

## **Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 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 R Tierney  
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk  
Borough Councillor Mr B Few-Brown  
Mr J Stamp – NHW  
Members of the Public – 9

Apologies: Cllr Mrs R Underhill and County Councillor Mrs Z Brooks

### **WELCOME.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised that the June Meeting had been cancelled, there were not enough Councillors present for a quorum.

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of interest recorded. The Parish Clerk asked the Parish Councillors to confirm if there was any change in their declarations of interest. Each Councillor confirmed that there was no change.

### **END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT.**

The Clerk reported that he now had the Grateley Village Friends Accounts and gave a report on the complete Parish Council Accounts. Each item was explained. The Clerk reported that the accounts have been audited by Paul Reynolds the internal Auditor. The Parish Council agreed to adopt the accounts and agreed with Section 1 - Annual governance statement and Section 2 – Accounting Statement. Proposed by Cllr J Blakeman and seconded by Cllr K Smith. The Chairman signed off the Audit Form. The Accounts will now be sent to BDO to Audit.

### **GRATELEY VILLAGE FRIENDS.**

The Clerk read out the Grateley Village Friends report. Attached to these minutes.

### **GRATELEY VILLAGE HALL REPORT.**

The Clerk read out the Grateley Village Hall report. Attached to these minutes.

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

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Proposed by Cllr P Blakeman and seconded by Cllr R Tierney. Matters arising from those minutes:

FOOTPATHS – Cllr Mr R Tierney reported that the footpaths are beginning to get overgrown, there has been a report of a tree down on the footpath that continues from behind Hawthorn Close, investigations are being made to find the owner. It was noted that the Drove is also getting overgrown, possibly due to the lack of walkers and the wet and warm weather we have been experiencing of late.

POTHoles – Cllr Mr R Tierney reported that it is disappointing that nothing has been done to repair the potholes despite promises made at the Highways meeting in April. Cllr Mr R Tierney will send a further email will be sent to Tim Lawton. It was reported that there is a large pothole at the top of 'Keepers Hill' in Amport. This will be reported to Highways.

SAFER CROSSING POINT – No news to report.

VILLAGE GATEWAYS – No news to report.

SPEED LIMITS, SIGNS, YELLOW AND WHITE LINES – Cllr P Blakeman reported that he had spoken to Test Valley who had inspected the areas and agreed action needed taking as many are now disappearing.

Cllr Mr P Blakeman gave the Parish Council information on a 'smiley face' flashing speed sign costing in the region of £2,500.

PLAY AREA – Cllr R Underhill sent in a report to say that she had inspected the Play Area and there were no issues.

DOG FOULING – The Clerk reported that TVBC are at their maximum providing the dog bin emptying service and cannot take on any more contracts at the moment. The Parish Council only option would be to go private, however there are few private companies operating in our area and would be very expensive. The Parish Council will go down the additional signs route.

QUEENS 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS.

The Chairman reported that the Village Party to celebrate the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday was sparsely attended. However, 50-60 people did attend had a good time. The outdoor Church Service was a great success.

## **PLANNING**

16/01338/FULLN – Retention of concrete base for use as terrace – Rose Cottage, High Street, Grateley – NO OBJECTION.

16/01337/LBWN – provision of French doors in existing opening at rear and retention of concrete base for use as terrace – Rose Cottage, High Street – NO OBJECTION.

The Parish Council were very disappointed to hear that the Planning Inspector had refused the appeal on the Monxton Road Chicken Sheds and find their reasons for objecting not acceptable.

## **FINANCE**

CHEQUES ISSUED IN JULY 2016

R.N. Waterman	Wages	£181.25
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## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Mr J Stamp reported that a Bicycle had been stolen from Grateley Station and that residents should be aware of a HMRC scam that is doing the rounds.

## **BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR B FEW-BROWN**

Cllr Mr B Few-Brown stated that he was also disappointed that the appeal for the Monxton Road Chicken Sheds had been turned down, he felt that the planners do not take notice of local views. This application had support from the Parish Council and a large number of the parishioners.

