

# BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield  
on Wednesday 5th November 2003

PRESENT:-

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

Apologies for absence were received from Sue Ransom

85. MINUTES  
AGREED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th October 2003 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to removing all reference to the recreation ground being out of use in Minute 80(d).
86. POST DELIVERIES  
Mandy Payne said that on Saturday 4th October there were staff shortages at the Royal Mail which resulted in only a part delivery service in Braishfield.
87. REMEMBRANCE DAY  
George Elliott has kindly offered to give an address at the War Memorial on Remembrance Day with assistance from Mike Prince. George Elliott was thanked for this.
- Mandy Payne apologised for the fact that she has been unable to obtain any poppies despite making several requests.
88. ROMSEY ROAD RUNNERS  
A letter of thanks has been received from the Romsey Road Runners, together with a donation of £30, for the use of the Recreation Ground.
89. BIFFA AWARDS  
Noted that Biffa awards is a possible source of funding for 'environmental' projects in the Parish.
90. BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION  
A copy of the welcoming letter to new residents has been received from the Braishfield Village Association for comment. Some comments expressed in the Meeting were declared as his personal opinion by one Councillor.
91. SOUTHERN TEST VALLEY VOLUNTARY TRANSPORT SCHEME  
AGREED to make a donation of £60 to STVVTS which operates a 'dial-a-ride' service. Jean Lowe said she may be able to attend the AGM on 4th December in the Romsey Town Hall at 7.30pm.

92. MINERALS AND WASTE PLANNING

Mike Edwards described how the consultation process on this was originally divided between minerals and waste, with Braishfield having an interest mainly in the waste part. However, these have now been combined, with the next meeting due to be held in the daytime in Portsmouth, when he is unable to attend.

AGREED that Mike Edwards finds out if Michelmersh Parish Council is sending a representative.

93. PLANNINGa) Applications pending or recent outcome

TVS 10052	Hill View bungalows	Parking spaces	Sup
TVS A379	Jermyns Lane	Signs for Visitor Centre	Sup
TVS 2764/5	Old Stables, Lower St	Extension	Obj
HCC TV 153	BKP, Bunny Lane	Renewal of temporary permission	Nobj
TVS 3658/3	Newport Inn, Newport Lane	Conversion of barn to dwelling	Obj
TVS 417/10	Hazelwood, Crook Hill	Extension	Nobj
HCC TV93	BKP, Bunny Lane	Restore landfill site	Nobj
TVS 9395/1	Barkleys, Crook Hill	Extension	Nobj
TVS 9994	Parnholt Wood, Hoplands Estate	Radio mast	Nobj

PC response - Sup supported, Obj objected, Nobj no objection

b) New Planning Applications

AGREED to make the following responses to applications:

TVS 2764/5	Old Stables, Lower St	Amendment to extension	Unable to comment owing to insufficient information
TVS 3905/5	Fernhill Farm, Fern Hill	Track diversion	No objection
TVS CA 100/5	Elm Grove Farm, Dummers Road	Prune and fell trees	No objection

c) Old Stables, Lower Street

AGREED the Clerk will write to the Head of Planning with the plans for the Old Stables saying that this is a typical example of where it is not at all clear what is being proposed and what the amendments are.

d) Planning Training

Appreciation was expressed for the recent planning training though it was also felt by some to be a repeat of what has been given before. Jean Lowe was thanked for the refreshments.

e) Construction work, Braishfield Road

Concern was expressed at the work being carried out adjacent to the electricity substation. This has already been referred to the Enforcement Officer but the Clerk was asked to make enquiries.

f) Borough Local Plan

A decision has been made by TVBC to allocate an additional 300 houses on the Abbotswood site. However, as explained by Martin Hatley, there are numerous factors still to be taken into account, such as the possibility of an SSSI site, the use of 'prime' farmland for a sports centre to which HCC has objected and the possible need to make a compulsory purchase of the Ganger Farm land. The decision is not yet final as it has to be approved by the Executive.

g) Landscape Character Assessment Workshop

The Parish Council declined to be represented at a meeting to discuss a paper on Land Character Assessment.

94. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

a) Noticeboards

Mike Prince said that the fourth noticeboard has now been installed near the Manor crossroads and that he is chasing TVBC for payment of the grant. Mike Prince was thanked for this.

AGREED that the noticeboards will be monitored for inappropriate advertisements.

b) The Coombe

A letter has been received from George Elliott expressing concern that nothing has been done about the unauthorised access and the damage to the verge opposite. He was seeking support for the letter he sent to HCC. AGREED that the Clerk writes to the Assistant Chief Engineer again about the access and the verge.

c) Highway maintenance

Since the Assistant Chief Engineer has not responded to the request for a meeting, other than to delegate it, the Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Executive (HCC) explaining the problem and saying the Parish Council is getting nowhere with its complaints.

d) Water main

The verge has been restored near Elm Grove Bungalow where a water main has been repaired.

e) BT manhole

AGREED that the Clerk chases up BT owing to the danger posed by the broken manhole cover near the Manor.

f) Deer

AGREED that the Clerk writes to Hursley PC concerning the roadside bracken in which deer appear to hide, presenting a hazard to motorists, on the relatively straight road between Lower Slackstead and the hill going towards Standon.

g) Church Lane flooding

A note from Tony Lowe has been received by the Parish Council keeping it informed of progress and the possibility of a new drain in Church Lane which might alleviate the problem of flooding at the north end near to and in his garage.

