

Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd of April 2024 in the Grateley Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Mr K Smith – Chair
Cllr Mr A Bradford
Cllr Mrs P Perkins
Cllr Mrs J Blakeman
Cllr Mr M Horne
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
County Councillor Mr C Donnelly
Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood
Members of the Public – 9

Apologies: Cllr Mr I Wingfield and County 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 February and March Meetings were signed as a true record. Matters arising from those minutes that require an up-date:

PLAY AREA UPDATE

The Chair reported that Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood has confirmed that 'there is no doubt the Parish Council has been awarded the funding', however, Cllr Mrs M Flood did point out that the process of approval was not yet complete and that other internal approvals are required. This being the case Cllr Mr I Wingfield will be meeting with AVA Recreation (the play equipment supplier) shortly to confirm the project go ahead. AVA have advised that they are looking to complete the project by the end of June or early July.

It has been suggested that an official opening ceremony should be arranged, including the unveiling of a plaque recognising the contributors to the project.

Any further suggestions, please contact the Parish Council:

<https://grateley.net/contact>

Defibrillator.

Grateley Business Park have confirmed that their defibrillator is operational. It can be found adjacent to the park entrance gates. If required call 999 who will advise of the code to access the defibrillator.

HIGHWAYS

Some HCC Highways works to Cholderton Road and Wallop Road under the Temporary Road Closure (TRC) have been completed and the installation of a new soakaway on Wallop Road adjacent to the junction with Streetway Road commenced today. However, the works adjacent The Plough and Chapple Lane remain outstanding.

Latest speed sign stats:

Date Range:	29 th February to 28 th March 2024	
	Incoming (into the village)	Outgoing (out of the village)
Number of Vehicles	7,172	10,533
Average Speed	26 mph	26 mph
Maximum Speed	54 mph	49 mph

Residents are encouraged to report pothole concerns directly to the County Council at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>

PLANNING AND NDP

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

Mrs Jane Lynch reported that the NDP group have identified a Local Planning Consultant, and a 2-hour consultation is planned to discuss the way forward before the Consultant is engaged. At present there is no funding available to progress the NDP.

The Chairman briefly spoke about the Draft Local Borough Plan. The Consultation has now closed.

FINANCE.

FINANCIAL REPORT – 2nd April 2024

INCOME.

Anonymous Donation to Play Area £1,000.00
JJ Acquisitions Donation to Play Area £4,732.00
£5,732.00

Expenditure April.

Clerks Wages £300.00
£300.00

Summary 1st April 2024

Working Capital O/B 1.4.24 = £ 6,506.19
= **£ 6,506.19**

Less Expenditure:

April £
= 300.00
= **£ 300.00**

Working Capital = £6,206.19

Money in the bank.

Working Capital £ 6,206.19
Play Area Funding £ 32,126.75
£38,332.94

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR C DONNELLY

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported:

- Hampshire County Council have confirmed at a recent budget meeting that they will be providing 11 new care homes in Hampshire over the coming years.
- Southern Water are continuing to work on lining the sewers in the villages along the Pillhill Brook. This is being done to stop the ingress of Surface Water entering the sewage system. The scheme is working as the number of tankers over pumping had dramatically reduced.
- Ground Water levels in the area remain very high.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS M FLOOD.

Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood reported:

- Cllr Mrs M Flood and Cllr Mr C Donnelly attended a tour of the Southern Water wastewater treatment facility at Fullerton. Southern Water are working hard to cope with the high demand and are running the facility at full capacity. The information given was enlightening and after a complex process water is eventually released back into the River Test in a clean safe state.
- Residents can get involved in monitoring Butterflies – details can be found on the Test Valley Borough Council website.
- TVBC are passing a motion on the issue of disposable vapes.
- TVBC are still prosecuting Fly Tippers – a recent case involved a person from Twickenham who received a £3,000 fine and a criminal conviction.
- The Pan Parish Forum for the Pillhill Brook has been such a success that TVBC are considering rolling out the scheme to other parishes.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

Cllr Mr A Bradford – Reported that the Wi-Fi has been installed in the Village Hall. The Village Hall took £7,250 in hiring fees in the last financial year.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Mr Simon Duffield of Natural Grateley reported that he has been involved as a resident in the adoption of Grateley Station. This involves managing the wild area around the car Parks – monitoring and maintain it to encourage wildlife.

The station planters are now at the end of their life, and it has been agreed that theses will be replaced with sculptures based on drawings from the school children at Grateley Primary School.

Local Blacksmiths have been approached to quote to produce the sculptures in metal. The money for this project will need to be raised and it is hoped that Southwest Trains will contribute to the cost.

The Parish Council thought this a very good idea and confirmed that they would be willing to give a grant towards the project.

Mrs C Horne spoke about holding 'Cinema Nights' in the Village Hall, this has been very successful in other Villages and a good point of fundraising. The cost of a projector is being looked into.

The Parish Council thought this an excellent idea and was sure a Film Night would be a popular event. Cllr Mrs J Blakeman mentioned a PRS Licence that would be needed for such a venture.

Mr Peter Blakeman spoke about the recent repairs on Wallop and Cholderton Road and enquired if Hampshire Highways plan to top-coat and chip the road. Cllr Mr C Donnelly stated that he will ask the question.

Mr Peter Blakeman spoke about the soakaway on Wallop Road and the need for highways to stop the silt coming down from Streetway Road blocking the drain. If this is not tackled it is pointless doing the planned work on a new soakaway. Mr P Blakeman stated that Residents who abut the drain and soakaway on Wallop Road have not been informed of the planned work by Hampshire Highways. Mr P Blakeman thought this necessary as the work may impinge on their property. Cllr Mr C Donnelly noted this and will speak to Highways.

Mr P Blakeman raised concerns about the dispersal of sewage especially with the development of Grateley Business Park.

Cllr Mrs M Flood stated that Test Valley Borough Council do consult with Southern Water on every major Planning Application. Southern Water have asked for them to be a Statutory Consultee on all planning applications in the future, this is being reviewed.

Speeding on the Wallop/Cholderton Road was raised again by a resident of Wallop Road. The Chairman reiterated that over the Years the Parish Council have tried to get the speed limit on the Wallop/Cholderton Road reduced to 30mph and they have been turned down on numerous occasions. The new Grateley Traffic Group is looking for volunteers and this may be the route to take to put forward views. Details are available on the website.

GRATELEY HELP THE NETWORK.

Mrs C Horne reported that the Grateley Community Big Picnic will be held on the 16th of June 2024. This will be held in the paddock behind the Plough Inn between 12noon and 3pm. If wet, it will be held in the Plough Inn.

There will be a tea tent, a Community Photograph will be taken, and many other attractions are planned. A flier will be distributed around the village giving full details. The information will also be available through social media and the Website.

It is believed that Test Valley Borough Council will be giving grants.

CORRESPONDENCE.

There was no Correspondence.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The AGM on the 7th of May 2024 at 7pm in the Grateley Village Hall.

WEBSITE.

www.grateley.net