

Minutes of the Grateley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st of July 2025 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 P Perkins
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Borough Councillor Mrs S Hasselmann
Members of the Public – 14

Apologies: Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood and County Councillor Mr C Donnely.

WELCOME.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chair's Opening Announcements:

Members of the Public are reminded that this is not a public meeting, however, there is an item within the agenda for them to raise any issues and to please not interject during the meeting. A maximum of 10 minutes is allowed for members of the public to raise any issues, with individual contributions being limited to a maximum of 3 minutes. Members of the public are encouraged not to repeat comments made by earlier contributors, or it would be preferable for a single representative to be appointed. When raising an issue please state your name for the record.

I advise that if any members of the public who become disruptive or cause a nuisance, they will be asked to leave the meeting and as Chair I am empowered to stop the members of the public speaking and if necessary to close the meeting.

PARISH CLERK.

The Chair reported that the Clerk will be retiring at the end of this meeting after 26 years as our Parish Clerk. The Chair wished to thank the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council for his contribution to the Parish over the years.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY.

The Chair reported that Cllr Mrs J Blakeman has stood down from her post as Data Protection Officer and resigned from the Parish Council, he wished to thank her for all the work she has done while serving as a Parish Councillor. Test Valley Borough Council have been notified of the vacancy.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chair signed the minutes of the June meeting as a true record.

PLAY AREA.

Cllr Mr I Wingfield reported that the Play Area is nearing completion. The Fencing has been done, and the gates will be fitted shortly. Once the new swings have been installed the project will be complete. The Rt Hon Caroline Knokes MP will officially open the new Play Area on the 12th of July at 11am. The Chair thanked Cllr Mr I Wingfield for all that he has done to get this project delivered.

SPEED WATCH.

The Clerk confirmed that Speed Watch looks as though it will be started again with interest expressed by residents from Over Wallop, Nether Wallop and Grateley. Once a list of volunteers has been compiled the Police will be asked to provide a training session. It was noted that the equipment needs to be checked for battery condition and possibly re-calibration. Cllrs I Wingfield and A Bradfield have a list of residents who would like to be trained to use the equipment.

The Clerk confirmed that he had ordered the two Solar Powered Flashing Sleep Signs and is waiting confirmation for delivery.

PLANNING.

25/00999/FULLN – Erection of fence (Retrospective) – April Wood, Cholderton Road, Grateley. NO OBJECTION.

25/01415/REJN – Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed Installation of photovoltaic (PV) solar panels to the roof of non-domestic buildings – Black B, Grateley Business Park, Cholderton Road, Grateley.

TVBC LOCAL PLAN.

The Chair spoke about the TVBC Local Plan 2042 Section 18 plan. TVBC have booked the Village Hall on Thursday 10th July for a public consultation event between 4.00pm and 6.00pm to give an update on their draft Local Plan Revised Regulation 18 plan. Members of the public will have the opportunity to speak to officers and/or look at the consultation displays such as maps and other information documents.

A proposed development of 80 Houses on Streetway Road has been included in the Draft Borough Local Plan.

NDP.

Mrs J Lynch reported that the Government announced on the 12th of June 2025 that there would be no further financial support for Neighbourhood Development Plans. This announcement has had a devastating effect on the Grateley NDP as substantial progress has been made to completing the plan. The NDP Team have agreed to put any further work on hold until the future of funding is confirmed.

The Parish Council thought this such a shame and totally understood the decision the NDP Team have taken. The Chair thanked them for all the work they have done and hoped that the financing issue will be resolved in the future.

FINANCE.

FINANCIAL REPORT – 1st July 2025

INCOME

TVBC Grant for VE Day	£500.00
	<u>£500.00</u>

EXPENDITURE.

Clerks Wages	£300.00
Clerks Wages (Month in Hand)	£300.00
BT – Village Hall Wi-Fi.	£33.54

Lloyds Bank Charge	£7.67
R.N. Waterman Expenses	£17.80
Bulpitt Print - Minutes Printing	£25.00
PGPC Hire of Office 2024/2025	£120.00
VE Celebrations	£297.57
	<u>£1,101.58</u>

Working Capital	= £ 5,697.58
General Reserves	= £ 4,000.00
Play Area Maintenance Fund	= £1,000.00
	<u>= £10,697.58</u>

PLAY AREA PROJECT
= £ 21,230.08

Money in the bank.	
Parish Council	£ 10,697.58
Play Area Funding	£ 21,230.08
S. Duffield	£ 1,405.32
	<u>£ 33,332.98</u>

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS S HASSELMANN.

Borough Councillor Mrs S Hasselmann reported the following:

- TVBC have pledged support for the Armed Forces.
- An up-date was given on the reorganization of Local Government and the proposals put forward to Government on the splitting up of Hampshire. HCC and TVBC are looking at data to help understand the effect the Unitary Authorities will have on Rural Areas. Residents will be consulted on options. Regular updates are posted on the TVBC Website and contain several links for more information.
- As mentioned earlier in the meeting the TVBC Draft Borough Local Plan has been released for consultation. TVBC have no large land reserves to accommodate the 78% increase in new homes set by the Government. The recently published Draft Borough Local Plan identifies several large sites for development – 1000 homes in Weyhill, 80 in Palestine and 80 in Thruxton. The Government is keen to promote sites that are near the transport infrastructure. Test Valley Borough Council are hosting meetings in various villages on the Draft Borough Local Plan. Grateley Village Hall on the 10th of July 2025. 4pm – 6pm. and Stockbridge Town Hall on the 16th of July 2025. 3.30pm – 6.30pm. Providing the infrastructure for these developments is most important.
- TVBC are aware the Government propose to make changes to Planning Policy to speed up the House building – details have not yet been confirmed.

PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

There were no issues raised by the Parish Councillors.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Mrs C Horne reported that the Grateley Events Committee are going to provide cake and light refreshments at the opening of the new Play Area. A presentation will also be made to the Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP. The Parish Council thought this a wonderful gesture and agreed to make a donation of £100 towards the costs.

Mr P Blakeman asked if there was any news on the provision of a footpath (Painted white line for pedestrians) along Station Road? Cllr Mr I Wingfield stated that this will be discussed further when the Highways Sub Committee next meet.

Mr Peter Blakeman stated that with the proposed 80 new dwelling in Streetway Road it is very important that the infrastructure is confirmed and put in place before the homes are built. The Parish Council agreed.

Mr R Hudson reported that speed along Cholderton/Wallop Road is of great concern and that he welcomed the siting of the new Flashing Speed Signs. He hoped that the data they will provide will enable the Speed Limit to be reduced to 30PMH.

M Smith reported that the 'Give Way' signs at the junction of Old Stockbridge Road on to Wallop Road are no visible due to the overgrown hedge. This will be reported to Highways and also put on the list of jobs for the Lengthsman.

Mr P Smith reported that a broken Manhole Cover has been reported to Hampshire Highways.

Parking for the opening ceremony of the new play area was briefly discussed, unfortunately the parking restrictions have to be taken into consideration.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

The Chair reminded everyone that there will be no meeting held in August, therefore our next meeting will be held in September 2025.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 2nd of September 2025.