

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Tuesday 4th February 2003

PRESENT:-

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

148. MINUTES
AGREED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th January 2003 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
149. BILL BARTLAM
It was with great sadness that the Parish Council heard the news of the death of Bill Bartlam who was Chairman of the Parish Council from 1967 to 1976.
150. POST BOX
NOTED that the Royal Mail is planning to install a replacement post box on the land near Chapel Close, but apparently requires planning permission for this.
151. NOTICEBOARDS
AGREED that the Clerk accepts the offer of a grant from TVBC towards the noticeboards of £544 or 50% of the final cost.
152. MOTOCROSS
NOTED that there was nothing to report on the motocross in Bunny Lane, partly using TVBC land.
153. BRAISHFIELD SIGN
NOTED that TVBC has passed to HCC the Parish Council's request for the Braishfield sign at Crook Hill to be moved.
154. TRANSCO
NOTED that Transco has acknowledged receipt of the Parish Council's complaint about the smell of gas from the site in Bunny Lane.
155. CORRESPONDENCE
a) HCVYS
AGREED that the Clerk sends a copy of the Residents' guide to the Hampshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services who have written asking for information about local organisations.

b) Election
NOTED that the election will be held on Thursday 1st May 2003.

AGREED that polling cards at an approximate cost of £320 will not be requested by the Parish Council.

c) Councillor training

NOTED HAPTC has scheduled a training session for new Councillors on 15th July.

d) TVBC playground

NOTED that the opening of the inclusive playground in the Memorial Park, Romsey, to which Councillors have been invited, has been postponed until 22nd February 2003 at 12.00 noon.

e) Freedom of Information

NOTED that the scheme for Braishfield submitted by the Clerk has been accepted by the Information Commissioner as an appropriate scheme for the Parish Council to adopt.

f) CCTV

NOTED that Andrew Lalonde has been contacted by a company which supplies CCTV cameras. AGREED not to pursue this but noted that there have been a number of thefts from motor vehicles involving, amongst other things, the removal of car radios.

g) BKP

NOTED receipt of the minutes of a meeting held by Councillor Ruth Harper-Adams with BKP.

h) Anonymous letter

NOTED that an anonymous letter has been circulated around the village about alleged waste management activities.

AGREED that the Parish Council ignores the letter.

156. PLANNING

a) Applications pending or recent outcome

TVS 235/11	Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	Change to B1 use	
TVS 9510/1	Abbotsdene, Crook Hill	Extension	
TVS 3061/6	Hazel Cottage, Braishfield Road	Revision to approved extension	
T2724	Beechwood, Church Lane	Fell trees	
TVS 1678/12	Unit 5, Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	Extension for office	Submitted to planning control committee
T 2813	April Cottage, Braishfield Road	Fell trees	
T 2778	Leith House, Braishfield Road	Fell trees	
T 2950	Cuilbeg, Braishfield Road	Prune trees	
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 5037/2	High View, Lower Street	Increase in roof height	refused

b) New Planning Applications

AGREED to make the following responses to applications:

TVS 2764/5	Old Stables, Lower St	Extension	Object to height of roof
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LB 654	Elm Grove Farm, Dummers Road	Alterations	Support
TVS 1819/4	2, Crook Cottages, Braishfield Road	Provision of chimney	No objection

c) Additional works at Braishfield House

NOTED that a response from the TVBC enforcement officer is awaited.

d) Vehicle size restriction

NOTED receipt of a letter from HMG not accepting the need for planning permissions to limit the size of vehicles visiting premises down narrow country lanes, effectively saying it is all too difficult to implement and enforce.

AGREED that the Clerk writes to the Chairman of TVAPC asking for support on the matter.

e) Borough Local Plan Review

A long discussion took place concerning the Borough Local Plan Review and its potential impact on Braishfield, noting that no CD ROM has been received from TVBC. The following points were raised:

- The lack of a formal strategic gap between Romsey and Braishfield
- The need for traffic improvement schemes at the Sandy Lane crossroads and at the eastern end of Jermyns Lane
- The destination of footpaths and the cycleway
- The siting of the proposed pavilion in connection with underground minerals
- The impact of the playing fields on local football and cricket clubs
- The possible problem of Braishfield being on the periphery of the northern zone and therefore not being considered favourably by either zone
- Provision of secondary schooling and the inability of existing schools to expand
- The impact of the proposed primary school on Braishfield School
- The appropriate location for development

AGREED that the Clerks objects to the Borough Local Plan Review paras 11.13 and 11.15 making the following points:

- 1) The Abbotswood development is "on the wrong side of the Sun arch" compounding existing traffic problems. Much of the traffic from the site will have to pass through Romsey on its way to Southampton, rather in all directions.
- 2) Local secondary education in Romsey is inadequate for the increase in population.
- 3) Concern that the plan opens the way for further housing development on the Ganger Farm site.
- 4) The development of the Ganger Farm site will put inappropriate pressures on the internationally famous Hilliers Arboretum.

157. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

a) Traffic Calming

NOTED that the traffic calming scheme appears to have made no noticeable improvement to the speeding problem.

b) Merrie Meade Farm

NOTED that the Traffic Commissioner has said that there is no operator's licence for Merrie Meade Farm.

AGREED that the Clerk informs the Traffic Commissioner of the use of a vehicle at the premises which is believed to require a licence.

c) Testway Housing

NOTED receipt of a letter from Testway Housing asking for land which may be used for low cost housing schemes.

