

Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st of October 2024 in Grateley War Memorial Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Mr K Smith – Chair
Cllr Mr I Wingfield – Vice Chair
Cllr Mr A Bradford
Cllr Mrs J Blakeman
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
County Councillor – Mr C Donnelly
Borough Councillor - Mrs M Flood
Mrs J Lynch - NDP
Members of the Public – 10

Apologies: Cllr Mrs P Perkins, Cllr Mr M Horne and Borough Councillor Mrs S Hasselmann.

WELCOME.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and 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 September Meeting were signed as a true record. Matters arising from those minutes that require an up-date:

LENGTHSMAN – The Clerk reported that he is just waiting for conformation of the insurance cover and the Lengthsman can start work. The Clerk hoped that this will be before the end of the month.

PLAY AREA UPDATE.

Cllr Mr I Wingfield reported that TVBC and the Parish Council are agreeing with the Head Terms of the Lease for the Lock Close Play Area. It has been agreed and shown on a map that the Parish Council will only be responsible for the boundary of the Play Area and not the whole field. The Parish Council are waiting for a copy of the final copy of the draft lease to check the wording before it is signed.

The Parish Council can then hopefully proceed with the project but still need conformation that they have been awarded the match funding from TVBC. Cllr Mrs M Flood ensured the Parish Council that the Grant has been awarded for the project.

PLANNING.

24/02054/LBWN – Replace ground floor window on east elevation with larger window – The Old Rectory, High Street, Grateley. – NO OBJECTION.

NDP

Mrs J Lynch reported that everything is in place for the Community 'Drop In' event on Thursday 3rd of October in the Village Hall from 6pm to 9pm. The Planning Consultant, Sarah Hughes and her colleague Tim from TVBC will be in attendance.

FINANCE.
FINANCIAL REPORT – 1st October 2024

INCOME.

TVBC ½ Precept	£5,000.00
	<u>£5,000.00</u>

EXPENDITURE.

Clerks Wages	£300.00
DDO LLP - Audit Fee	£252.00
Play Project – Equipment Hire	£ 45.00
Gallagers - PC Insurance	£694.41
	<u>£1,292.41</u>

Working Capital	= £ 5,913.10
General Reserves	= £ 4,000.00
Play Area Maintenance Fund	= £ 500.00
	= £10,413.10

PLAY AREA PROJECT.

Opening Balance	= £ 32,126.75
Less Deposit	= £ 10,000.00
	<u>= £ 22,126.75</u>

NDP.

Income- Groundworks Grant	= £5,930.00
Expenditure – Float	= £ 50.00
Printing	= £ 365.58
	<u>= £5,514.42</u>

Money in the bank.

Parish Council	£10,413.10
Play Area Funding	£ 22,126.75
NDP	£ 5,514.42
	<u>£38,054.27</u>

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR C DONNELLY.

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported that Hampshire County Council have started working on their budget for the next financial year. Funds have been logged to help residents with the withdrawal of the Winter Fuel Allowance. HCC are waiting for conformation from the Government on Devolution Grants and are consulting with Portsmouth and Southampton. HCC are closing some Re-Cycling sites in Hampshire, there are no planned closures in Test Valley.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS M FLOOD.

Cllr Mrs M Flood reported that the statues of the late Queen were unveiled on Friday the 27th of September 2024 in Andover and Romsey. The statues will eventually be floodlit. Cllr Mrs M Flood warned of a Parking Text Scam demanding payment. TVBC do not send text messages!
TVBC are looking at support schemes for help on both the Council Tax and Winter Fuel.

HIGHWAYS.

Cllr Mr I Wingfield reported that there have been several requests from the village for more wheely bin stickers. It was agreed to purchase additional stickers.

Members of the public reported that they have been actively cleaning some of the road signs and that many are being not visible due to hedges and verges not being cut. The Clerk reported that the clearing of overgrowth from signs and their cleaning is one of the first jobs on the list for the Lengthsman.

It was reported that there used to be a sign stating 'Please Drive Carefully though our Village' by the Golf Driving Range. The sign is long gone but the post is still there. It was agreed to get a quote to reinstate the sign.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

CLLR MRS J BLAKEMAN – Reported that she has been contacted regarding the cutting of some of the footpaths in the parish. It has been reported that some of the footpaths have been cut back but all the cuttings have been left on the path and this makes them difficult to walk. The footpath from Hawthorn Close toward Quarley is impassible in places.

It was agreed to review all the Parish Footpaths. Mrs Jane Lynch reported that the NDP have maps of the Village Footpaths that she will make available for the November Parish Council Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE.

There was no correspondence to report.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Mrs L Griffith reported that the telephone Box Library door cannot be opened, and the Green Wheely Bin has not been emptied and is overflowing. There is a heavy looking stand that has been left by one of the Utility Companies and is causing a problem.

Cllr Mr A Bradford reported that a Parishioner has offered to refurbish the telephone box, and he will speak to him about the door. Cllr Mr A Bradford reported that he has the paint for the telephone box. The Clerk will get onto Southern Water who it is believed that the stand belongs to.

Mr Peter Blakeman spoke about dedicated pedestrian lanes on roads that he has observed in other Counties and suggested that this be adopted on Station Road. After some discussion County Councillor Mr C Donnelly stated that he will speak to the Highways Engineer and report back to the Parish Council.

Mr Richard Gregory spoke about various issues including:

- The Lengthsman and jobs they can tackle.
- Working Groups to tackle the overgrown Footpaths.
- Additional signage to help enforce the speed limits through the village.

These issues were answered to the best of the Parish Councils knowledge and will be followed up.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

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

WEBSITE.

www.grateley.net