

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Braishfield Parish Council
held at Braishfield Village Hall
on Tuesday 5 September 2017

Present

Members of Braishfield Parish Council

Chairman John Bevan
Vice Chairman Mike Edwards
Cllr Jane Bennett
Cllr Richard Brazier
Cllr Mark Swinstead
Cllr Peter White

Others

Clerk / RFO to Braishfield Parish Council, Kate
Orange
3 members of the public
Test Valley Borough Cllr Martin Hatley

Apologies

1105. Cllr Carole Renvoize gave apologies. She could not attend the Meeting due to a family commitment.

Declarations of Interest

1106. Cllr Mark Swinstead declared an interest in the planning application 17/01278/FULLS at Braishfield Manor, as he is employed by the applicant. He agreed not to take part in the discussion or to vote on the decision as to the Comment made by the Parish Council.

Agreement of Minutes of Previous Meetings

1107. Minute 1090 and 1091 were duplicate minutes concerning the agreement of Minutes of the previous Meeting: one shall be deleted. Otherwise, the Minutes of the Meeting of 4/7/2017 were agreed by the Council.

Fairbourne Farm House

1108. The Council has not been updated by the Conservation Officer at Test Valley Borough Council as to the condition of Fairbourne Farmhouse (a listed building). It was agreed to write expressing concern to Paul Jackson at Test Valley Borough Council.

Traffic Lights at the junction of Winchester Road and Braishfield Road, Romsey

1109. Cllr Brazier reported that work under-way at the junction of Winchester Road and Braishfield Road, Romsey, is BT work in preparation for the alteration of the junction and installation of traffic lights. The start date of the main works will soon be confirmed by Hampshire County Council.

The arrangements for the charities for which the Parish Council is the Sole Trustee

1110. The Charity Commission have written to the Parish Council to confirm that they would not object to the merger of the two charities for which the Parish Council is the Sole Trustee. Cllr White confirmed that if a merger were to take place, either one charity would absorb the other, or a new charity would be formed. This is complicated as both charities hold land. Cllr White will look into the matter in more

depth and report to the Council. It was noted that the process may incur legal fees at such a level as to negate savings achieved from having a single bank account.

Village signage

- 1111. As advised by Ray Alborough of Test Valley Borough Council, Chairman John Bevan has invited Hampshire County Council to take down obsolete road signs (for example, “new road layout” at Oak Close).
- 1112. Ray Alborough of Test Valley Borough Council has suggested that the Village Pantry use Taurus signs; and Test Valley Borough Council will erect a sign for £250. This is a matter for Braishfield Village Hall.
- 1113. Chairman John Bevan noted that the Parish Council has no funds for new signage at the entrances to the parish for this financial year and possibly the next few years. Cllr Jane Bennett will seek quotations for budgeting purposes. Braishfield Village Association have agreed to seek public views.

Reallocation of s106 money to various community projects

- 1114. Cllr Brazier will send a full report to the Parish Council regarding the position with reallocation of s106 money to various community projects. Briefly, reallocation of s106 monies from Cuckoo Oak and Hazelwood is in progress. Cllr Brazier has not managed to contact the developer for 14 Hill View Road.

Planning Application 17/0215/TREES

- 1115. *For planning application 17/0215/TREES (Treework at Blackthorn House Blackthorn Close Braishfield Romsey Hampshire SO51 0PX), it was proposed that the following comment should be made to the planning authority, Test Valley Borough Council:*

“No Objection”

RESOLVED

Planning Application 17/02172/TREES

- 1116. *For planning application 17/02172/TREES (Treework: 4 Blackthorn Close Braishfield, Romsey Hampshire SO51 0PX), it was proposed that the following comment should be made to the planning authority, Test Valley Borough Council:*

“No Objection”

RESOLVED

Planning Application 17/02144/TREES

- 1117. *For planning application 17/02144/TREES (Treework: Yew Tree Cottage Church Lane, Braishfield Romsey Hampshire SO51 0QH) it was proposed that the following comment should be made to the planning authority, Test Valley Borough Council:*

“No Objection”

RESOLVED

Planning Application 17/00925/FULLS

- 1118. *For planning application 17/00925/FULLS (Alterations to fenestration to front and rear, elevations, Newport Inn, Newport Lane, Braishfield SO51 0PL), it was proposed that the*

following comment should be made to the planning authority, Test Valley Borough Council:

“No Objection”

RESOLVED

Planning Application 17/01278/FULLS

1119. The council considered planning application 17/01278/FULLS.

Cllr Mark Swinstead (who had declared a personal interest in the matter) took no part in the discussion or voting.

The following points were raised:

- The Manor is a listed building and the impact of a new building would be substantial.
- Historic England reported no objection on heritage grounds.
- The impact of the new building will be mitigated by reduction in the existing ground level.
- There is a sound reason for the new building.

A proposal to comment “Support” to the application was defeated as it received one vote.

1120. *For planning application 17/01278/FULLS (Demolish existing outbuilding and erection of new two storey out-building containing swimming pool and residential annex above: Braishfield Manor, Paynes Hay Road, Braishfield SO51 0PS) it was proposed that the following comment should be made to the planning authority, Test Valley Borough Council:*

“No Objection”

RESOLVED (the vote was unanimous)

Planning Committee

1121. The Council discussed draft standing orders for a Planning Committee, as drafted by Chairman John Bevan and emailed to Councillors on 8 August 2017.