95. FOOTPATHS AND POND

a) Footpath 2/14

A response on the diversion of the footpath and the taking of water from the Crook stream is awaited from Hilliers.

Martin Hatley said that Ampfield PC has no objection to the footpath diversion.

b) Pond

Alan Light said that the lifebelt post will be erected in about two week's time. AGREED that the actual position is to be agreed with Mike Prince.

96. RECREATION GROUNDa) Skateboard Ramp

Alan Light reported that although TVBC said the Wheatsheaf site would probably be satisfactory for a skateboard ramp, the Landlord has had second thoughts about it. As the Parish Council has nowhere to put a ramp, it has been indicated to TVBC that the mobile ramp should go to another Parish. AGREED that the Clerk confirms this with TVBC and writes to Jacob Dugdale explaining the situation.

b) Football Licence

The Clerk presented a draft licence for the football club from which he has removed the need to provide a list of fixtures. However, it was AGREED that the Licence should include a clause requiring them to produce a list for the noticeboard for the public's and Village Hall's information, though there is no need for it to be more than a month in advance.

c) Playground

Mike Edwards said that there are two significant areas of concern with the playground. Firstly, there is the issue of the need for a second entrance which must meet the requirements of the Disability Act. The existing gate will also require modification. Secondly, a maintenance programme is required covering paintwork and worn components, as well as the provision of more bark. Some concern was expressed that repainting has been carried out relatively recently.

AGREED that Alan Light sends a copy of the RoSPA report to Wicksteed asking what work they can do and how much would they charge for it. This quotation should be itemised so that the Parish Council can choose particular items to be done from the list. Alan Light also agreed to make enquiries about having more bark supplied.

d) Pavilion

A notice of the Hampshire Playing Fields Association's AGM at which funding will be discussed is to be sent to the Football Club by the Clerk.

e) Recreation Ground car park

Two cars appeared to be parked regularly on the recreation ground car park, though one of them appeared to be permanent.

f) Fencing

Alan Light reported that the fence along Common Hill Road has been damaged and the top wire broken. AGREED that he will arrange for its repair.

Some discussion took place on the desirability of an additional gate/entrance to reduce the likelihood of people climbing over the fence. This would cost about £500.

g) Trees

A neighbour has expressed concern about the height of the trees along the eastern boundary restricting light on to a nearby property.

97. FINANCIAL MATTERSa) Bank Mandate

Following the application to Lloyds Bank to include three of the Councillors on the mandate for cheque signing, the Bank has replied saying that unfortunately it cannot find the existing mandate and that all Councillors need to sign again and provide identification evidence!

AGREED the Clerk complains about this and asks the Bank to look for it.

b) AGREED that the following accounts are paid:

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses for October	£152.82
Cosalt	Lifebelt	£84.95
STVVTS	Donation	£60
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Day Wreath	£16

c) 2004/2005 budget

The Clerk said that he is preparing a budget for consideration at the next meeting, at which the precept for the coming year must be agreed. In recent years the precept has been £9,000. He was concerned that there could be up to £12,000 in the bank at the end of the financial year having risen from £2,700 since 1999/2000. On the other hand, there may be significant amounts of expenditure to be met such as a grant to the Church Rooms, Hill View parking, Playground maintenance and a replacement pavilion. A skateboard ramp was in the background, though unlikely. Mike Edwards said that the Recreation Ground car park will require some expenditure.

98. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Martin Hatley apologised for missing the last meeting but this was due the interviews for a replacement Corporate Director for TVBC. The successful candidate comes from Poole.

He briefly mentioned that as a result of publicity in the newsletter and elsewhere the target of 150 users registering for Broadband on the Braishfield exchange has been reached. Mike Edwards said that 11th February 2004 was the 'go live' date for Braishfield.

99. OPEN PERIOD

In the open period, George Elliott mentioned that the BVA does not object to BKP's reinstatement of the former tip site or its oil/water separation proposal, but that it does object to the trommel screen. In reply, the Parish Council mentioned that Ace Liftaway has a similar scheme at Yokesford Hill. Martin Hatley said he will try to arrange a visit to Ace Liftaway for the BVA, Braishfield PC and Michelmersh PC.

Mr Arris suggested applying for a Biffa award for the new pond seat and raised the problem of parking outside the school. It was mentioned that there are continuing efforts to draw the matter to the attention of the 'parkers', but the problem persists.

100. CHURCH ROOMS APPEAL

For this item, Andrew Lalonde declared an interest in the fundraising and left the Meeting.

The Braishfield and All Saints Church and Community Appeal Committee has written to the Parish Council requesting financial support for the project. It was agreed that this item potentially involved a significant sum of money and that it would need to be put on the agenda for the next meeting for a decision. Nevertheless, a long discussion took place on the merits of the request and what sort of sum might be appropriate.

However, as a result of some doubt about the matter, the Clerk was asked to find out whether the Parish Council has the power to make a donation towards Church facilities. One possibility was that any donation might have to be ring-fenced for a specific item, such as access for the disabled, which as it happens is required by law. The possibility of a four-figure sum was discussed but concern was expressed at some of the arguments put forward by the Committee involving the Pre School and the Junior School.

101. NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 2nd December 2003 at 7pm, but the Clerk was asked to investigate the possibility of delaying this and the January Meeting, each by about a week.