

**Draft of Minutes Grafton Parish Meeting held at the Coronation Hall  
on 11 November Monday 2019 at 19:30**

|   | <b>Topic and Actions</b>  |
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| 1 | <p><b>Attendees:</b> Mr David Lemon (Chair), Mrs Annie Whitcher (Vice Chair), Mrs Ann Dudney, Mr Mike Hyslop, Mr George Hosier, Mr Crispin Herrod-Taylor, Mr Kevin Burke, Mr Mike Hatherell, Miss Maria Vonsova (Clerk).<br/> <b>Apologies for absence:</b> None.<br/> <b>Members of the Public:</b> Mr Beale, Mrs Beale, Mr Wilson, Mr Catt, Mrs Fallon, Mrs Arding, Mr Arding, Ms Raey, Mrs Comyn, Mr Bennett, Mrs Browning, Mrs Allen, Mr Paine, Mr Ratnadge, Mr Orssich.</p>  |
| 2 | <p><b>Matters arising from Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 4 June 2019:</b> None. Acceptance of the minutes proposed by Mr Hatherell seconded by Mr Hosier, signed by Mr Lemon.<br/> <b>Action:</b> None</p>  |
| 3 | <p><b>Public Forum under adjournment:</b> Mr Beale expressed his disappointment that Police constable Mrs Emily Grigor, her colleague Mrs Lauren Clark and deputy sergeant Mr Peter Foster had not attended the meeting especially following confirmation that they would attend. Mr Beale stated that the 15 people attending the meeting confirmed the local concern regarding the recent rise in crime. Mr Beale stressed the urgent need to be boost up the Neighbourhood Watch by setting up our own group and, on police recommendation, he encouraged us to be “noisy neighbours” paying attention to unidentified cars and strangers.</p> <p>Mrs Dudney explained that some time ago the neighbourhood watch scheme was handed by the police to the parish and Mrs Brew coordinated this for our community. However the police took back community responsibility resulting in the failure of neighbourhood watch thereafter.</p> <p>Mr Beale proposed that a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator for each village/hamlet would be a workable solution, these coordinators can sign up on the Wiltshire police website providing a point of reference for police and public. Mr Catt suggested that cameras were proven to be an effective way to deter crime. His suggestion was supported by Mr Hosier and Mrs Allen who confirmed that thefts had not occurred following camera installations in their properties. Mr Willcocks offered to check the safety of the windows and doors for parish residents free of charge and this offer was supported by all members of the council. Mr Lemon questioned whether the police were prepared to disclosed names of the notorious offenders just released out of prison so public can be more aware of danger of crime. Mr Beale agreed when member of the families well known for a petty crime are in prison, the crime rate in a given area is low, when released the crime rate rose. It was agreed that a separate meeting be called to address this matter. Mr Lemon thanked Mr Beale for his efforts in this matter.<br/> <b>Action:</b> Meeting addressing Neighbourhood Watch has to be arranged.</p> |
| 4 | <p><b>Planning:</b> Mr Herrod-Taylor referred to information which he had obtained from Wiltshire Planning Department whereby Parish Councils may recommend replacement planting when trees are felled. The Council took note of this welcome suggestion. Mr Herrod-Taylor added a warning from Wiltshire regarding the spreading disease in horse chestnuts which may have a catastrophic consequences for this tree.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Application Reference for Full Planning:</b> 19/09661/FUL<br/> <b>Proposal:</b> Proposed single storey side and rear extension.<br/> <b>At:</b> Old Police House, Wilton Road, East Grafton, SN8 3 DH.<br/> <b>Decision of Grafton Parish committee:</b> Parish council supported this application.</li> <li>2. <b>Application Reference:</b> 19/09369/FUL<br/> <b>Proposal:</b> Demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with new rear extension addition of new summer house within rear garden.<br/> <b>At:</b> Old Coach House, The Green, East Grafton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DF.<br/> <b>Decision of Grafton Parish committee:</b> Parish council supported this application.</li> <li>3. <b>Application Reference:</b> 19/09157/FUL.<br/> <b>Proposal:</b> Erection of conservatory to rear (amendment to previously approved E/11/0853/FUL).<br/> <b>At:</b> Meadowbank, East Grafton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DB.<br/> <b>Decision of Grafton Parish committee:</b> Parish council decided to support this application but showing concern regarding the black cladding which appeared to be overbearing.</li> </ol> <p><b>Action:</b> Parish clerk to respond to these applications to the Wiltshire council.</p>  |
| 5 | <p><b>Updates:</b><br/> <b>Coronation Hall:</b> Mrs Whitcher stated that the hall is running well with nothing significant to report. The fire extinguishers have been checked and PAT testing is due this week. The Community Market is scheduled on 30 November and Mrs Whitcher stressed the hall committee’s intention for this market to be more of a community get together than a market. Mrs Whitcher mentioned the possibility of the probation service in painting the hall and other community projects. Mrs Dudney suggested that the church grounds could be a project.</p> <p>Mrs Whitcher asked about plans for Christmas and suggested that the Youth group could serve mince pies and mulled wine at the community event, this idea was welcomed and planned for 15 December afternoon.<br/> <b>Actions:</b> Mrs Whitcher to report on the outcome of the November market on the next meeting.</p>   |
|   | <p><b>Speed watch/SID:</b> Mr Paine presented council with his report on the Speed Watch. The kit is available for one week in every four. Speeding occurs especially in the morning with 4-5% of speeds recorded over 50mph in the 30mph limit. Mr Paine raised the concern about the lack of response from the council/police when requesting that they arrange training for new volunteers. Mr Paine expressed frustration with this situation and he is aware of the team in Collingbourne experiencing the same issues.</p>  |