Chairman John Bevan noted that planning matters in the Romsey area are likely to become a challenge in the near future (due to pressure to construct more housing).

Cllr Peter White noted that the Standing Orders for the Council need to be included in those for the Committee, so that there is no conflict between the two.

Vice-Chairman Mike Edwards noted that the scheduling of Meetings should be ordered so that Councillors can arrange to attend.

It was suggested that the frequency of full Council Meetings could be reduced to bi-monthly; and the Planning Committee could meet on the first Tuesday of each month. The full Council Meetings and Planning Committee Meetings would coincide on alternate months. Meetings of the Planning Committee would be cancelled if there were no pending planning applications.

1122. *It was proposed to progress towards establishing a Planning Committee for deciding comments on planning applications; and to proceed with drafting terms of reference (standing orders) for the Committee, with a view to adopting them and establishing the Committee on 7th November 2017.*

RESOLVED

The Test Valley Borough Council "Strategic Housing & Economic Land Availability Assessment and Brownfield Call for Sites"

1123. The Council discussed the Test Valley Borough Council "Strategic Housing & Economic Land Availability Assessment and Brownfield Call for Sites".

Test Valley Borough Councillor Martin Hatley noted that knowledge of land which is being promoted for development will be used for creating planning policies. Ideally all brownfield sites will be registered. Although promoted sites will be registered, they may not be suitable for development. The north-south Test Valley boundary may not always be kept.

Chairman John Bevan noted that sites on the current register include land at the end of Megana Way, land behind Fairbourne Farm, and land adjacent to Lionwood.

Chairman John Bevan noted that the Council will try to be aware of the position with planning in Test Valley, and react accordingly.

"Code of Conduct" conference

1124. Cllr Peter White attended a conference on "Code of Conduct" for local councillors. He reported as follows:

- Conduct of members towards council employees was covered.
- Bias and predetermination: councillors need to be aware of this at all times. It is inevitably difficult, for example when dealing with comments on planning applications within fixed time-scales: if a councillor objects to an application before the council meeting, they must not take part in the discussion and voting on the matter in the meeting (because they are "predetermined" towards objection). (Borough Councillor Martin Hatley noted that in these circumstances, a councillor could lodge their own comment after the Council's; and make a reference to the council meeting, so that it was clear they had not been predetermined during the council meeting.)

Footpaths and Vegetation Management by Hampshire County Council

1125. Cllr Peter White reported on the condition of footpaths in the parish, and the vegetation management by Hampshire County Council. The Parish Council requested that Footpath 12 be cut. Footpaths 12 and 8 have been cleared. Footpath 9 is also clear. The Parish Council requested that the cutting time be brought forward to July, and this seems to have taken place. The Hampshire County Council maintenance seems to have been successful.

Community planning tools

1126. The Clerk reported that Marianne Piggin and possibly Graham Smith of Test Valley Borough Council will be able to meet councillors in order to brief the Council on

community planning tools and to discuss the suitability of various documents for Braishfield. Members of Ampfield Parish Council will be invited to attend.

Rural broadband and mobile phone masts, and Hampshire County Council's £100m funding

1127. Jimmy Chestnutt reported on broadband on behalf of Braishfield Village Association. There are three areas where the speeds are low, which will not be included in the Hampshire County Council upgrade programme. The cost of upgrading a property in these areas is estimated to be £3,000 to £5,000 per property. Cabinet 4 is due to be upgraded this year.
1128. Vice-chairman Mike Edwards reported on mobile phone masts, and the possibility of offering land for new masts in order to improve reception in the parish. Two firms provide mobile phone mast infrastructure: Vodaphone/CITL, and O2. Both firms are difficult to contact, and Mike Edwards continues to pursue the matter.

Parish Lengthsman Scheme

1129. The Council received a Starter Pack from Stockbridge Parish Council, explaining the details of the lengthsman cluster of parishes administered by Stockbridge Parish Council. Braishfield Parish Council has been allocated £1,000 worth of labour from the lengthsman in the current financial year.
1130. *It was proposed that the Council should join the cluster of parish councils in the Lengthsman scheme administered by Stockbridge Parish Council.*

RESOLVED

Training

1131. *It was proposed that Cllrs Bennett and Swinstead should attend 'The Knowledge and Core Skills' course on 1st November 2017. The cost is £90 excluding VAT per delegate.*

RESOLVED

Payments

1132. The Council agreed to make the following payments:
- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| Business Stream (water supply, pond) | £12.90 |
| Transfer to Braishfield Recreation Ground, funds paid by HCC to BPC for use of Braishfield Recreation Ground | £200.00 |
| Transfer from precept to Braishfield Recreation Ground | £10,612.00 |
| Staff costs July & August 2017 | £416.66 |

RESOLVED

Report from Borough Councillor

1133. Test Valley Borough Councillor Martin Hatley reported that he has given a grant of £500 (from his Councillor's grant fund) to Braishfield Bees. The grant will assist in paying for a UEFA standard coach for the under-eights.

Matters for subsequent Meetings

1134. The following matter requires a decision in a subsequent Meeting:

- Purchase of the telephone box

Next Meeting

1135. The next Meeting will be held on 7 November 2017.