

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Braishfield Parish Council held at the Womens' Institute Hall, Braishfield, on Monday, 9th June 1980, at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mrs. E. M. Bell (Chairman) and Messrs. I. H. Chisholm, A. E. Cobbold and G. Shipton. Mrs. J. Fahy (Footpaths Representative) was also in attendance.

Apologies: An apology for absence was submitted from Mr. J. A. Stewart.

26. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 12th May 1980, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

27. SOUTHAMPTON WEST AREA MARKET ANALYSIS PROJECT RESULTS

Further to minute 4 (12.5.80), Mr. Chisholm submitted a written report (Appendix 'A') upon his attendance at the meeting held on 4th June and elaborated verbally upon the report.

Extreme concern was expressed at the adverse social and economic effects of the proposed withdrawal of bus service No. 60 which was the only form of public transport currently available in the Parish. Particular attention was drawn to the hardship that would be experienced by people wishing to visit hospital patients in Romsey, Winchester or Southampton.

Resolved:-

- (a) that Hampshire County Council be urged to buy back a viable service for Braishfield in the daily buses of two morning services, one lunch time service, and two afternoon/evening services; that representations be made to David Price, M.P. seeking his support for a bus service for the Parish; and that the attention of the Braishfield Village Association be drawn to the proposed withdrawal of the bus service in order that the Association might make its own representations direct.
- (b) that the Parish Council's appreciation be extended to Mr. Chisholm for his attendance at the meeting on 4th June and for his most comprehensive report.

28. RECREATION GROUND: PAVILION - OCCASIONAL LICENCE

Further to minute 7 (12.5.80), the Clerk reported upon replies received from the five Parish Councils of whom enquiries had been made.

One Parish Council had drawn attention to very considerable problems it was experiencing as a result of approving an application for an occasional licence.

BMB

Resolved that Braishfield Football Club be advised that the Parish Council, having very carefully considered this matter, is not disposed to accede to the request for an occasional licence in view of, inter alia, the problems that might be generated and of the fact that it would be likely to set a precedent for users of other facilities in the Parish.

29. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved that comments, as indicated, be submitted to the Test Valley Borough Council on the undermentioned planning applications:-

- (a) TVS 747/2 (Outline) - Erection of Dwelling with Garage - Land adjacent to Bowling Green Cottage, Braishfield: Mr. A. E. Cobbold

The Parish Council wishes to object to this proposed development on the grounds that it constitutes ribbon development; that it would create an undesirable precedent; and that the depth of the site is inadequate for the development proposed.

(Mr. A. E. Cobbold declared his interest at 8.23 p.m. and left the meeting whilst this application was considered.

Mr. I. H. Chisholm submitted a non-statutory declaration of interest in this application).

- (b) TVS 3061 (Outline) - Erection of Dwelling with Garage - Land at rear of 2 The Square and April Cottage, Braishfield: Mr. J. Musselwhite and Mrs. M. R. Stitt

The Parish Council is opposed to this proposed development on the grounds that the proposal constitutes backland development; would reinforce the undesirable precedent for the sub-division of plots; and would aggravate the problem of drainage secondary to the natural springs in the area.

- (c) TVS 1222/2 - Kitchen Extension - Tiffany Cottage, Braishfield Road, Braishfield: Mr. and Mrs. A. Parkhouse

The Parish Council is not opposed to the principle of this proposed development, but considers:-

- (i) that the proposed gable end should blend in with the existing property;
- (ii) the proposed extension extends too far towards the highway;
- (iii) the proposed window facing the highway is considered to be unsympathetic; and
- (iv) the two trees on the site should be retained.

B.M.B.

30. BOROUGH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Clerk submitted the minutes of the meeting of the Southern Area Planning Sub-Committee held on 13th May and the decisions taken under the delegated powers since 13th May 1980.

31. ELECTORAL REVIEW

The Clerk submitted the Local Government Boundary Commission's draft proposal for the County of Hampshire.

