

**Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2023 in the Grateley Village Hall at 7.00pm.**

Present: Cllr Mr K Smith – Chair  
Cllr Mr I Wingfield  
Cllr Mr A Bradford  
Cllr M Horne  
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk  
County Councillor Mr C Donnelly  
Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood  
Members of the Public – 8

Apologies: Cllr A Bettle-Shaffer, Borough Councillor Mr D Coole and Mr John Underhill.

**WELCOME.**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST.**

Cllr Mr K Smith declared an interest in the Parking Issue in Campbell and Locke Close.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

The Chair signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Matters Arising from those minutes:

PLAY AREA – Cllr Mr I Wingfield reported that he now has three quotes. The quotes were sent to the Parish Councillors prior to the meeting. I quote stands out for being the best value for the money.

The Parish Council will hold an 'In Camera' meeting after this meeting to discuss and agree the chosen supplier. Once this has been confirmed Cllr Mr I Wingfield will start the funding application process with Test Valley Borough Council. Cllr Mrs M Flood offered to help liaising with TVBC.

HIGHWAYS – Cllr Mr I Wingfield has reported further potholes on Station Road and the High Street. Two potholes have been repaired on Cholderton Road. Residents have been informed by Hampshire Highways of work to be done at the junction of Wallop and Old Stockbridge Road, this is related to the Traffic Calming Scheme in Over Wallop. The Chair was disappointed that Grateley Parish Council have not been consulted.

FOOTPATHS – Cllr Mr I Wingfield reported that the footpaths are clear and walkable.

SPEEDING – A new supplier of the Flashing Speed indicator has been found and the information has been received. The price has increased to £2,000 for a solar powered speed sign. The Parish Council agreed to proceed.

Cllr Mr M Horne spoke about a recent RTA on Station Road by the Chicken Farm involving a Farm Vehicle and a Motorbike. The Commuters Parked Cars contributed to the accident by blocking sight lines. The Police are involved, this may push the issue with the parked cars along Station Road.

DOG BIN – In Hand.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – The new Neighbourhood Watch signs are on order.

RESILIENCE PLAN – The Clerk confirmed that SSE still have funding available to make the Village Hall a Warm Hub for the vulnerable residents of the village in an emergency situation. The Clerk has requested an application form and suggested that Grateley Parish Council push ahead with getting the Village Hall self sufficient for power and heating.

PARKING IN CAMPBELL AND LOCKE CLOSE – Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported that Hampshire County Council are not taking on any traffic management issues when residents are causing the problems. Hampshire County Council have stated that they will look at the Residents Permit Parking in Campbell Close to see if any improvements to the current position can be made.

Mrs J Blakeman reported that many residents in Locke Close were shocked to read in the minutes of the issues raised at the previous meeting. Not all residents have issues with the parking and were concerned that private CCTV was being used. The photographs provided in the report were not current and the comments made were one sided.

The Chair stated that the Parish Council were asked to raise the issue by the Parishioner who provided the report and have no powers regarding this issue. The Parish Council will now close the matter as it has been forwarded to Hampshire County Council.

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported that he has requested that Hampshire Fire and Rescue visit both Locke and Campbell Closes to carry out a risk assessment on access in case of an emergency.

### **PLANNING.**

23/00642/FULLN – Grateley Business Park – Demolition of Commercial building and construction of 3 buildings to be used for storage and the provision of financial services; Offices; Research and development of products and light industrial processes with parking.

The Clerk gave Mr John Underhill's apologies. Mr Underhill has raised concerns about this planning application in respect of the increase of traffic to the site, extended opening hours, noise and the unsuitable entrance for large HGV's. Residents of Cholderton Road have written to Test Valley Borough Council about their concerns objection to this planning application.

The Parish Council agreed with the concerns raised. Cllr Mr M Horne will study the Planning Application and make further comment in due course. The Parish Council were mindful to OBJECT.

NDP – No news to report.

## **FINANCE.**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

Opening Balance                    £ 8,950.33  
**£ 8,950.33**

Less Expenditure  
Clerks Wages                        £275.00  
**£275.00**

Money in the bank.  
Working Capital   £ 8,675.33  
Play Area            £15,000.00  
**£23,675.33**

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR C DONNELLY.**

Cllr Mr C Donnelley reported on the following issues:

- Hampshire County Council have received a further £6 Million from Government to tackle the Potholes. There have been 120,000 potholes reported since January 2023. Work to repair potholes is being concentrated on the rural areas.
- It was mentioned that the worst potholes are caused by drains sinking – Cllr Mr C Donnelley asked that any sunken drains are reported to him so that he escalates them as a matter of urgency.

## **BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS M FLOOD.**

Cllr Mrs M Flood reported on the following issues:

- Test Valley Borough Council have worked hard to keep their budget to an acceptable level and are on of the lowest Borough Councils by only raising the Council Tax on a Band D property by £5 a year.
- TVBC are spending £6.5 Million on a Green Route past the Town Mills and along the river Anton.
- There is still funding available from the 'Cost of Living' Grant.
- May Parishes have applied for the £500 grant to help celebrate the Kings Coronation celebrations.
- The Chantry Centre was discussed and a link for information will be sent to the Clerk.

## **PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.**

There were no issues raised.

## **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

Issues raised included:

- Village Defibrillators – two of the members of the public stated that they are first responders and had attended a recent meeting where it was reported that a Parish Council had taken the decision to open their defibrillators cabinets for speed of use as it sometimes takes a while to get through to the Emergency Services. As first responders they would be willing to attend and use the defibrillators. They also thought that training sessions on how to use the equipment re needed.

This was discussed at length. The Grateley Parish Council Defibrillators are linked to the Ambulance Service who administer the code and help with their use over the telephone. The benefit of this system is that if the equipment is

used it is taken out of commission until the Clerk can collect it, check the battery and commission new pads. Leaving the cabinets unlocked could also result in the equipment being stolen, this would not be covered under insurance for replacement. The Parish Council did not think they would go down the route of leaving the cabinets unlocked. However, they were open to training sessions on the equipment.

Mrs J Blakeman asked if the First Responders were registered and had all the necessary checks and documentation? This needed to be confirmed.

- **KINGS CORONATION** – Mrs Lorna Ward spoke about the planned Kings Coronation Celebrations on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The celebrations will be centred around The Plough Inn and Chapel Lane. Mrs J Blakeman asked if there could be more information distributed at the Station end of the village? Many residents do not have a clue what is being organised and timings. Mrs Lorna Ward noted this.

Mrs Lorna Ward asked if the Parish Council could help with the storing of items from previous village events, mainly decorations, Bunting etc. It was suggested that if it was not weighty items, they might fit into the Village Hall loft.

Mrs Lorna Ward reported that there are lots of ideas for future Community Events as asked for the Parish Council's backing. The Parish Council all agreed that events bring the community together and that they would help to financially support such events.

- Mrs J Blakeman reported that the minutes are not being put on the website and the website is not up to date. The Chair stated that the website needs addressing and proper website administration needs putting in place.

Mrs J Blakeman asked if there was any news on registering the Plough Inn as a Community Asset? Cllr Mrs I Wingfield reported that he is still looking into this.

### **CLOSE OF THE MEETING.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

### **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at 7pm in the Grateley Village Hall.

### **WEBSITE.**

[www.grateley.net](http://www.grateley.net)