

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield on 19th March 1998

PRESENT:-

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

APOLOGIES

Apology for absence was received from A Lalonde

103. CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman Ms P Saunders took the chair for the meeting.

104. MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 1998 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

105. WAR MEMORIAL

The Clerk reported that he had not yet received a reply to his letter to the Secretary of the Church Commissioners about the transfer of the ownership of the War Memorial.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted.

106. COUNCIL HOUSING

The Clerk referred to the Borough Council's recruitment of voluntary members to serve on the Board of the new local Housing company. Establishment of the housing company was part of the process of transferring the Borough Council's housing stock to a Housing Association.

107. POLICE & COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Mike Edwards attend the next meeting of the Group to be held on Monday 27th April at Romsey Town Hall.

108. HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

The Clerk reported that the Borough Council was undertaking a Housing Needs survey and that Fordham Research Services were undertaking the project, the main aims of which were to produce an accurate estimate of housing in the Borough.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted.

109. TRANSPORT STRATEGY STUDY

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Mike Prince attend a meeting organised by the County Surveyor on accessible transport to be held at Winchester on 1st April 1998.

110. OPEN SPACES SOCIETY

The Clerk reported and circulated details of the society who were seeking new members.

111. PLANNING

(a) TVS0941/6 Change of Use of Former Telephone Exchange to Design Studio

RESOLVED -

Object to the development in a conservation area and to the possible parking of vehicles on the site. If permission is granted the Parish Council would wish

- (i) Use as a Design Studio to be restricted to a single named occupier on a temporary basis.
- (ii) No advertising boards to be displayed on or adjoining the site.
- (iii) That parking be prohibited in the layby adjoining and adjacent to the building.

(iv) No alteration to existing hedgerows along the frontage of the site.

(b) TVS2927/3 Erection of Garage at Wellbrook, Dawes Lane

RESOLVED -

Object to the proposed tower on the garage which adds unnecessary height to the building and is out of keeping with buildings in the locality. The Parish Council have indicated that the total height of the building should not exceed 4 metres.

(c) TVS8283 Alterations at Meadow Cottage, Newport Lane

RESOLVED -

Object as the plans of the proposal do not include a site plan or show the proximity of existing development.

112. HIGHWAY MATTERS

RESOLVED -

That the Area Surveyor's attention be drawn

- (i) to the new direction sign at the Sandy Lane/Braishfield Road junction which appeared to route traffic for Kings Somborne through the village of Braishfield.
- (ii) to the eroding sides of Paynes Hay Road and the need for repairs similar to those undertaken on the road past Merdon Castle leading to Slackstead.
- (iii) to a dislodged 30 miles per hour sign near the Wheatsheaf Inn .
- (iv) to the need for road sign drainage ditches to be cut at 45°.

113. FOOTPATHS

RESOLVED -

That the County Footpath officers attention be drawn to the dangerous condition of the stile on footpath 1 to the east Megana Way.

114. RECREATION GROUND

(a) Tree Pruning

Reference was made to the need to prune trees alongside the Braishfield Road perimeter of the Recreation Ground to a maximum height of 2½ metres. The Borough Council's Arboriculturalist officer had already given consent for work to be undertaken following a request from the Braishfield Football Club although this was to a height of 4 metres.

RESOLVED -

That Councillors M Edwards and M Prince be authorised to approve pruning work as outlined above subject to a maximum expenditure of £200.

(b) Fence

Councillor Mike Prince reported that the fencing contractor had contacted him and was arranging a site meeting with him and Councillor Mike Edwards.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted.

(c) Grass Cutting

The Clerk reported that Test Valley Borough Council had quoted £27.60 per cut of the Recreation Ground during 1998. The 1997 charge had been £26.00 per cut.

RESOLVED -

That the quote submitted by Test Valley Borough Council in the sum of £27.60 per cut be accepted.

115. AUDIT

The Clerk reported that new audit regulations required any points raised at the Annual Audit to be formally reported to the Parish Council. The Audit for the year 31st March 1997 had been undertaken at the end of January and a copy of the memorandum raising various points following the Audit was circulated to members.

RESOLVED -

That consideration of the memorandum be deferred until the contents are provided in a more presentable fashion.

116. TWINNING

Councillor Meryl Balchin reported on forthcoming visits arranged between Braishfield and Crouay.

117. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Test Valley Borough Councillor Martin Hatley reported that the Test Valley Council Tax had been set and was one of the lowest in Hampshire. He also referred to the Borough's proposals to sell the Council's housing stock and to a computerised traffic study for Romsey which forecast future traffic movements.

118. VILLAGE HALL NOTICEBOARDS

A quote was submitted by Charles G Gray in the sum of £284.00 for the provision and erection of three noticeboards at the Village Hall car park.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor T Howkins arrange for an additional quote to be obtained.

119. VILLAGE SHOP

Consideration was given to a request from a local resident for a public meeting to be held to discuss the imminent closure of the Post Office.

RESOLVED -

That the matter be included on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held in April.

120. TEST VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF PARISH COUNCILS

Councillor Meryl Balchin reported on matters raised at a recent meeting of the Association.

121. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED -

That the following accounts be paid:

Shaw & Sons - Registration Book, £64.45
HAPTC - Annual Subscriptions, £119.00
TVBC - Cutting Recreation Ground 1997, £274.95
L Shelton - Salary & Expenses to date, £72.90

