

# Greatham Parish Council

Chairman—

Clerk—

The Annual Parish Meeting was held at Greatham Village Hall on 11th April 1994 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present : Messrs Flack, Siney, Dent, Stevens, Snelling, Mrs Jenkinson, Lady Neave, Colonel Digby and the Clerk, 21 members of the public and the guest speakers Mr G Carter and Mr R Palmer of the Traffic Control Department of Hampshire County Council.

Apologies for absence: PC Andrews.

Minutes: The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25th March 1993 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's Report: The Chairman thanked all his fellow councillors and the clerk for their support over the past year and also all those members of the public who had taken the time to attend. He expressed his disappointment that the funding for the Woolmer Lnk had not been approved, despite the constant efforts of the Parish Council, Colonel Digby and the Action Group and confirmed that every effort will be made to continue to lobby for the funding to be made available for the Link to be built. He also confirmed that the signing of traffic entering the village from Selborne along the B3006, directing traffic along to Ham Barn Roundabout for Liphook instead of through the village and up the Longmoor Road had been installed, although the signing at Ham Barn still left a lot to be desired. The Chairman also reported that the precept had been increased by £500 to cover the rising costs of administration but that despite this increase, Greatham still had one of the lowest levels of precept in the District and that the Parish Council would endeavour to keep it so. He commented on the recycling centre in the Village Hall car park and urged local people to use it to its potential. The Chairman also welcomed the Rev. Bill Day to the Parish and PC Andrews as the new motorcycle police officer for the village. The Chairman also noted the prospect of part of the village being designated a conservation area, but that decisions from District level were still awaited.

Representatives' Reports: Mr Eric Siney reported, as Tree Warden, that any problems with local trees had been dealt with and that his efforts had been directed towards the restoration of the Dew Pond. He said that £150 had been spent on clearing the pond with a digger and that the cost of this had been covered by his and John Nolan's fund raising and therefore incurred no cost to the Village. He also reported that the village green tree had been pruned.

Accounts: The clerk provided a summary of the accounts for the year up to 31st March 1994 and these were adopted by the meeting.

Guest speakers: Mr Graham Carter and Mr Richard Palmer of the Traffic Control Department of Hampshire County Council.

Mr Carter and Mr Palmer gave a detailed explanation of the way that their Department worked and confirmed that the Woolmer Link was going to be included in the 1995/96 bid for funding. They also confirmed that although the review of the County structure plan was going ahead that the Link would still be part of the plan. It was agreed that there were a considerable number of accidents along this stretch of the A325 but that a lot of these went unreported as there was no injury to people, only damage to cars.

Mrs Porter commented that the volume of traffic and the speed of that traffic was a serious danger to people using the road, both as motorists and pedestrians and the speakers confirmed that it was not a possibility at this stage to introduce any sort of traffic calming measures apart from adherence to the 40mph speed limit and that speed checks were being carried out. Mr Siney reported that 95% of villagers were very concerned about the speed and volume of traffic passing through the village, especially when it concerned mothers with their children crossing the road to get to and from the school. The speakers reported that few accidents actually take place outside schools and this was met with some disbelief from the audience. They also reported that the average speed of the traffic through the village had been checked at 45-48mph (85%) and that maximum speeds were in the lower 60mph bracket. The speakers also reported that in the USA there were specifically designated "school zones" where speed limits were restricted to 15 or 20 mph, but that, in their opinion, this caused more accidents than it prevented and that the main efforts of any campaign should be the education of drivers to slow their own speed. It was generally agreed by the meeting that all the traffic signs should be maintained as a matter of priority to give drivers the maximum of information about speed expected and caution in their driving. Mr Palmer said that measures were being looked at to calm the traffic on the road from Greatham to Alton, i.e. through Selborne, but agreed that this may not be of obvious help to the problems in Greatham initially. It was also stated by the speakers, that until the Link Road had its funding, there was very little that Traffic Management could do to improve the situation. There was no possibility of any traffic calming measures on the A325 apart from maintaining the good visibility of the road signs until the Link Road was built and there was the vague possibility of a roundabout at the B3006 junction, although this was considered to be distant. The speakers agreed to undertake checking of the signing and line marking on local roads and also agreed to look into the situation in general and the potential cost of a roundabout at the B3006 junction but that the cost could not be averaged; it could be £30,000 or £250, depending on underground services. Colonel Digby explained that he was involved on many levels, both as District Councillor and as Chairman of the EHDC Road Safety Council and that he would be pressing hard for the Link to be built which was the only viable proposition for Greatham.

Following a lively discussion of this matter, the Chairman thanked the two speakers for their attendance at the meeting and the light that they had been able to shed upon the situation.

As there were no further questions, the Chairman thanked all those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

Chairman .....  ..... Date ..... 7/4/95 .....

GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 26.3.93 to 31.3.94

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Receipts

Balance on current account brought forward	£1214.92
Balance on deposit account brought forward	£1067.30
EHDC precept for 1993	£2000.00
Dew Pond fundraising	£ 58.50
Commonwealth War Graves Commission	£ 12.00
Interest on deposit account	£ 2.03
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	£4354.75

Payments

Hampshire Association of Parish Councils	£ 84.70
Hall hire	£ 51.50
Insurance premium	£ 80.70
Clerk's salary (6 months)	£ 357.00
Administration	£ 85.28
S A Lowe (clearance of Dew Pond by digger)	£ 150.00
Mileage allowance	£ 12.66
Clerk's salary (6 months)	£ 400.81
PCC (Churchyard maintenance)	£ 400.00
Auditor's fee	£ 153.69
Donations	£ 575.00
Solicitor's fees	£ 66.00
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	£2417.34

BALANCE	£1937.41
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