AGREED that the Clerk refers to this in the Parish Council report in the next issue of the Braishfield Village News.

d) Hill View Road bungalows

AGREED that the Parish Council contributes £2500 towards the cost of the scheme to improve the car parking at the Hill View Road bungalows and that the Clerk is to inform Testway Housing of this.

e) Rudd Lane

NOTED that Rudd Lane is due to be closed for about 10 weeks for the laying of a gas pipe.

f) Verges

NOTED receipt of a copy of a HCC letter to the Braishfield House pit consultants asking for the verge to be re-instated.

g) Common Hill Road

NOTED that work is proceeding with the kerb along the southern boundary of the Recreation Ground and receipt of a letter from HCC saying that the works should solve the problems raised by the Head Teacher. There appeared to be some doubt about this.

h) Transport Strategy

NOTED receipt of the South East Regional Assembly draft Transport Strategy.

i) Laurel Cottage

The owner of Laurel Cottage has been given the name of the Assistant Chief Engineer to contact about the ground water problems in his property.

j) Damaged sign

AGREED that the Clerk reports the damaged 'no footpath' sign on Braishfield Road to the Assistant Chief Engineer.

k) Blocked culvert

AGREED that the Clerk reports the blocked culvert at the corner of Dummers Road and Common Hill Road to the Assistant Chief Engineer.

l) Crook Hill footpath

NOTED there has been no news on progress on this matter.

m) Lower Street and Kiln Lane

NOTED that ditches have been cleared by HCC in Lower Street and Kiln Lane but the standard of work has been the subject of complaint.

AGREED that the Clerk writes to the Assistant Chief Engineer complaining about the state of the verges and additionally that the culvert in Kiln Lane needs clearing.

n) Paynes Hay Road carriageway

NOTED there has been no news on progress on this matter.

o) Dores Lane

NOTED that repairs to the pothole near Bramble Cottage have been carried out.

p) Church Lane

NOTED that the Assistant Chief Engineer has visited Church Lane to assess the long standing flooding problem associated with a blocked drain under Orchard Cottage land and the drain down to the pond. He agreed to speak to Mr Dugdale about the drain which may be on his land, before handing the problem over to TVBC.

158. FOOTPATHS AND POND

Pond

AGREED that the Clerk instead contacts Itchen Valley Trees about the removal of the dead tree by the pond, as it is outside JN Landscapes' insurance cover.

Mike Prince reported that an order has been placed with Barker & Geary for a replacement dipping platform, their quotation being the lowest one received. Mike Prince has also written to Manzel Nurseries asking them when they intend to return to complete the refurbishment works.

159. RECREATION GROUND

a) Noticeboard

NOTED that the replacement noticeboard has been installed and that the previous one is awaiting repair before being installed by the School.

b) Maps

NOTED that Mandy Payne has provided parish maps to go on the new noticeboard.

c) United Reformed Church

AGREED that the URC may use the Recreation Ground on Sunday 29th June.

d) Trees

AGREED that the Clerk accepts the quotation of £270 + VAT from JN Landscapes for the supply of two replacement trees on the Recreation Ground.

e) Playground

NOTED that the Clerk has placed an order with RoSPA for the playground inspection but that no acknowledgement has been received.

f) Fencing and bus shelter

AGREED that Alan Light asks Dave Hilary to repair the Recreation Ground fence at a cost of £100 + materials but also obtains a quotation for a post and rail fence which will not be damaged by children climbing over. Andrew Lalonde is to give Alan Light a contact number for Mark Fahrenbach.

Alan Light was also asked to obtain a quotation for minor repairs to the bus shelter, including replacement of the glass.

g) Garage site advertising board

NOTED that the advertising board has been removed.

h) Waste bins

NOTED that Andrew Lalonde said he would speak to Mrs Coppock concerning the Braishfield Village News article on waste bins.

i) Parking

NOTED that nine cars were parked at the Recreation Ground one morning. The situation will continue to be monitored.

j) Footpath

AGREED that the Clerk asks Archstone if they would be willing to provide an extension to the footpath in front of the Recreation Ground noticeboard, so that it joins up the Blackthorn Close path with the one alongside the Recreation Ground.

160. FINANCIAL MATTERS

AGREED that the following accounts are paid:

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses for January 2003	£143.07
Test Valley Borough Council	Dog bin maintenance	£36
CPRE	Annual subscription	£25
Braishfield Village Hall	Hire charges	£75.68

161. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

AGREED that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held in June 2003, subject to any rules which dictate otherwise and which will be researched by the Clerk.

NOTED that the AGM will follow the Council elections and be on Tuesday 6th May 2003.

162. REPORTS OF PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Mike Edwards reported that in order to comply with Charity Commission rules, there will now be different hiring rates of the village hall for commercial organisations compared to others. He also reported that the chairs in the Committee Room were due to be replaced and that cost savings had been made by transferring to a different buildings insurance company.

163. AOBParking in Romsey

Mandy Payne complained that the parking in Romsey was most unsatisfactory now that the Love Lane car park has been closed. The problem will be exacerbated by the decision to reduce the space available at the library in order to fund the library's expansion.

A discussion ensued on the future of the current Waitrose site, the possible use of this building for a library etc and the change to the number of car parking spaces expected to be available when all building schemes have been completed.

164. NEXT MEETING

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