

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield 18th January 1996

PRESENT:-

A Lalonde (Chairman)
Mrs M Balchin
M Edwards
T Howkins
Mrs P Melbourne
M Prince
Ms P Saunders
Councillor M Hatley representing Test Valley Borough Council

96. MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 1995 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

97. AREA SURVEYOR

The Chairman welcomed Alan Giles, the County Council's Area Surveyor to the meeting. Mr Giles gave a slide presentation on the work of his office. Hampshire was currently the highest populated shire county with 1.6 million people and 680,000 cars. He outlined the various tasks undertaken including road repairs, maintenance, highway improvements, road and traffic signing, street lighting and special work such as gritting and snow clearance and referred to some of the problems of working within restricted budgets. Mr Giles answered questions from the floor and commented on outstanding Parish highway matters as set out below. Mr Giles was thanked for his attendance and for providing an interesting presentation.

98. HIGHWAY MATTERS

(a) Crook Hill

In response to continuing problem of surface water across the carriageway at Crook Hill Mr Giles reported that work had been undertaken to clear drainage ditches although on occasions these were blocked by falling leaves. It was reported that the problem could arise from a leaking water main.

RESOLVED -

That Southern Water be informed of the Parish Council's concern at the persistent problem of surface water across Crook Hill and requesting them to comment on the possibility of a damaged main.

(b) Common Hill Road

Mr Giles referred to the problems raised by the Parish Council about water across Common Hill Road near its junction with Dores Lane. He referred to work undertaken last year to improve drainage alongside the road and agreed to arrange a meeting between the local highways inspector and Councillor Tim Howkins to investigate the current problem.

99. WAR MEMORIAL

The Clerk reported that following the Parish Council's agreement to take on responsibility for the War Memorial the Church Council had indicated that they were unaware of any legal documentation relating to the memorial. He reported that the Church Council had confirmed that any funds held by them for upkeep of the structure would be passed on to the Parish Council towards future maintenance costs. Councillor Meryl Balchin reported that she had obtained a verbal quote from a professional stonemason, Lydia Gould to clean and repair the structure for £300 plus £50 for scaffolding. Mrs Gould had suggested that the work should be undertaken in the spring or early summer.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That Councillor Mrs Balchin obtain a formal quote for the cleaning and repair of the War Memorial from Lydia Gould.
- (2) That arrangements be made for a quote to be obtained for the cleaning and repair of the surrounding paving stones once work on the War Memorial has been completed.

100. RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK (MIN 33/07/95)

The Clerk referred to the Parish Council's earlier agreement to contribute towards the cost of resurfacing the car park. The works had now been completed and the Parish Council's contribution had been requested by the Village Hall Management Committee.

RESOLVED -

That the Parish Council's grant of £175 towards this work be now paid.

101. PLANNING

The Clerk referred to a letter which had been circulated to all Test Valley Parish Councils by Councillor Mark Cooper the joint leader of Test Valley Borough Council. This drew attention to a motion that had been defeated at a Borough Council meeting which would have allowed Parish Council representatives to attend and speak on local planning applications at planning committees. The letter also sought the Parish Council's comments on representation at planning committees.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the views of the Test Valley Association of Parish Councils be sought on this matter; and
- (2) That Councillor Cooper be informed of the Parish Council's consultation with the Association and that where Parish Councils had submitted planning comments these should be circulated to all planning committee members.

102. FOOTPATHS

Parish Footpath representative Jill Fahy referred to the Parish Paths initiative and the extent of survey work proposed by the scheme.

RESOLVED -

That Miss Fahy discuss this matter further with the Chairman of the Parish Council.

103. VILLAGE POND

Councillor Tim Howkins reported that he had undertaken clearance work at the pond and expressed his thanks to local resident Mr A Dunn for his loan of a strimmer.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted and the Parish Council's thanks be extended to Mr Dunn.

104. RECREATION GROUND

a) Goal Posts

RESOLVED -

That both football clubs be reminded of their obligations to remove the goal posts from the pitch at the end of every game.

b) Cutting

The Clerk reported that Test Valley Borough Council had quoted the sum of £25 per visit to cut the recreation ground during the summer months. An earlier quote in the sum of £33 per visit had been received from Artel Services who had undertaken the work last year.

RESOLVED -

That Test Valley Borough Council's quote of £25 per visit be accepted.

105. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Martin Hatley reported that vortz racing had been permitted to continue there operation at Crook Hill for a temporary period of 5 years and that the Parish Council's request for a condition restricting its use to cars and car derived vans had been accepted.

He also reported that he understood the Hawkes Farm steel fabrication business to be moving to Abbey Park, Romsey. Martin Hatley reported further on a trial refuse collection scheme involving Braishfield which would see the door to door collection of dry recyclable material on alternate weeks. It was agreed that a representative of the Environmental Health Department be requested to attend a meeting of the Parish Council to explain the scheme in more detail.

106. TWINNING

Reference was made to the present twinning arrangements between Braishfield and Crouay and to the present lack of activity between the two communities.

RESOLVED -

That consideration be given to efforts that would revive interest in the twinning links.

107. PC TONY PINK

The Parish Council learned of the recent death of PC Tony Pink following a road accident. The Chairman of the Parish Council Andrew Lalonde reminded those present that Tony Pink had been the local "beat bobby" for Braishfield for several years. It was agreed that the Parish Council's condolences be recorded.

108. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED -

That the following accounts be paid -

Village Hall Management Committee - grant to resurfacing work	£175.00
L Shelton - Clerks salary and expenses to date	£65.25