32. CLERK'S SALARY AND EXPENSES

Resolved that the Clerk's salary in the sum of £25, together with expenses to date of £4.24 be paid.

33. LOCATION OF GUY FAWKES BONFIRE

Resolved that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to approve arrangements for this year's Guy Fawkes bonfire.

34. STOP VALVE AND FIRE HYDRANT INDICATORS

It was reported that the above indicators, situated close to the Parish Council notice board, had been vandalised.

Resolved that the attention of the Southern Water Authority be drawn to this matter.

35. BRAISHFIELD FLOWER SHOW

Resolved that, at the next meeting, consideration be given to the Parish Council donating a perpetual trophy.

36. BRAISHFIELD COUNTRY FAIR

Compliments were paid to the excellent manner in which the Country Fair, held on 7th and 8th June, had been organised.

Resolved that the congratulations of the Parish Council be extended to the organisers.

... B. M. Bell Chairman
... 28/7/80 Date

SOUTHAMPTON WEST AREA MARKET ANALYSIS PROJECT RESULTS

The Analysis Project examines the provision of bus services in the area West of Southampton and comes up with recommendations for a drastic reduction in the off-peak services, together with the withdrawal of the '60' service to Braishfield and the '283' Romsey/Kings Somborne service. The Public Consultation Meeting was held on the 4th June, to present the proposed alterations to the services.

The general impression of the meeting, which involved presentations by Mr. Crowther on behalf of the County Surveyors Department and Mr. Barrett on behalf of Hants & Dorset, was that the survey results stood and that the cuts were already well on in the planning stage. The question of the two services to be withdrawn was being considered by Hampshire County Council as services that should be 'bought back'.

I would recommend that the Parish Council and possibly the Village Association, write to the County Council urging it to buy back at least a part of the service '60'. I feel the points that could be made are as follows:-

The survey as published, does not show the loss attributable to the service into Braishfield on its own and no attempt has been made to cost the possibility of a reduced service, which could then be retained within the present viable network. Considerable hardship would be caused to parishioners in the absence of a bus and it is likely that an increased burden would fall on other providers of service, including the Area Health Authority.

Some of the children from the Village attending Romsey for school may well not be entitled to free transport in view of the distance from the school. The absence of any Public Transport would cause considerable hardship to these people and their parents.

The provision of a full service, as detailed, costing £22,000 per annum, indicates the intention to provide a bus specifically for the provision of Braishfield as this is the annual cost of keeping a bus on the road. This must be considered a high figure and certainly cannot be held to represent the additional cost of serving Braishfield with a bus service, even at the present level. Similarly, the reduced figure of £12,000 must also represent a high figure for the 'bought back' service.

It is interesting that Hants & Dorset consider retaining the Lyndhurst/Romsey bus as part of the viable network, when its loss is £8,314 and covers 19.86% of its cost, whereas the Braishfield bus loses £4,854 and covers 89.3% of its running costs.

The severe cut-backs not only of the Braishfield bus, but of other services in the Romsey area, can only hasten the decline of rural public transport. An example of this would be the last bus from Winchester to Romsey, which leaves Winchester at 5.15 p.m.

The increasing cost of petrol and private transportation costs, make the future use of buses a more viable possibility, but such a recovery is unlikely to occur if there are no buses to use.

Other social costs, such as car parking facilities in Romsey, may well outweigh the saving by withdrawing the buses, including that to Braishfield.

The situation at present is that the final report will be submitted to the County Council Transportation and Management Sub-Committee on the 7th July, and the Traffic Commissioners will hear the application for reduced services on the 15th July. The County Council and other interested bodies should write to the County Surveyor, The Castle, Winchester, before the end of this month at the latest, stressing how desirable it is that the County Council buy back a viable service for the village of Braishfield. At present, it is intended that the new timetables will come into force on the 27th July. A symposium is to be held in the near future, to look into the possibility of other methods of providing local transport, such as community buses and even car sharing.