

**Graveley Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 15th August 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 HCC Steve Jarvis.

Members of the public were also present

Apologies – Cllr Terry Tyler (TT) and PCSO Phoebe Coates (PC)

Declarations of interest-none

Approval of minutes - The Minutes of the 18th July 2017 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising – None

1. Highways Report

Jack Rigg

a) Stevenage Borough Local Plan: the consultation closed on the 24th July 2017

b) NHDC Local Plan- no further information at this stage.

The local plan will adversely impact Graveley in a number of ways. Given the Parish Council's limited financial resources it was agreed that JR will prepare a leaflet to go to all residents to seek their views as to what they see as the most important issues affecting Graveley. This will be delivered to all household together with a leaflet from SOGB (see point 7(a) below). Replies are requested by 13th September, to be sent to the Clerk who will collate them for discussion at the next GPC meeting so we can plan a way forward.

c) Travellers Site – The deadline for submissions to the Stevenage Plan Main Modification closed on the 24th July. Our solicitors instructed a barrister to prepare GPC's response to the consultation regarding Stevenage's proposal to included wording to permit the use of a Compulsory Purchase Order if needs be to make the HO12 site available. We now await the Inspectors recommendations.

d) Graveley High Street: Retaining Wall in front of 2 & 4 High Street- Email from Derek Jerrard (Ringway representing NHDC) *The order for these works has been revamped from 2015 and issued to our specialist contractors. We are currently awaiting their program date.*

Should you feel that the wall is now dangerous, please raise this as a fault report on the Hertfordshire.gov.uk website where it will be triaged by our inspectors and the appropriate safety measures taken. Clerk to chase up.

JT

2. Planning Report

Tony Bracey

a) Roundwood Full Planning Permission: Hybrid (part outline, part full) application for residential development of up to 360 dwellings (including 40% affordable housing). Provision of open space and landscaping, transport and pedestrian infrastructure and ancillary facilities. Phase 1: full application for 108 dwellings. Subsequent phases: outline application - all matters reserved except for access. (As amended by plans and supporting documents received 28th and 31st July

2017) Land At Roundwood, Back Lane, Graveley - Case RefNo: 16/01713/1. Clerk to let JR have a copy of our previous objections and annotate if necessary and return to Clerk for action.
JR/JT

3. Financial Report

Steve Firth

a) Bank Account- Our current and savings account total £9,506.55

4. Playground

Cheryl Norgan

a) Playground Report- CP reported all was in order.

5. Correspondence Received-none

6. Matters Arising

a) Fallen Trees Back Lane- Clerk contacted Trevor Ward and received the following email *I now have a boundary plan for Back Lane showing me what is maintainable at public expense (MAPE). This is now with the HCC arborist requesting an assessment of the MAPE trees in this area.*

As soon as I have the assessment I'll keep you informed. Clerk to keep an eye on progress.

JT

b) Church Lane Overgrown Hedge - A member of the public pointed out that the hedge in Church Lane is overhanging the footpath and needs trimming back. The land owner has trimmed it back- Clerk to thank him on behalf of GPC

JT

c) Overhanging Trees in Turf Lane-A member of the public raised the problems of the overhanging trees obscuring the Street lights on the approach to the garages. Repeated requests to Hertfordshire Homes have met with no action. Clerk to contact them to seek a resolution.

JT

7. Any Other Business

a) Request for support from Save our Green Belt in North Herts (SOGB) - Two members from SOGB gave a presentation to inform GPC about the group (which comprises of a number of private individuals and parish councils), which is seeking to facilitate a coordinated response by North Herts residents to NHDC's Local Plan.

Focused primarily on NHDC's excessive use of green belt to support development, the group will also address infrastructure issues such as traffic congestion, air pollution, Lister Hospital and shortfalls in the provision of healthcare facilities. To do this SOGB have instructed solicitors/barrister and will be using consultants as appropriate to prepare for the forthcoming NHDC Inspection. To fund the costs involved they are seeking financial help from all local Parishes affected by the proposals.

This will be a costly exercise and it was pointed out that GPC have very limited funds but would consider their request once the results of a village survey detailed in 1(b) above have been analysed.

JR/JT

b) Facebook- It was discussed if it would be helpful if we had a facebook listing with items regarding activities in the Village and information on issues facing the village/residents. This would be in addition to the Village Web site which provides villagers with useful contact information and on groups in the village and their activities. Pending.

c) Open Day/ Fund Raising- It was discussed by GPC and local residents as to the best way forward to raise additional funds for fighting the SBC/NHDC Local Plan and any other means which could to be used All GPC members were asked to think about ways of achieving these aims.
All Councillors.

8.Cheques Issued

a) Richard Buxton (Solicitors) £2140.00 incl vat Representation re GPC's objections to the proposed Travellers site in Graveley.

b) Paul Baltruschatt £201.00 litter picking

The meeting closed at 9.52 pm

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall
On Tuesday 19th September 2017**