

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Tuesday 7th January 2003

PRESENT:-

Andrew Lalonde (Chairman)
Sue Ransom
Mike Prince
Mike Edwards
Alan Light
Mandy Payne
Jean Lowe
Martin Hatley (Borough Councillor)

132. GUEST: Mr JOHN MURSELL

John Mursell, Assistant Chief Engineer Hampshire Highways, addressed the meeting. He explained that the County Planning and Surveyor's Departments are being merged into an environment grouping with a new post of Director of Environment. Braishfield is in the West area for highways and John Mursell is to be the point of contact on all highway matters. The local supervisor for this part of Test Valley is Mark Keighley.

A number of highway matters were discussed:

Parnholt Lane - John Mursell explained that Parnholt Lane was identified some time ago as needing resurfacing and that it did not come out of the same budget as that for ordinary maintenance. If the money had not been spent on Parnholt Lane, it would not have been spent on 'pothole' maintenance elsewhere in the Parish. The County has a duty to maintain it regardless of the number of houses it served.

Crook Hill footpath - the Parish Council has requested a footpath and a reply has been received saying that it will have to be justified and take its turn in the priority list. John Mursell said that it could be submitted to the Local Transport plan or perhaps to the 'under £10,000' small improvement scheme. He will investigate these two possibilities. Its approval may be eased by the Parish making a financial contribution and further funds may be available from TVBC.

Lower Street ponding - the problem of the small culverts was explained and John Mursell will contact the adjacent landowners to encourage them to make improvements, the Clerk supplying him with the relevant names.

Kiln Lane - the flooding across the road is possibly due to a blocked culvert and lack of ditch maintenance. John Mursell will contact the adjacent landowners, again being supplied with the names by the Clerk. Concern was expressed about possible damage to the bulrushes growing in the damp conditions near the main gas pipe.

Verge maintenance/re-instatement - concern was expressed at the continuing delay to the re-instatement of the verge opposite the Coombe. The Clerk will give John Mursell the names of the two people responsible for the repair work and also to write to them. The Clerk is to send a note on verge and ditch maintenance to the Braishfield Village News.

Access to the Coombe - John Mursell is to investigate the confusion surrounding the approval of the access to the Coombe which TVBC said they did not want in that particular position.

Paynes Hay Road - considerable maintenance to soakaways has been carried out recently but Mark Keighley will check the carriageway for possible surface dressing.

Kings Somborne Road - the ponding in Kings Somborne Road by the Manor is due to poor capacity of a 4" pipe under Manor land. The Clerk will provide the name of the landowner.

Dores Lane - it was reported that a recent patch near Bramble Cottage at Pucknall has now lifted.

Church Lane - the flooding of the garage at Orchard Rise was discussed and the solution appears to lie with the powers TVBC has under the Land Drainage Act. John Mursell is to investigate this.

There is a pothole in the road between the two entrances of the Church, possibly due to tree roots.

133. COUNCILLOR

Jean Lowe signed the Declaration of Acceptance book to become a Parish Councillor.

134. MINUTES

AGREED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd December 2002 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

135. POST BOX

NOTED that the Royal Mail has said through Sandra Gidley MP that there are no plans to re-instate the post box but the Collections Manager said it is being investigated.

AGREED that all Councillors are to telephone Mr Johnson of Royal Mail on 02380 687863 to express their views that there ought to be a box in the centre of the village and one large enough to take A4 letters. The Clerk is to send a note on the post box to the Braishfield Village News.

136. RECYCLING

NOTED that completion of the garage site development is awaited before considering a location for the recycling bins.

137. NOTICEBOARDS

NOTED that TVBC has accepted that the noticeboards may not have doors on the assurance that redundant notices will be removed regularly.

138. CORRESPONDENCE

a) All Saints PCC

AGREED to make a grant of £500 towards the cost of Churchyard maintenance, following a letter of request from the PCC.

b) Boundary changes

NOTED receipt of a copy of a letter from Ampfield PC to TVBC saying that all proposals for changes north of Jermyns Lane are withdrawn with the result that Braishfield's request for the Pucknall Farm field to be transferred to Braishfield cannot proceed.

c) STVVTS

NOTED receipt of a note of thanks for the donation of £60 to STVVTS.

d) Braishfield Village Hall

NOTED that the new bookings secretary is Mrs K Marshall of 2, Newport Lane and telephone bookings should be via the village hall number - 01794 368173.

e) Date of 2004 Council elections

NOTED HMG's plan to combine the European Parliamentary and local Council elections on the same day in 2004 and also HAPTC's objections to this.

f) Councillor training

NOTED that there is to be a meeting for prospective Borough Councillors on Thursday 9th January at Stockbridge Town Hall at 7pm.

g) Testway Housing

NOTED receipt of a copy of a letter from Testway Housing to Mr & Mrs White explaining that the car parking solution will cost about £9000 and that planning permission and funding will be requested for 2003.

AGREED that the Clerk writes to Testway Housing saying that the Parish Council is prepared to make a financial contribution.

