

## **Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016 in the Grateley Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllr Mrs J Blakeman – Chairman  
Cllr Mr K Smith – Vice Chairman  
Cllr Mr P Blakeman  
Cllr Mr M Horne  
Cllr Mr R Tierney  
Cllr Mrs R Underhill  
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk  
County Councillor Mrs Z Brooks  
Members of the Public – 4  
Amelia Williams – TVBC Tree Officer.

Apologies: Mr J Stamp and Borough Councillor Mr B Few-Brown.

### **WELCOME.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

### **AMELIA WILLIAMS – TVBC TREE OFFICER**

Amelia Williams introduced herself and spoke about a proposed enhancement scheme for the area of Streetway Road. Test Valley Borough Council own the land on Streetway Road that backs on to Locke Close and the open space on the opposite side of the road. At present, there are a lot of trees and shrubs crowded into a small space, over the years this area has not been managed and has got overgrown. It is intended to carry out improvements to open the area and allow good specimens to flourish and mature.

Amelia Williams stated that TVBC would like to work with the Parish Council and Residents to improve the area and would welcome suggestions on how to proceed. Amelia Williams stated that this would not be done until Autumn 2017. Amelia Williams gave the Parish Council a handout showing pictures and a map of the area in question.

The Parish Council thought this an excellent news. The Clerk was asked to put this on the Agenda for the February meeting.

The tree growing between the telephone box and the wall opposite the Plough Inn was mentioned. Amelia Williams said she would look and report back to the Parish Council.

The Chairman thanked Amelia Williams for coming and looked forward to working with her in the future.

### **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cllr Mr K Smith signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr R Tierney and seconded by Cllr M Horne. Matters arising from those minutes:

FOOTPATHS – Cllr R Tierney reported that the footpaths seem to be getting sufficient use to remain walkable.

HIGHWAYS AND POTHOLES – Cllr R Tierney reported that the de-restriction sign from Monxton direction has not yet been reinstated and there is no news to report on the repairs to the outstanding potholes.

SAFER CROSSING POINT – Cllr Mr P Blakeman reported that the Safer Crossing Point has not progressed due to costs. Highways are re-evaluating the contractors estimates. No date for commencement was mentioned.

VILLAGE GATEWAYS – No news to report.

SPEED LIMITS, SIGNS, YELLOW AND WHITE LINES – Cllr Mr P Blakeman reported that Ray Alborough will put forward a request to extend the yellow lines further along Station Road but will need confirmation from the Parish Council to proceed.

This was discussed. The Parish Council are conscious that extending the yellow lines will only push the problem further down towards Station Cottages. It was suggested that the problem would be eased if passing places were introduced. Additional parking spaces could be made in the Station Car Park if the grass areas were turned into parking places. It was thought that the Station Car Park now needed to be expanded to take the increase in Commuters using Grateley Station.

The Clerk will write to Ray Alborough suggesting the provision of passing places on Station Road and to Rail Track suggesting that the grass areas within the car park be turned into parking places and ask if they have any plans to increase the car park further to meet demand.

PLAY AREA – Cllr R Underhill report that she had inspected the Play Area. The picnic bench has been removed by Cllr Mr P Blakeman. Repairs of the Goal Posts are ongoing.

Initial consultation in Locke Close has identified that a Skateboard Ramp is not wanted, residents would rather see more substantial play equipment. This was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk will in the first instance contact TVBC to see if they would be agreeable to a new Play Park on their land. Play Equipment Companies will be contacted for brochures and Residents will be further consulted.

BUS SHELTER – Cllr P Blakeman reported that he has not yet been able to continue with the repairs to the Bus Shelter due to the recent bad weather.

## **PLANNING**

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

## **FINANCE**

Cheque issued in December 2016

R.N. Waterman	Wages	£181.25
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## **PRECEPT**

The Clerk produced a balance sheet showing the estimated results for the year 2016/2017 and the budget for the year 2017/2018. Each item was explained. The Parish Council discussed the budget for 2017/2018 and agreed that the Village Hall and Church grants would be increased to £500 a year and the Clerks wages will be increase by £10 a month. Cllr J Blakeman proposed that the precept for the year 2017/2018 be increased by £300 to £8,000. This was seconded by Cllr M Horne. All agreed. The Grateley Parish Council Precept for the year 2017/2018 was set at £8,000.

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS Z BROOKS**

Cllr Mrs Z Brooks reported that there has been no movement on Devolution. HCC have promoting a new initiative "Hitting the Cold Spots". A country wide fuel poverty project to offer help, advice and support to people who are having trouble keeping warm during the winter. [staywarm@environmentcentre.com](mailto:staywarm@environmentcentre.com).

Cllr Mrs Z Brooks reported that the Government are closing pharmacies as there are too many too close together. Initial figures have identified 1600 across England.

## **FUTURE PROJECTS**

WW1

Village Spring Clean-up – Planned for the first weekend in March. Date to be confirmed.

Streetway Road Enhancement

New Play Area

## **PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS.**

CLLR MRS J BLAKEMAN – Reported that despite several requests for her name to be added as Parish Council Chairman, the Village News has not done so. Cllr Mr R Tierney stated that he will request that this is done.

CLLR MR R TIERNEY – Reported that the telephone box library is well used and very tidy. People are still depositing boxes of books.

Cllr R Tierney Reported that the Mobile Post Office now visits the village outside the Plough Inn on Wednesdays at 2pm and has been advertised in the Village News.

## **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Play Area was briefly discussed and the ongoing repairs of the Streetway Road bus shelter.

## **CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

## **DATES FOR THE 2017 MEETINGS**

7<sup>th</sup> February

7<sup>th</sup> March

4<sup>th</sup> April

6<sup>th</sup> June

4<sup>th</sup> July

5<sup>th</sup> September

7<sup>th</sup> November

5<sup>th</sup> December

2<sup>nd</sup> May – AGM

3<sup>rd</sup> October