

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Tuesday 6th November 2007

PRESENT:-

Mike Prince (Chairman)
Mike Edwards
Kate Marshall
Simon Palmer
Carole Renvoize
Dorothy Ross

Apologies for absence were received from Andrew Lalonde

87. CHAIRMAN

Mike Prince informed the meeting that Andrew Lalonde has resigned as Chairman but that he wished to remain on the Council.

Proposed by Mike Edwards, seconded by Dorothy Ross, that Mike Prince is appointed Chairman. This was AGREED unanimously.

Proposed by Mike Prince, seconded by Kate Marshall, that Mike Edwards is appointed Vice-Chairman. This was AGREED unanimously.

88. MINUTES

AGREED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th October 2007 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

89. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Kate Marshall said that owing to the timing of the Church Service, it was difficult to ring the bells at the precisely the correct time, so they would not be rung for the service.

It was noted that a wreath has been obtained and passed to Mike Prince.

90. WAR MEMORIAL

A valuation of £32,000 has been received for the War Memorial compared to the existing insured value of £20,298. The Clerk was asked to increase the insurance to cover the £32,000.

The Clerk was also asked to obtain quotations for the cleaning of the War Memorial.

91. ABBOTSWOOD

Several Councillors attended the presentation at Romsey School but it was difficult to see the plans owing to the number of people present and the plans were not well displayed. Mike Edwards again described how much space was allocated to the 'newts' and commented on the community area where a village hall is proposed.

Surprise was expressed at the lack of a school but apparently there are plenty of spaces at existing schools.

It was considered that the development is in the wrong place but Abbotswood has been chosen mainly due to the fact that the site is classed as a brownfield site.

Changes are proposed to some of the roads in the area in order to cater for the extra traffic.

92. RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK

It was noted that repairs to the car park have been completed. No additional work beyond what was quoted has been organised as this does not appear to be necessary at the present time. More work may be necessary at the east end of the car park in due course.

93. STVVTS

STVVTS has invited attendance at its AGM but one of the proposals will be to combine with Test Valley Community Services. It also asked for a donation, but the Council wished to know more about what Test Valley Community Services does before making a decision. Carole Renvoize hoped to be able to attend the AGM on 14th November.

94. FIRE & RESCUE

Mike Prince volunteered to complete a questionnaire on the Hampshire Fire & Rescue plan.

95. PLANNING

a) Applications pending or recent outcome

07/1429/CMAS	Ace Liftaway, Yokesford Hill	Storage of material and concrete crusher	Obj	Permission
07/1230/F	Upper Slackstead Farm, Upper Slackstead	Biomass fueled generator	Obj	Withdrawn
07/2699/CLES	Spinney Corner, Church Lane	Change of use of agricultural land		
07/2602/F	Little Grange, Braishfield Road	Extension	Nobj	
07/2853/F	2 The Square	Garage + study	Nobj	
07/2417/F	Meade Hill, Church Lane	Extension for utility room	Nobj	Permission
07/2250/F	Malthouse Farm	Alterations	Nobj	
PC original response - Sup supported, Obj objected, Nobj no objection				

b) New Planning Applications

The Council commented on applications as follows:

07/2973/F	Church Rooms, Church Lane	Single storey extension	No objection
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c) Draft Affordable Housing SPG

The Clerk will circulate a draft TVBC Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance document for comment by 23rd November.

d) Telegraph pole

It was noted that the telegraph pole by Apple Cottage has not been installed and that the Clerk has written to TVBC requesting that it is not put into the footpath.

e) Leith Howe tree

It was noted that TVBC has said that 'no further action is required' but the Clerk has been unable to ascertain just what this means.

f) Minerals & Waste

The Clerk will circulate an HCC Minerals & Waste consultation document for comment by 12th December.

g) Pucknall sign

It was noted that the sign outside Pucknall Farm has been removed.

96. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

a) Transport Meeting

Carole Renvoize was handed information about a meeting of parish transport representatives on 17th November 2007.

b) Speed signs

The Clerk explained he has had sight of the data produced by the Test Valley speed limit warning sign. The sign was installed by the School at the request of the Safer Routes to School Scheme. The average speed past the sign was 32mph with 15% of vehicles exceeding 38mph.

Mike Prince asked if the PC would be receiving the results of the speed measurements along Braishfield Road. These measurements seem to have been completed.

c) Highway maintenance

Carole Renvoize expressed concern about the state of Bunny Lane, but this is in the Parish of Michelmersh & Timsbury.

97. FOOTPATHS AND POND

a) Footpaths

Mike Edwards expressed satisfaction with the clearing of the footpaths. Dorothy Ross will inspect the Merrie Meade footpath and she is also attempting to contact the Probation Service about future maintenance.

b) Pond

A long discussion took place on the need and practicality of increasing the height of the rail on the dipping platform. Mike Prince agreed to speak to Barker & Geary about their experience and advice on the matter.

Kate Marshall raised the matter of the deteriorating seat at the pond. Mike Prince agreed to look at the seats and also at the lifebelt.

98. RECREATION GROUND

a) Playground

The Clerk was asked to accept a quotation from Wicksteed for two new swing seats at a cost of £101 + carriage + VAT.

It was expected that the playground would be inspected this week by Rachel Adams of TVBC.

The Clerk has spoken to Dave Hillary about the seat and the playground gate and fence, but has not yet received a quotation from him.

Kate Marshall is awaiting a fourth quotation for rejuvenating the playground.

b) Newspaper box

The Clerk has spoken to Ben Kington about replacing the flagstone in front of the newspaper box but he was away on holiday at the time and has not yet responded.

c) Rubbish

Carole Renvoize volunteered to speak to someone who may be able to remove the redundant concrete posts at the bottom of the Recreation Ground.

99. REPORT OF PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Carole Renvoize reported on her attendance at a Passenger Transport Forum at which new bus timetables, the rail link closure etc were discussed. A presentation was given on various transport possibilities but it was acknowledged that there was no funding for these at the present time.

Mike Prince attended the TVAPC which discussed the proposed Winchester Hospital foundation trust, post office closures and speed warning signs. After the meeting, Mike Prince spoke to the Chairman of Kings Somborne PC about the use of Kings Somborne Road by lorries. This was not a problem known in Kings Somborne but would be investigated.

Dorothy Ross attended an HCC 'Going Green' session on the Built Environment.

It was suggested at the Council Meeting that Braishfield might do something positive to reduce energy consumption and that a start could be made on the village hall where the annual electricity bill is around £1000. However, this would need time, effort and money.

100. FINANCIAL MATTERSa) AGREED that the following accounts are paid:

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses for October	£171.47
JN Landscapes	Pond grass cutting	£88.13
GDM (Surfacing Contractors) Ltd	Car park repairs	£2863.92

b) Bank Account

The Clerk reported that the bank account totals stand at £9425.45.

c) Audit

The Clerk explained that the Audit Commission has been chasing for the 2006/2007 audit return yet he had not received the previous year's form back from the Commission until 17th October. A letter from the Audit Commission said that the latest date for receipt of the return is 30th November and since the internal audit has been arranged for 20th November, this date should be met.

Mike Edwards asked to see a copy of the Audit return.

It was agreed that the Chairman signs the 2006/2007 audit return. It was noted that the form contained a declaration about Trust funds and assets for which the Council might be responsible. While saying that the Council is responsible for some Trust assets (the Recreation Ground and War Memorial), the Council deleted the word 'funds' as these two Trusts have no funds.

101. AOB

Kate Marshall informed the meeting of a clay pigeon shoot to be held at Elm Grove Farm.

102. DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 4th December 2007.