

**MINUTES**  
**Graveley Parish Council's Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2011 8pm**  
**held at Graveley Village Hall**

**Present:** Chairman -Mr Alan Lines (AL), Vice Chair- Mr Peter Bracey (PB), Tony Bracey (TB), Steve Firth (SF) and Mrs Joyce Andrews (JA)

Members of the public were also present and NHDC Cllr. Cathryn Henry

**Apologies** – CPO Charlotte Tizard and PC Bridget Jones

**Declarations of interest** – none

**Approval of minutes** - The minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011 were approved and signed.

**Matters Arising**

**a) Cars Parked on the verge adjacent to the Old Forge-** Clerk to keep an eye on this.

**b) Sign Outside 1a High Street-** This has now been removed.

**c) House Plaques-** Clerk has contacted the Graveley Primary School asking for more information- no reply received.

**d) Chipping Store-** PB has received an email from the network manager Andy Turner, of Herts Highways and will try to set up a site meeting with him and ensure that there is a timetable for remaining actions. If this is not successful PB would, as actioned at the GPC meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> June 2011, write to Caroline Tapster requesting a formal enquiry.

**PB**

**e) No Entry Sign Pondsides-** PB will raise this with Gary Henning on his next walk about in August.

**PB**

**f) The Culvert-** PB is awaiting Liz McBreen's reply who is compiling a full report which she will supply in due course.

**PB**

**g) Crossing in Graveley High Street-** PB has looked into this request and back in 2006 we were advised that it did not meet the criteria (insufficient pedestrian movements). The situation has not changed since so not worth asking again.

**h) Replacement litter bins and new Notice Board etc.-** Clerk has contacted Fitzpatrick Wolmer regarding the quote for the new Notice board, dated June 2010, and asked for an update and a picture and a local site of one already installed. Replacement litter bins on hold at the moment as these might be replaced by Veolia.

**i) Street Cleaning-** Daniel Kingsley emailed on 1/06/11- *Whilst I am more than willing to remove your bin asap, I will not be issuing a refund until my officers have confirmed exactly what the*

*Parish was being charged for and what the Parish was submitting for collection / what collections the Parish was due. If at this point it is determined that the Parish is due a refund I will ensure all owed monies are paid in full as soon as possible. There is some confusion as to whether a bin will be supplied in the future, free of charge, for the collection of waste. AL to keep an eye on progress with DK.*

**AL**

**j) Traffic/ speed survey Church Lane** had been requested some time ago but with no response. The Clerk was requested to urge again.

**JT**

**k) Weed Cutting-** The weeds between the George and Dragon and the Wagon and Horses footpath have been cut back by HH though they doubt it is their responsibility. PB to ask the farmer to do it in future.

**PB**

**l) Play equipment inspections.** Clerk to contact Lt Wymondley and Weston PC's to see how often they check their play equipment and by whom.

**JT**

### **1) Highways Report.**

*Peter Bracey*

**a) Bus Shelter Renovation –** Work has started on the renovation, the shelter has been removed to the workshops of Mercer Leyton Building Ltd for the work to be carried out. The brickwork will also be repaired and it is hoped that the new shelter will be in situ in three to four weeks. A member of the public requested that the side window could be made deeper- as when sitting on the bench one could not see the bus coming (It is a request stop). AL to investigate cost implications.

**AL**

**b) Fire in Church Lane- Fire in Church Lane-** e mail received from Tim Franklin June 1 *Just to let you know I have asked (told) Dan not to have any more bonfires in the coppice, and stick to composting which he has agreed to.* Since receiving this email the tenant has had a further fire, burning of pallets. Clerk to contact Tim in the first instance and if necessary the GPC will take the matter further with Environment Agency (who have already been contacted) and NHDC as to whether this use constitutes Commercial use. GPC understand that farmers are not allowed to burn anything. Mary Caldwell to be contacted for advice on what can legally be carried out on this site and if any planning regulations are being breached and also if it is permitted to park pickup vans and private cars there.