139. PLANNINGa) Applications pending or recent outcome

TVS 235/11	Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	Change to B1 use	
TVS 1049/1	The Oaks, Crook Hill	Extension	permission
TVS 9823	1, Blackthorn Close	Conservatory	permission
T2724	Beechwood, Church Lane	Fell trees	
TVS 1678/12	Unit 5, Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	Extension for office	
T 2813	April Cottage, Braishfield Road	Fell trees	
T 2778	Leith House, Braishfield Road	Fell trees	
T 2950	Cuilbeg, Braishfield Road	Prune trees	
TVS 2960/2	Church Rooms, Church Lane	Revised extension	permission
T 2906	Garage site, Braishfield Road	Schedule of tree works	
T 2917	Boares Garden, Braishfield Road	Fell tree	
HCC TV 153	BKP, Bunny Lane	Renewal of temporary permission	
TVS AG95	Fernhill Farm, Fernhill	Diversion of farm track	Prior approval required
TVS 5037/2	High View, Lower Street	Increase in roof height	

b) New Planning Applications

AGREED to make the following responses to applications:

TVS 9510/1	Abbotsdene, Crook Hill	Extension	No objection
TVS 3061/6	Hazel Cottage, Braishfield Road	Revision to approved extension	No comment

c) Additional works at Braishfield House

AGREED that the Clerk refers the agricultural building at Braishfield House to TVBC Planning Department.

d) Anvil Cottage, The Square

NOTED receipt of a letter from TVBC Head of Planning justifying the approval of the extension. AGREED not to pursue the matter further, although disagreeing with the line taken by TVBC. Also agreed that Braishfield will host an Ampfield/Braishfield Development Control meeting after 1st May, to which Madalene Winter will be invited and is being organised by Martin Hatley.

e) Borough Local Plan Review

NOTED receipt of the Borough Local Plan Review, comments on which have to be submitted in writing by 14th February. A CD-rom is awaited from TVBC but Mike Edwards is to investigate the possibility of creating one from the website information.

140. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

a) Traffic Calming

NOTED that the lines still have not been coloured correctly and that an invoice has not been received.

b) Vehicle size

NOTED that the Clerk has written recently to HMG, Sandra Gidley MP and TVAPC expressing the wish that the size of vehicles is linked to planning applications in order to restrict unnecessarily large vehicles using inappropriate roads, and that a reply is awaited.

c) Road Maintenance

NOTED that road maintenance issues may be reported by telephone to Mark Keighley at Totton on 02380 427000.

141. FOOTPATHS AND POND

Footpaths

NOTED receipt of an HAPTC note on ragwort.

The Clerk reported he had received a telephone call from Hilliers concerning the wish to move the public footpath. He had said there was scepticism because of the absence of a clear need to carry out the works and that Hilliers should put its case in writing to the Parish Council.

Pond

Mike Prince reported that a grant of £9470.50 has been received from Onyx Environmental Trust and that the Manzel Nurseries invoice for the same amount has been paid. Also that a grant of £1000 has been received from TVBC. Mike Prince is to ask Manzel Nurseries to return in late March/early April.

AGREED that Mike Prince contacts Barker & Geary concerning a new dipping platform as a result of the School's confirmation that it wishes to have one. The lifebelt issue is to be kept in mind.

142. RECREATION GROUND

a) Noticeboard

NOTED that the replacement noticeboard is awaiting installation and is expected to be completed before the next meeting.

b) Flags

NOTED that two flags have now been received and passed to Mandy Payne as 'Flag Officer'.

c) Romsey Road Runners

AGREED that Romsey Road Runners may use the Recreation Ground on Sunday 15th June for the annual run.

d) Trees

NOTED that the Clerk has yet to ask JN Landscapes for a quotation for replacement 'heavy standard' trees.

e) Playground

AGREED that the Clerk asks RoSPA to carry out a risk assessment and inspection of the playground, noting that the Parish Council will be obliged to implement any recommendations.

f) Fencing

AGREED that, as a result of sheep grazing on the Recreation Ground, Alan Light inspects the eastern fence and obtains a quotation for repair if appropriate.

g) Garage site advertising board

AGREED that on the understanding that the board should have been removed by now, the Clerk asks Archstone to remove it.

143. FINANCIAL MATTERS

AGREED that the following accounts are paid:

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses for December	£142.01
Test Valley Borough Council	Grass cutting	£256.21
G Brown	Pond maintenance	£9470.50
All Saints PCC	Churchyard maintenance	£500.00
Receipts:		
Onyx Environmental Trust	Grant to pond work	£9470.50
Test Valley Borough Council	Grant to pond work	£1000.00

144. VILLAGE SHOP

NOTED that there is no news of progress with the village shop.

145. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT

Martin Hatley said that he had organised the road sweeping of Church Lane and asked for the corner of Kiln Lane and Newport Lane to be swept of gravel. The Romsey Town Centre scheme has been refused and the Abbotswood inquiry into the idea of a village green has resumed.

Workshops in connection with the Borough Local Plan review are being held and although Braishfield is not in the southern area it might be advisable to have a representation to counter any suggestions of off-loading some of the 'southern' allocation to the northern area.

AGREED that the Borough Local Plan is to be a separate agenda item at the next meeting in time for a Parish Council response by 14th February.

146. AOBMotocross

The occurrence of biking on the SITA land and also on the TVBC land adjacent to the gas station in Bunny Lane is being investigated by TVBC.

Christmas lunch

Mandy Payne reported that the Senior Citizens' lunch was a great success.

Braishfield sign

AGREED that the Clerk asks TVBC to move the Braishfield sign from its current site on the hill at Crook Hill to be nearer the Braishfield Road/Sandy Lane crossroads.

Smell of gas

AGREED that the Clerk complains to Transco about the smell of gas from the gas station in Bunny Lane.

147. NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting will be on Tuesday 4th February 2003.