

Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th February 2017 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
County Councillor Mrs Z Brooks
Mr J Stamp - NHW
Members of the Public – 3

WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

RESIGNATION.

The Chairman reported that she has received Cllr Mrs R Underhill's resignation. Cllr Mrs R Underhill has served on the Parish Council for several years and unfortunately feels that she cannot continue due to poor health. The Chairman wished to publicly thank Mrs Underhill for the work she has done for the village during her time on the Parish Council.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

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

HIGHWAYS AND POTHOLES – Cllr R Tierney reported that the drain in Pond lane has been cleared. A pot hole has appeared at the junction of Cholderton and Old Stockbridge Road.

SAFER CROSSING POINT – Cllr Mr P Blakeman reiterated 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 – No new news to report. The Parish Council discussed increasing the Yellow Lines along Station Road. The number of cars parking on Station Road daily is increasing and becoming a problem for other road users. The safety of pedestrians is of concern. The Clerk will ask Mr Ray Alborough if he would attend a future Parish Council meeting so that options can be discussed.

PLAY AREA – Cllr R Underhill submitted a Play Area report. The goal posts have been repaired and are back in place. The swings and climbing frame are all secure. The whole area is tidy and free of litter, the bins have recently been emptied with new bin bags inside.

Further consultation in Locke Close has identified the following:

- 11 requested new play equipment
- 3 requested additional 'NO DOG FOULING' signs
- 5 requested picnic facilities
- 4 requested Basketball
- 1 requested a new gate
- 1 requested nets on the goals
- 1 requested that the grass is cut more frequently

The Parish Council noted the results and will organise for additional 'No Dog Fouling' signs. Cllr P Blakeman will further enquire what is required reference the Basketball, if it is a single practice post on grass this could easily be done. The request for more frequent grass cutting will be passed to TVBC.

Cllr P Blakeman will take over the Play Area.

PLANNING

16/02951/FULLN – Alterations and conversion of ground floor shop unit into two 1-bedroom flats - Station Stores, Campbell Close, Grateley – NO OBJECTION.

16/03148/OUTN – Construction of 5 residential units, following demolition of public house and related annex – The Shire Horse, Station Approach, Grateley – OBJECTION

The Parish Council felt that the site is an eyesore in its current state and that the building is no longer viable as a commercial property and the way forward is to develop the site in to residential property. However, the proposals in this planning application are not suitable. Full details of the Parish Council's objection can be viewed on the TVBC web site.

FINANCE

Cheques issued in February 2017.

R.N. Waterman	Wages	£181.23
Strato	Web Site Hosting Fee	£134.94

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mr John Stamp reported that Grateley has been the victim of a mini crime wave. Theft of equipment from a barn, theft of a car from the Station, theft of heating oil and the torching of a van in Campbell Close.

FUTURE PROJECTS

The Village Clean-up - 22nd April 2017.

WW1

Play Area

Streetway Road Enhancement - The Parish Council discussed the proposals to tidy up the area of land on Streetway Road, put forward by Amelia Williams the TVBC Tree Officer at the December meeting. The Parish Council fully support the proposals.

CLLR MRS Z BROOKS

Cllr Mrs Z Brooks reported that the Hampshire County Council part of the Council Tax will be increased by 4.99%

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR B FEW-BROWN

Cllr Mr B Few-Brown reported that The Independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is carrying out an electoral review of Test Valley Borough Council. The review will draw new council ward boundaries across Test Valley. The Commission has also announced that 43 councillors should be elected to the council in the future: five fewer than the current arrangements.

It is proposed that the Amport Ward will join Abbots Anne and Anna Valley and the councillors reduced from 3 to 2. Cllr Mr B Few-Brown urged residents to register their views and safe guard their identity.

CORRESPONDENCE

Museum of Army Flying – Project Eagle.

Over the next three or so years the Museum of Army Flying will be undertaking a major modernisation project. The Parish Council have been invited to a briefing for local people at the Museum on Saturday 25th February 2017. The Clerk was asked to confirm that 4, possibly 5 of the councillors will be attending.

Web Site – Grateley Primary School

Mrs Alison Few-Brown in her role as a School Governor has requested if it would be possible to either add a page to the Grateley Website about the school or a link to the school website.

The Chairman reported that a link to the Grateley Primary School website has been added to the Grateley website by the Webmaster. The Clerk was asked to confirm this with Mrs A Few-Brown.

Village News

The Chairman stated that she has still not been named as the Chairman of the Parish Council in the Village News. Cllr R Tierney apologised for the delay he had not managed to get the information to the editor before the last date before publication. Cllr R Tierney hoped that this should be put right for the next addition.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no issues raised by the members of the public.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

7th March 2017