**AL/JT**

### **2 Planning**

*Tony Bracey*

**a) 18 High St., Graveley, Hitchin, SG4 7LB** Full planning permission: One terrace of 3 x 3-bedroom dwellings and 1 x 3-bed detached dwelling with 8 parking spaces as replacement for existing car sales premises (variation to planning permission application number 08/01239/1 granted 24<sup>th</sup> June 2009)

The GPC are in favour of the application and comment as follows:-

Dr Scott's points about fencing, water and toxicity. (which have been taken into account by James Gran's email to Dr Scott and GPC 20/06/11) Also the water capacity of the culvert should not be

less than existing and that the current dropped kerbs should be replaced with standard height kerbs, where appropriate.

**JT done 24/06/11**

## **2b) Litter**

**Waste Bins-** TB has supplied the GPC members with a list of bins that Veolia will empty on a 28 day cycle. If bins need emptying, as full to overflowing, a phone call to Viola (Jamie Sells) will implement action. TB is also looking into the NHDC supplying new bins (2) around the pond and one outside the village hall with lids. TB is also looking into the placing of the old bins in various needy village locations. (see attachment)

**TB**

## **3) Financial Report**

*Steve Firth*

- a) GPC examined and approved the annual account statements to 31 March 2011.
- b) GPC approved the annual governance statement to 31 March 2011.

## **4) Playground**

*Joyce Andrews*

a) **Playground Inspection** RoSPA have been instructed to make an inspection of the Children's Playground and we await their report. JT to contact Thomas Dryer-Beers to see if he has our gripper and the keys to open the litter bins.

JA in her report produced two estimates for the hedge cutting and the GPC accepted M.and B Crouch's price of £70.00 per cut. Clerk to get in touch with Came & Co (our insurers) to ascertain what the insurance liability position is regarding work carried out on behalf of the GPC by contractors. All contractors to close the playground to the public when working on site.

**JT**

b) JA has emptied the bin in the playground and will continue to do so as it is not in the remit of Veolia. She will purchase plastic bags and the clerk will refund her expenses from his petty cash. JA also pointed out the weed growth and AL will take a look and see how this can be resolved

**AL**

## **5) Any Other Business**

a) **Jack's Hill-**The construction of a Waste Site has been approved by HCC but the J Hill residents are seeking a Judicial Review. GPC were approached for help with funding but requests for clarification from Eddie Quince at J Hill have not been received and there seemed to be some confusion between letters to the Secretary of State and letters to HCC about the chairman's handling of the vote.

b) **Herts Highways' complacency.** PB to email Cathryn Henry and Tony Hunter about this.

## **6) Correspondence Received.**

- a) SLCC. Help for new councillors book offer Noted
- b) Mayor of Hertford invitation. Passed to PB
- c) Herts CC. GPC website details requested. JT has actioned

- d) Came & Co. Insurance renewal confirmation. Certificate of Insurance placed on Noticeboard.
- e) Invitation to join HAPTC. Noted only.
- f) HCC Street lighting to be reduced in some areas. Noted.
- g) Invitation to subscribe to Journal of Local Planning. Agreed to pay for one year. AL to action.

## 7) Cheques Issued

- a) Clerks Petty cash £64.93 (no vat)
- b) NHDC Waste collection £70.20 (no vat)

**The next GPC meeting will be at Graveley Village Hall  
on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at 8pm.**

### Graveley Litter Picking and Bin Emptying Schedule.

Road	Litter Picked?	Frequency?	Next Pick Scheduled?	Litter Bins	Bin Emptying Schedule?	Notes
High Street Between Speed Limit Signs	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May	5	28 Days	
High Street To Tee Junction	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May			
Church Lane To speed limit signs	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May	1	28 Days	
Church Lane To Great Ashby	Yes	When Requested				Call Veolia to request a clean
Pondside	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May	3	28 Days	
Footpath Between P/H	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May			
Ashwell Close	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May	1	28 Days	
Footpath Pondside to Ashwell Close	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May			
Playing Field	No			1		Parish responsibility? Call Andrew Mills to

						check
Ashwell Commom	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May	1	28 Days	
Grinders End	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May			
Ashwell Common to Roundabout Cycle track	Yes	When Requested				Call Veolia to request a clean
Oak Lane	Yes	28 Days	25 <sup>th</sup> May			
Green Lane Cycle Track	Yes	When Requested				Call Veolia to request a clean