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| <p>Mr Paine stressed the urgency and importance of more volunteers needing to be trained (Mr Orssich stated he has been waiting for his training since March of this year). Mr Hyslop advised to raise this matter with the Councillor Mr Stuart Wheeler in order to resolve the lack of response from the Devizes police department and Mrs Dudney offered to go to the police headquarters in Devizes in person and question the department about their lack of response but she pointed out that she would need names of the people applying and when they applied. Mr Paine said he would send the details to Mrs Dudney. Mr Orssich suggested that the speed watch should change their sites however Mr Paine confirmed that only places authorised by the police can be used as a Speed Watch spots. Currently there are 3 locations available for Speed Watch; the Green, Hungerford Road and Grafton Place. Mr Lemon thanked Mr Paine for all his efforts on the speed watch.</p> <p>Mr lemon expressed his gratitude to the people who responded to the advert in the Community News and donated money towards securing the Speed Indicator Device (SID). Mr Hyslop reported that the MetroCount, placed on the both entrances to East Grafton on the A338, registered 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 39.4mph, the mean speed was 33.5mph and 70.4 % of recorded vehicles were exceeding the speed limit.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council operate the following speeding rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30mph no action is required</li> <li>• 35-41mph speed watch is advised</li> <li>• 42mph and above require police action.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Hyslop confirmed that the Community Transport Group has committed approx. £4,000 for new traffic calming measures to be installed on the A338 through East Grafton including the likes of new signs and cats-eyes (these works should take place in the coming months). Improved white lining on the A338 is already within the transport plan. The next stage will be a request for white gates at the entrances to the village and this request has been lodged.</p> <p>Mr Hyslop updated that the SID has been ordered and it was anticipated that this would be delivered by January 2020. The SID equipment will be rotated on the regular basis along the A338 so the motorist do not become complacent.</p> <p>Mr Herrod-Taylor informed that he was approached by some people who are willing to do fundraising towards the traffic calming initiatives but do not wish to be part of the Parish Committee. Mr Lemon welcome this news and encouraged to go ahead. Mr Hyslop hoped that the combination of Speed Watch and new signage and the SID would bring positive results.</p> <p>Mr Lemon pointed out speeding issues in Wilton and Mr Hyslop suggested using the SID in Wilton as well to draw motorist's attention to their speed.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr Hyslop to report on the ongoing project of Traffic Calming Measurements. Mrs Dudney to report responses from Devizes police.</p> |
| <p><b>PCAP:</b> Mr Herrod-Taylor reported on the recent PCAP meeting when various points were discussed. He also announced proposed changes in planning for 2020 aimed at an increase in house building. Limits for the number of houses in small villages to be increased in line with Government requirements. Plans are ahead to encourage parishes to join together making access easier for tourists. There is a possible grant for activities for the elderly, for example the offer of free "chairs with arms for the elderly". Mrs Whitcher confirmed that chairs with arm supports were already ordered for the Coronation Hall thorough PCAP.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> None.</p>  |
| <p><b>Youth Activities:</b> Mrs Whitcher said the Youth Group as a calendar of activities up to August 2020, exact dates to be confirmed. Activities include Crazy golf, Go Karting at Thruxton starting with tie-dye tee-shirts in January. Mrs Whitcher said the number of attendees is not increasing and is most popular with the 11 – 14 age group. It is difficult to attract teenagers of all ages as their interests are very different. Even so the helpers are very enthusiastic and committed to keep the Youth group functioning. Mrs Whitcher said the Youth Group is going to start fundraising for its future, a Kids Disco is being explored and has proved to be successful in the past. It was agreed that the next Grafton Parish Rounders Challenge will be 12 June 2020.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mrs Whitcher to report on the outcome of youth activities on the next scheduled meeting.</p>   |
| <p><b>Playing Field Maintenance:</b> Mr Hosier said that he had not cut the grass in the Playing Field since June due to his busy work schedule or poor weather. Mr Lemon suggested the best option for the maintenance was to hire a contractor and all agreed. The last annual grass cutting cost was £1600 and therefore Mr Hyslop suggested a budget of £2000, this was unanimously accepted. Proposed Mrs Whitcher seconded Mr Lemon.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr Hosier to report names of possible contractors.</p>  |
| <p><b>Defibrillator:</b> Mr Hosier confirmed that the new battery has been installed in West Grafton and the defibrillator is up and running. Furthermore, Mr Hosier stressed Wexcombe defibrillator is in need of a new battery. Mrs Dudney asked for a price comparison from different supplier for the new batteries.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr Hosier to report on the progress of securing a new battery for the defibrillator in Wexcombe.</p>  |
| <p><b>Community Calendar:</b> Mr Burke corrected the parish clerk this is a Community Calendar and not Village Calendar. Mr Burke questioned the best options to present the community calendar to the public. He questioned if Grafton Website, Tourist booklet, Facebook would be effective. Mrs Dudney suggested contacting Mrs Brew as the Pewsey area maintains a function calendar which Grafton may be able to hook onto. How to circulate details of events was discussed, bearing in mind that the Community News is the only method currently. Exploring Email, texts, Whatsapp, etc. would be helpful in circulating the calendar.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr Burke report on the progress of setting up the community calendar on the next meeting, January 2020.</p>  |
| <p><b>Village Plan:</b> Mr Hatherell informed the committee that he had attended a meeting with Mr lemon and the Wiltshire Planning Department. He stressed that the Plan discussions should involve the whole community. He referred to Burbage where Mr Martin Cook spent an enormous amount of time, at no cost to villagers, creating a plan which he presented to Burbage Village only for it to be rejected. Mr Hatherell concluded that the best option for Grafton Parish is to apply for a grant and to employ a</p>  |