## **PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS.**

CLLR MR K SMITH – Spoke about Grateley losing its facilities, both shops have now gone and the future of the one remaining pub which is presently closed, its future unknown. Cllr Mr K Smith pointed out that the Defibrillator is still on the Campbell Close Shop.

The Clerk suggested that he contacted Network Rail to ask if the Defibrillator could be sited at Grateley Station. Mr Brian Funnell gave the Clerk the address and telephone number of Mr Hunt the owner of the Campbell Close shop so he could make contact him as to the future plans of the shop.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Parish Council have received correspondence about the state of the plaque adjacent to the Notice Board in the High Street. The Parish Council discussed this and agreed to proceed with organising a replacement.

The Clerk reported that he has received correspondence from Network Rail informing the Parish Council that the station footbridge will be added to their maintenance programme for 2016.

## **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Commuters parking on Station Road was raised. It was felt that sufficient time has now lapsed since the opening of the new Andover Station Car Park and the number of cars parking on Station Road is still causing a problem (25 on the day of the meeting). Mr Ray Alborough from Highways at TVBC will be contacted, he had said he would look at the parking if there was still a problem once the Andover Station car park re-opened.

It was reported that the steps from Station Road to the Station Car Park are very slippery and a Health and Safety issue. The Clerk was asked to report this to Network Rail.

## **PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

The Chairman introduced Mr Martyn Horne who has expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council. The Parish Council all agreed to co-opt Mr Horne on to the Parish Council at the September meeting.

## **CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

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## **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

6<sup>th</sup> September 2016

### GRATELEY VILLAGE FRIENDS REPORT.

#### Annual Report (2016) to the Parish Council on Grateley Village Friends

I am glad to say that we have had another successful year. We have some new members but unfortunately have lost several members this year, Ken Poynter, Steve Bainbridge, Peter Griffith and of course our most recent member Stan Angell.

We have had some excellent speakers – who could forget the talk given by Billy Boucher West on Grateley House and Grateley last November and the last two meetings with Toogood & May the auctioneers and the talk on Glimpses of the Past by Group Captain David Greenway OBE.

The barbecue at the village hall, fish and chips and the Christmas lunch at the Chalkhill Blue were enjoyed by all and we still have the Sex Lives of Kings by Tony Strafford (a Beefeater) to look forward to.

We have replaced the barbecue with a buffet lunch this year as the poor chefs and the waiting staff are starting to find it a bit too exhausting – well we are all getting older.

Financially we are still sound, we have not yet had to increase the meeting fees and are still on line to provide the usual free meetings.

As always we are looking for new members so if anyone knows of any likely candidates then please let one of us know and we will follow it up. The club is not just for Grateley residents nor the elderly, we have members from surrounding villages and Andover and our youngest are in their fifties.

I would like to thank the other members of the committee, Christopher and Shirley Stevens and my wife Christine, for all the work that they do both behind the scenes and at the meetings and also the members who, by turning up each month, keep the club going.

## GRATELEY VILLAGE HALL REPORT

### **Chairman's report for the Grateley War Memorial Hall Committee AGM on Tuesday 5 July 2016**

This is the present committee's second year of managing the hall.

The main project for the hall this year has been the building of a porch to enhance the main entrance and keep the hall warm. The project was overseen by Peter Bye and I thank him for managing this improvement to the building. We were fortunate to receive donations towards the cost of the porch from the Parish Council, from Borough Councillor Ben Few Brown and County Councillor Zilliah Brooks.

Black-out window blinds have also been fitted in the hall to reduce draughts and conserve heat.

We have had positive feedback from regular users who have appreciated both these improvements.

Once again we are indebted to Chris and Shirley Stevens who work tirelessly to keep the hall clean and tidy which they do very successfully. Also thank you to Christine Bye for managing the hall bookings and all other correspondence. We continue to have a good number of regular users, and a fair number of occasional users.

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