

Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5th of November 2024 in Grateley War Memorial Hall at 7.00pm.

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

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

WELCOME.

The Vice 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 October 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. A list of work to be undertaken has been submitted.

PLAY AREA UPDATE.

Cllr Mr I Wingfield reported that he had nothing to report and that the Parish Council are still waiting for TVBC to finalise the Head Terms of the Lease for the Lock Close Play Area.

PLANNING.

24/02405/TPON – Beech Trees – 3 in number, 1. prune to clear garage roof, reduce lower canopy overhang, remove dead wood and reduce one over-extended limb over highway. 2. Prune to clear house by 1.5m. 3. Remove major dear wood - The Beeches, Streetway Road, Grateley. NO OBJECTION.

24/02258/FULLN – Single storey porch extension, internal reconfiguration including part of the garage to form utility room with associated external cladding, façade improvements and installation of photovoltaic panels – Sharcott, 14 Hawthorn Close, Grateley – NO OBJECTION.

24/01883/ADV N – Display of 2 non-illuminated information boards – Grateley Business Park – This has been REFUSED by TVBC Planners.

NDP

Mrs J Lynch reported that the Community 'Drop In' event held on Thursday 3rd of October was a great success and well attended. Ther was a lot of discussion and

some very positive comments providing food for thought! 103 responses have been received from the recent survey. The results will be collated and put on the NDP Website. The top three issues raised from the survey were:

1. Linking both ends of the Village.
2. Speeding
3. Provision of Affordable Housing

Mrs J Lynch reported that there had been some derogatory comments about the NDP on Facebook, this is not constructive! The Parish Council agreed.

FINANCE.

FINANCIAL REPORT – 5th November 2024

INCOME:

Money held on behalf of Simon Duffield £1,405.32

EXPENDITURE.

Clerks Wages	£300.00
Lorna Ward – Summer Picnic Ex	£381.06
Platform Ltd – Website	£ 95.00
Salisbury Printers – Signs	£ 81.60
	<u>£857.66</u>

Working Capital	= £ 5,055.44
General Reserves	= £ 4,000.00
Play Area Maintenance Fund	= £ 500.00
	= <u>£9,555.44</u>

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	= £ 650.29
Plan-ET	= £ 1,277.50
	<u>= £1,977.79</u>

Balance = £3,952.21

Money in the bank.

Parish Council	£ 9,555.44
Play Area Funding	£ 22,126.75
NDP	£ 3,952.21
S. Duffield	£ 1,405.32
	<u>£ 37,039.72</u>

2025/2026 PRECEPT.

The Parish Council discussed the 2025/2026 Precept, and all agreed that there would be no increase in the Precept. The Grateley Parish Council Precept for 2025/2026 was set at £10,000. Proposed by Cllr I Wingfield. Seconded by Cllr A Bradford. All agreed.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS M FLOOD.

Cllr Mrs M Flood reported that TVBC have started working on their budget for the next financial year. Good financial management and healthy reserves have put TVBC in a good position to meet the challenges ahead.

TVBC have put £20,000 into a fund to help those in difficulty with the cut in the winter fuel allowance made by the Government in the Autumn Budget.

TVBC have started their annual leaf clearance and there is an Energy Efficient Seminar for owners of listed buildings – Details are available on the TVBC Website. TVBC are looking into the effects the recent 75% increase in housing numbers imposed by the Government will have on Parishes that have completed or are in the process of putting together an NDP.

HIGHWAYS.

Cllr Mr Wingfield gave a brief update from the 'The Grateley Highways Sub-committee':

- More Wheely Bin speed limit stickers are to be ordered.
- 4 new 'Please Drive Carefully though our Village' signs have been ordered.
- 4 more 'Slow Pedestrians in the Road' signs will also be ordered.
- Various sites for road mirrors are being considered.
- Clearing of vegetation from Road Signs will continue.
- The suggestion of white dedicated pedestrian lanes painted on Station Road will be investigated. that he has observed in other Counties and suggested that this be adopted on Station Road. County Councillor Mr C Donnelly stated at the October Meeting that he will speak to the Highways Engineer and report back to the Parish Council.
- The overgrown vegetation on the footpath from Hawthorn Close toward Quarley has been cut back. It was reported that the stile into Mr Goddards field is broken and beyond repair. It was suggested that Mr Goddard is asked if he would be willing for the stile to be removed and to just have a gap. The Clerk will write to Mr Goddard for his thoughts.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

There were no further issues raised by the Parish Councillor's.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Cllr A Bradford reported that he has been in correspondence with a Parishioner who had sent a comprehensive email via the Parish Council website. The following questions were asked and Cllr A Bradford has supplied the relevant information:

1. The approval of the funding for the Wheely Bin stickers.
2. Concern was raised about the suggestion at the October meeting regarding a footpath lane along Station Road that could adversely affect the parking of residents in Dibden Cottages and a request that there should be a full consultation of residents before any such plan was implemented.
3. The suitability of the fixing of the Slow Pedestrian Signs.

4. Why the Parish Councillor's would not engage in discussion on the Facebook Village Site.
5. Disappointment that the Parish Council do not publicize meetings on the Facebook Village Site.

The Parish Council noted the points and thanked Cllr A Bradford for replying to the Parishioner.

The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Caroline Nokes MP regarding a request from a young parishioner requesting a Mountain Bike Track. The Clerk replied to Caroline Nokes MP, informing her that unfortunately the Parish Council do not own any land in the Parish and have explored possibilities many years ago when a similar request was received. Caroline Nokes will forward this information to the young parishioner who made the request.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Mr and Mrs Gregory spoke about working parties to help keep the village footpaths open and walkable. Mrs and Mrs Gregory offered to give their time if the Parish Council could organise training and the purchase of a Brush Cutter. The Parish Council thought this a very generous offer. The Clerk will investigate training courses and see if there are still grants available.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

4th of February 2025 at 7pm in the Grateley Village Hall.

WEBSITE.

www.grateley.net