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|   | <p>professional person to undertake this task bearing in mind how this should be presented to residents to ensure that everyone was consulted. Mr Hatherell announced the pressure for more housing to be built from the government and what impact this might have on the future of the Parish. Mr Herrod-Taylor offered to contact PCAP to explore possible grants for this project.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr Hatherell to report on the progress of the Village Plan on the next meeting. Mr Herrod-Taylor to report of the possible grants to finance this project.</p>   |
|   | <p><b>Parish Steward:</b> Mr Lemon announced a positive outcome of the meeting with the Parish Steward. So far the pathway on the side of the Coronation Hall in Green Close was cleaned up and the pot holes leading toward the church were filled in. Mr Lemon suggested that residents contact the clerk who would pass details on about work required so that he could liaise with the Steward. He stressed the list of jobs needing to be done around the parish is big and it would take a time. Mrs Comyn asked that the ditches on the green be dug out.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr Lemon to report on the ongoing progress of the Parish Steward.</p>                                    |
|   | <p><b>Work on the bridge adjacent to the Swan in Wilton:</b> Mr Lemon reported that work was to be done on this bridge in 2020. Road closes would be involved.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Information to be published as soon as it was available.</p>   |
|   | <p><b>Next Parish and Planning Council Meetings:</b> Miss Vonsova presented dates for meetings during 2020/21.</p> <p>Dates for Grafton Parish Council Meetings 2020:<br/>05 January, 08 March, 10 May (APM, AGC, PC), 12 July, 13 September, 08 November, 10 January 2021</p> <p>Dates for Grafton Parish Planning Meetings 2020:<br/>09 February, 12 April, 07 June, 09 August, 11 October, 13 December, 07 February 2021</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Miss Vonsova to send off the dates to Mrs Natalie Neal for booking of the village hall.</p>   |
| 6 | <p><b>Parish Husbandry: Neighbourhood Watch had been discussed under the Public Forum.</b></p> <p><b>Bus Shelter:</b> The possibility of building a bus shelter for school children in East Grafton was discussed. Mr Lemon expressed concern regarding the green at Grafton where the land was privately owned. Mr Hosier pointed to the lack of financial resources. Mrs Dudney suggested contacting the Education department for donations. Mr Hosier undertook to do research for the possibility to build the bus shelter.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr Hosier to report on the next meeting on the progress of building the bus shelter.</p>  |
| 7 | <p><b>Financial review:</b> Precept was presented. Mrs Dudney stated the current figures cover the period only until end of November 2019 whereas the financial year ended March 2020. Mr Lemon suggested as the Coronation Hall is solvent that it should contribute towards the cost of insurance. Mrs Whitcher will raise this with the Coronation Hall Committee.</p> <p>Mrs Dudney stated £500 is allocated to defibrillator upkeep and a reserve of £2000 for the Village plan. The committee unanimously agreed a precept of £9000 for 2020/21. Proposed Mr Hosier, seconded Mr Hatherell.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Miss Vonsova to send of the precept forms to the Wiltshire council.</p> |

Meeting closed at 22:05 hours with all contributors being thanked by Mr Lemon.

Date of next Parish Council Meeting Monday 06 January 2021 at 19:30 hours.

Date of next Planning Meeting Monday 09 December 2019 at 13:00 hours.

Please visit [www.graftonparish.com](http://www.graftonparish.com) to view agendas, minutes, Community News and other information.