

Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th of February 2024 in the Grateley Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Mr I Wingfield – Vice Chair
Cllr Mr A Bradford
Cllr Mrs P Perkins
Cllr Mrs J Blakeman
Cllr Mr M Horne
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood
Members of the Public – 10

Apologies: Cllr Mr K Smith – Chair, County Councillor Mr C Donnelly and Borough Councillor Mrs S Hasselmann.

WELCOME.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair reminded the Members of the Public that there is a slot on the agenda for them to raise issues and to please not interject during the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations of Interest recorded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The minutes of the November meeting were signed as a true record. Matters arising from those minutes that require an up-date:

FLASHING SPEED SIGN – It was reported that favourable comments have been received regarding the new Flashing Speed Sign on Monxton Road. The Parish Council intend to purchase a second one for the Station end of the village.

PLAY AREA – Cllr Mr I Wingfield reported that the application for C.A. funding has been submitted to Test Valley Borough Council. Cllr Mr I Wingfield was pleased to report that the Parish Council have received a donation of £1,000 from a resident, who wishes to be anonymous. A letter sent to all Businesses in the parish in June 2023 and has resulted in the promise of a Grant from Grateley Business Park of £4,723.

If the Parish Council are successful with the C.A. Grant, we will have the funding for a 'Gold Standard' Playground. The Parish Council thought this good news.

HIGHWAYS – The Chair, Clerk and Cllr Mr M Horne met with a Highways Officer on site on the 6th of December 2023 to discuss flooding outside the Plough Inn, Flooding at the bottom of Streetway Road and the state of the road surface on Wallop Road before the junction of Old Stockbridge Road.

PLOUGH INN AND CHAPLE LANE.

Concerns were identified regarding flooding outside the pub and along Chaple Lane. Proposed measures including initiating works to lower the gully at the junction near the Bus Stop to facilitate improved water flow into the drainage system. A survey of the drainage system along Chapel Lane using a high-pressure jetting unit and a CCTV survey.

FLOODING OF WALLOP ROAD AT JUNCTION WITH STREETWAY ROAD.

A jetting unit will be deployed to clear the system running from Old Stockbridge Road up to Streetway Road. Simultaneously a survey of the highway drainage system for any faults will be conducted, investigation of the soak-aways in the area will also be scheduled with the intention to clear them as necessary. It is hoped that this will be carried out by the end of May 2024.

WALLOP ROAD NEAR OLD STOCKBRIDGE ROAD.

The deterioration noted at this location is beyond what the small-patching gangs can address. Consequently, it is one of the large numbers of such sites that are being submitted for more extensive works as part of the Countywide programme. It is hoped that this can be scheduled for the 2024/2025 programme of works. In the interim any defects meeting Hampshire's criteria to be considered as a 'safety defect' will be addressed.

PLANNING.

There was no new planning application to discuss.

DRAFT BOROUGH PLAN – The Test Valley Borough Council Draft Plan is out for consultation and is available to view on the TVBC Website. Comments can also be made on the website.

NDP – Cllr Mrs J Blakeman had no news to report. The Clerk confirmed that the outstanding £350.50 of the grant money not used has been repaid to Groundworks UK.

FINANCE.

The Clerk was pleased to report that the Lloyds Bank Account is now open.

FINANCIAL REPORT – 6th February 2024

Expenditure February.

Clerks Wages	£1,100.00 (Nov, Dec, Jan and Feb)
Ground Works UK - NDP	£350.50
Platform Electrics – Web Site	£180.00
	<u>£1,630.50</u>

Summary 1st April 2023 to 6th February 2024

Working Capital O/B 1.4.23	= £ 8,827.65
+ income	= £ 8,900.00
	= <u>£17,727.65</u>

Less Expenditure:	£
April	= 275.00
May	= 275.00
June	= 2,102.95
July	= 1,189.30
August and September	= 3,357.99
October	= 1,464.64
February	= 1,630.50
	= <u>£10,295.38</u>

Working Capital = £7,432.27

Money in the bank.

Working Capital £ 7,432.27

Play Area Funding £ 26,403.75

£33,836.02

2024/2025 PRECEPT.

The Parish Council held an 'In-Camera' meeting following the November meeting to discuss the budget for the year 2024/2025.

Requests for additional funding from the Church towards the upkeep of the Graveyard had been received. The Parish Council agreed that the following will be included in the 2024/2025 Budget:

- Money will be put aside each year towards a Play Area Maintenance Fund
- Grants to the Village Hall and the Church will be increased.
- A Grant of £500 will be given to Grateley Village Friends.

The Parish Council agreed that the Precept will increase from £8,400 to £10,000. The Grateley Parish Council precept for the year 2024/2025 was set at £10,000.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS M FLOOD.

Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood reported:

- Hampshire County Council have confirmed their budget and that there will be a 4.99% increase in the Council Tax.
- Test Valley Borough Council are to increase their part of the Council Tax Bill by £5 per household.
- The charge for tipping DIY waste at the Hampshire County Council Recycling centres is to be dropped.
- Hampshire County Council have now invited Parish Councils to apply for a 20mph speed limit. It was noted that all expenses would be met by the Parish Council. It was noted that Hampshire Constabulary have confirmed that they do not have the officers to enable this to be enforced.
- The new Chief Constable of Hampshire Constabulary has brought back 'Local Bobbies' to cover the Rural Beats. The dedicated Rural Beat Office for this area is PC Glen Doalber who will be available via email or telephone. Cllr Mrs M Flood will try to arrange a 'Meet and Greet' Coffee Morning.
- The Barclays Bank branch in Andover is to close.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

CLLR MRS J BLAKEMAN – Reported that dog mess in the village is a big problem. Streetway Road verge, in particular, is covered in dog mess. The Clerk was asked to contact the TVBC Dog Warden to inform him of the continuing problem and to ask for more signs.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Issues raised:

- Drainage in Streetway Road – Parish Council meeting with Highways was reported earlier in the meeting.
- Any news on the proposed development raised last year in Streetway Road and Station Road? Both sites were submitted to TVBC and have not been included in the Draft Borough Plan that will run to 2040. The Draft Borough Plan is available to view on the TVBC Website.

- The Parish Council were thanked for organising for all the Village Road Signs to be cleaned.

GRATELEY BUSINESS PARK.

Mr P Barber spoke at length re-capping on the Grateley Business Park Planning Application. Mr P Barber reported that a Retrospective Planning Permission for the siting of 20 containers on the site for commercial storage has been submitted to TVBC and wished to know the Parish Councils comments. Mr P Barber thought that it does not show the Parish Council in a good light, accepting a grant from Grateley Business Park towards the Play Area.

The Chair stated that a letter to several Grateley Businesses and organisations asking for a letter of support had been sent out in June 2023 for a village project to provide a new playground. The offer of a donation from Grateley Business Park was received on the 21st November 2023. The Parish Council took exception Mr P Barber's comment.

Cllr Mr M Horne stated the Parish Council will make their comment once they have been notified of the Planning Application and had time to study the application. The Parish Council backed the Cholderton Residents as requested at the November Meeting and have seen all the relevant correspondence with the Planning Department and the conclusion. As the Parish Council understand the only option now is for the residents to take the matter to the Planning Ombudsman.

Therefore, the Parish Council would not be prepared to give their support if the residents decided to take the route of the Planning Ombudsman.

CORRESPONDENCE.

No Correspondence has been received.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

5th March 2024 at 7pm in the Grateley Village Hall.

WEBSITE.

www.grateley.net