP) will be attending a meeting at Weston PC on the 23rd of January which has been convened for all local PC's to discuss their views. Jack will report back at the next meeting.

HN

3) Financial Report

Steve Firth

a) Bank Account- Our current and reserve accounts now stand at £16,536.07

b) Precept Requirements for 2015/6- The Clerk has sent the Minutes of December 16th 2014 with a note of GPC requirements (£6,000.00) to Tim Neill at NHDC.

b) Payments-Two payments from their Locality Budgets (Sal Jarvis £300.00 for the new Playground Fence) and (Cathryn Henry for £200.00 for Wet Suits) have not been received. PB to chase Stuart Izzard)

PB

4) Playground

Cheryl Peers

a) Rent Increase- Solicitors (Hamilton & Davies the Old Town Stevenage) have sent the new lease to the Land Registry. On its return Clerk to send to Suffolk Legal. Clerk has chased and will keep an eye on progress

JT

b) Trees in Playground- CP has instructed Matt Thompson Services to landscape the area where the trees were felled. Work has taken place but there are still one or two things to be completed

CP

c) Playground Update: - all in order

d) P layground Hedges on the footpath – The hedges either side on the approach to the

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Playground are very overgrown Hertfordshire Homes (Loren Haley) confirmed it was their responsibility and the hedge has now been cut back.

5) Any Other Business- none

6) Matters Arising

a) Flood Risk Management Plans- Clerk has sent to the Graveley Environmental Group for their input Clerk to chase, response to be sent before end of January. HN is also investigating and will report at the next GPC meeting.

HN/JT

c) Surface Water Management Plans: - Reply has been sent raising Parish concerns. PB has been nominated as first point of contact.

7) Correspondence received

a) NHDC Local Plans 2011-2031

8) Cheques Issued

a) NHDC Emptying Dog mess bins for one year £342.58 incl vat

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm
The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall
On Tuesday 17th February 2015 at 8 pm.