

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Tuesday 15th January 2008

PRESENT:-

Mike Prince (Chairman)
Mike Edwards
Kate Marshall
Carole Renvoize
Dorothy Ross
Martin Hatley (Borough Councillor)

Apologies for absence were received from Andrew Lalonde and Simon Palmer

118. PLAYGROUND DESIGN

In an open period Chris Dixon of Komplan gave a presentation on his playground design. The aim was to produce one suitable for both toddlers and juniors with a wide range of developmental equipment. A wide range of materials would be used and this would add interest.

He raised the problem of comparing different designs from different companies and suggested that his company be used as a consultant to produce a design for tendering by several others.

He responded to questions about the updatability of his design and agreed to let the Council have the locations of his playgrounds in the vicinity, though it emerged that there is one at Kings Worthy. He believed that the area of the existing playground was adequate.

Mike Prince thanked him for the presentation, saying that the Council would talk to the school about its suggestions and get back to him.

119. MINUTES

AGREED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th December 2007 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

120. WAR MEMORIAL

The Clerk has not yet received a quotation from Lockerley Memorial for the refurbishment of the War Memorial but he will chase this up.

121. ELECTRICITY PYLONS

A response has been received from the Arboretum saying the matter of burying the overhead lines is being dealt with by Hampshire County Council Estates Department.

Martin Hatley said that Hampshire County Council has not yet agreed a timescale which fits in with that of the Abbotswood developer. He is due to meet Green Issues and will report back to Braishfield Parish Council on the matter.

Mike Edwards expressed the view that for part of the run the best route for electricity cables is under the verge of Braishfield Road.

122. GAS PIPELINE

It was noted that the new gas pipeline between Barton Stacey and Lockerley will be constructed from April to October 2008.

123. HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING

Plans to license vehicles other than cars to visit household recycling centres were noted. The aim of HCC is to restrict use to genuine householders and prevent the sites being used for trade waste.

124. PLANNINGa) Applications pending or recent outcome

07/2973/F	Church Rooms, Church Lane	Single storey extension	nobj	Permission
07/2669/CLES	Spinney Corner, Church Lane	Change of use of agricultural land		Permission

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

b) New Planning Applications

The Council commented on applications as follows:

07/3319/F	Hunters Lodge, Dores Lane	Replacement dwelling	Support
07/3342/F	Holmsleigh, Braishfield Road	Alterations and additions	Support
HCC/2007/0279	Upper Slackstead Farm	300kw Generator	Very strong objection

c) Upper Slackstead Farm 300kw Generator

In an open period the Council was addressed by Barry Stevens, a resident of Slackstead, who raised a number of objections to the proposed generator. He believed the fuel usage was an underestimate and that there were numerous inaccuracies in the traffic report. There were also criticisms of the noise report.

The Council considered the application and criticism was made of the 'biomass' nature of the proposal, as well as of the traffic using Braishfield as an access route. The Council agreed to object most strongly to the application on grounds including traffic movements along unsuitable roads past the school and very poor use of this type of system. The biomass fuel was not sourced at the site and little or no use was to be made with the waste heat.

The Council's objection is to be copied to Alan Dowden and Winchester City Council. Martin Hatley said that Test Valley Borough Council has not been consulted on the application.

d) Wellbrook, Dores Lane extension to residential curtilage

The Clerk was asked to speak to Test Valley Planning Department about the implication of including the access track, which also serves other properties, within the curtilage of Wellbrook.

e) TVBC Local Development Framework

Martin Hatley explained that the Test Valley Local Development Framework has now passed through the Executive. He also explained the distribution of new houses between the north and south of the Borough over the next 20 years.

The Abbotswood developer is accepting the need for a roundabout at the Sandy Lane crossroads and there is also a footpath for Crook Hill in the plan. The developer also accepts the need to improve the junction of Jermyns Lane with the A3090.

125. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

a) STVVTS

It was noted that STVVTS will cease to exist after 31st March 2008.

b) Common Hill Road sign

This sign has now been repaired.

c) Footpath railing

There appeared to be a view in the Council that the railings used on the footpath in Hursley would be inappropriate by Braishfield School. A discussion on the problems of having a footpath encroaching on to the Recreation Ground then ensued.

Martin Hatley said that the matter is on the agenda of the next HATS meeting and he was asked to leave it on there for the time being.

126. FOOTPATHS AND POND

a) Footpaths

Dorothy Ross suggested that chicken netting on stiles might make them safer when slippery. However a disadvantage of this was raised.

Kate Marshall volunteered to speak to Ian Knight about the tree on the footpath past Merrie Meade Farm.

b) Pond

Mike Prince said that Barker & Geary are still using the same design of dipping platform, but suggested that an additional 4" piece could be placed on top of the existing rail. Mike Prince agreed to organise this. He suggested installing a warning/disclaimer sign.

127. RECREATION GROUND

a) Playground

A number of grant sources for the proposed new playground were mentioned. SITA in Eastleigh is a possibility but Biffa is not. Community First will pull together a list of appropriate bodies. However it was felt that such organisations would need to see firm plans rather than general objectives before agreeing any grant. At this point Kate Marshall agree to speak to Chris Dixon concerning any obligation to use his equipment in return for a 'free' consultancy.

b) Newspaper box

The paving slab has been repaired.

c) Recreation Ground bookings

The Council agreed to the following bookings for the Recreation Ground:

28th June	Barn Dance in Village Hall
5th July	School Summer Fayre
8th June	Romsey Road Runners
11th May	Tadburn FC presentation

Tadburn is to be asked to ensure that any barbecues are raised off the car park surface, nor are they to be sited on the grassed area.

128. REPORTS OF PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Mike Prince reported on the meetings at BKP and Ace Liftaway. BKP has an ongoing plan to introduce a waste to energy system at Exeter but is undecided about one at Bunny Lane. BKP will be asking to extend the time limit for restoration of the land across the road from its site. The 2007 weather has caused delays. It has received a WEE licence and wishes to introduce a swarf bulking up facility.

The Ace Liftaway meeting was chaired by Michael Woodhall. One of the issues discussed was the matter of consultation (or lack of) by Hampshire County Council. The Environment Agency was represented and they said that they do not do noise assessments on the site unless there are complaints.

Mike Edwards reported that Richard Brazier is Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Carole Renvoize said that TVCS will be providing information on the dial-a-ride service for the newsletter.

129. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR's REPORT

Martin Hatley had already spoken on planning matters earlier in the meeting. He mentioned a survey on who shops in Romsey and a forecast of a small shortfall in shopping floorspace by 2011.

130. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) AGREED that the following accounts are paid:

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses for December	£173.37
DB Hillary	Playground maintenance	£160.00
Audit Commission	Audit fee	£141.00

b) Bank Account

The Clerk reported that the bank accounts stand at £8886.82

c) Audit

The Clerk reported that the Audit Commission has returned the 2006/2007 audit form with only a comment about dates for the production of accounts and audit form next year.

131. AOB

The Clerk raised the need to consider who the Council might wish to invite to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Andrew Lalonde objected to the parking of cars along Braishfield Road between Newport Lane and the War Memorial, sometimes on the pavement. Mike Prince volunteered to speak to the local beat policeman.

132. OPEN PERIOD

George Elliott mentioned the good work done on the VDS and Braishfield Memories and suggested marking such achievements in some way, perhaps using the Village Hall. He suggested that they could be a board in the Village Hall, subject to the Management Committee's agreement, listing the Parish Councillors.

133. DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 5th February 2008.