

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Tuesday 2nd February 2010

PRESENT:-

Mike Prince (Chairman)
Carole Renvoize
Camilla Horton
Mike Edwards
Martin Hatley (Borough Councillor)

Apologies for absence were received from Dorothy Ross and Kate Marshall

135. MINUTES
Agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th January 2010 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
136. POLICE VISIT
Discussion took place on the invitation by Romsey Police to join a liaison group involving the Police and several Parishes. The Council agreed to be part of as large a grouping of Councils as is reasonable, which could involve Ampfield, Braishfield, Romsey Extra, Michelmersh & Timsbury, Awbridge and Mottisfont.
137. NALC
The Council has not yet responded to HALC's recommendation that it withdraws from the National Association of Local Councils. The Clerk said that Michelmersh & Timsbury PC is in a similar situation in that it has no real grounds on which to make a decision on whether or not to support the HALC position.
138. POND SEAT
Mike Prince has spoken to Jill Fahy about the seat by the pond and further discussions will be held.
139. LAND REGISTRATION
The Clerk apologised for not having progressed the matter of registration of the Recreation Ground but has sent round a copy of the application form for Councillors to examine if they wish.
140. ROMSEY ROAD RUNNERS
The Council agreed to the use of the Recreation Ground by Romsey Road Runners on Sunday 13th June and to the sale of goods and alcohol to participants et al.
141. OVER 70s' INFORMATION
The Clerk will put some information he has received about help to the over 70s' on the noticeboard.

142. PLANNINGa) Applications pending or recent outcome

HCC/2009/0365	RF Salvidge, Bunny Lane	Remove requirement for bund	Obj	
09/02656/CMAS	RF Salvidge, Bunny Lane	Create skip park	Nobj	
09/02571/FULLS	2, The Square	Rebuild kitchen extension etc	Nobj	
09/02606/TREES	Springbank and Newport House, Newport Lane	Tree work	Nobj	Permission
09/02386/FULLS	Lionwood, Braishfield Road	Detached garage	Obj	

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

b) New Planning Applications

The Council considered new planning applications as follows:

09/02652/FULLS	Hillside, 4 Lower Street	Replacement dwelling	Strong Objection
10/00083/TREES	Springbank, Newport Lane	Treework	No objection
10/00091/TREES	Cherry Hill, Braishfield Road	Treework	No objection
09/01022/FULLS	Walnut Tree Cottage, Kiln Lane	Retrospective application for 3 windows	No objection

c) Hillside, Lower Street

David Teagle made a short presentation in an open period allowed for the Hillside discussion. He has written to the Parish Council but now wanted to emphasise two points. Firstly, he felt there is a policy matter concerning the loss of a bungalow at a time when there is an ageing population. Secondly, he considered that if the Parish Council is to object to the application then it should spell out in detail what that objection is.

The Council noted receipt of copy of an objection from the BVA and considered the application. The views expressed were that the new design is out of keeping with the street scene and that it is contrary to the Village Design Statement in many ways. The Council was reminded that there have been two applications in recent years along the Lower Street row of bungalows which have been refused owing to proposals to raise the roof lines. Strong opinions were expressed, describing the design as more appropriate for a suburban estate, rather than for the rural location of Lower Street. It was felt that almost every aspect of the design was contrary to the Village Design Statement and it was pointed out that this particular property is actually shown in the VDS.

Martin Hatley said that he was not aware of any planning policy which attempted to preserve bungalows.

Mike Prince produced a point by point critique of the application design and access statement and the Clerk was asked to send a strong objection to TVBC. He was asked to include the comments

about the street scene and the out-of-keeping design, and to contradict many of the points made in the design and access statement as set out in the critique. He was also asked to make the point that it would be regrettable if a smaller dwelling is lost in the village.

d) Lionwood

Mike Prince attended the Southern Area Planning Committee meeting which considered the application for a garage at Lionwood. The Committee did not make a decision other than to refer the application back to the Head of Planning as it should not have been sent to the Committee. This was because all that needed to be done was to sort out the matter of trees necessary for screening.

e) Abbotswood

Martin Hatley informed the meeting that planning permission was given to the Abbotswood applicant on 5th January. It is believed that work is to start fairly soon.

143. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

a) Highway maintenance

The Clerk was asked to report potholes etc to the Area Engineer in the following locations:

Kiln Lane where the culvert under the field entrance appears to be blocked

Lower Street

Between Chalkpit Cottage and Pond Cottages

Crook Hill near the entrance to Crook Hill Farm where the ditches need clearing out

Church Lane near to the pond

Particular concern should be expressed where water runs across the road owing to blocked ditches or culverts as in Kiln Lane and at Crook Hill.

b) Salt Bins

It was agreed to ask Hampshire County Council to provide a salt bin at the corner of Kiln Lane and Newport Lane essentially for the purpose of gritting the hill down Lower Street during icy/snowy weather.

144. FOOTPATHS

Footpath 8

The Clerk reported that Peter Watson of Hampshire County Council has been to see the owner of Bowling Green Cottage about riding horses on Footpath 8. The owner said that permission has been given by the landowner and that it was only for about 15m before going into the adjacent field.

Clerk established that the legal position about horses being ridden on a public right of way footpath is that this may be done with the permission of the landowner, so there is little HCC can do to help.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Dunn simply pointing out that the matter has been raised with the Parish Council as a danger and that whilst he is obviously entitled to give permission about the use of his land, he of course would be responsible for use of the path by both walkers and horses at the same time.

145. POND

Following the cutting back of the tree at the pond, Mike Prince has spoken briefly with Ian Knight about removing the nearby stump.

146. RECREATION GROUNDa) Playground

The Clerk was asked to organise the periodic (quarterly) inspection of the new playground by Test Valley Borough Council at a cost of £35.02 a visit.

b) Noticeboard

A pair of new posts have been received from Greenbarnes and will be installed on the Recreation Ground in due course.

c) Manholes

Mike Edwards reported that he has spoken to Ben Kington about the replacement manhole covers, the cost of which is to be shared between the Parish Council and the Village Hall. There needs to be a re-quotation owing to the recent change to the VAT rate.

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

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses for January	£172.64
CPRE	Annual Subscription	£29.00
Braishfield Village Hall	2009 room hire charges	£96.25
ID Knight	Recreation Ground and Pond tree work	£450.00
Greenbarnes	Noticeboard poles	£210.80
JN Landscapes	Pond grass cutting	£24.15

b) Bank Accounts

The Clerk reported that there is £8891.17 in the bank accounts having received notification that the £6000 reclaim of the playground VAT has been paid.

148. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Martin Hatley reported that the TVBC dustmen were diverted onto other work during the recent snow in order to treat pavements in Romsey as well as at Mountbatten School and Primary Schools in the area. The Romsey Advertiser has apparently declined to report this.

He is a member of the Hampshire Action Team but these are due to be re-formed and it is not quite clear how they will operate in future.

In answer to a question, the Clerk confirmed that he has not received any Section 106 information by email recently from Test Valley Borough Council.

Village Halls are being advised of the possibility of having to clear their bookings to make way for the forthcoming General Election.

149. OPEN PERIOD

David Robinson, the new BVA Chairman, reported that the BVA has submitted a grant application for the trimtrail equipment and that it is waiting for a proposed set of plans and cost estimate from the supplier.

There followed a discussion on the co-operation between the BVA and Parish Council on village matters.

The break-in at Manor Cottage was mentioned and it was suggested that the Police Beat report be emailed to the BVA on a regular basis.

150. DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 2nd March 2010 at 7.00pm.