

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Tuesday 1st June 2010

PRESENT:-

Mike Prince (Chairman)
Camilla Horton
Mike Edwards
Dorothy Ross
Nick Virgo
Kate Marshall
Carole Renvoize

15. MINUTES
Agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th May 2010 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
16. LAND REGISTRATION
The Council considered the response from the Land Registry which dealt with long term contact points for the Recreation Ground, restrictions to be put on the Ground and also its monetary value. It was agreed that the contact point should be the Clerk to the Parish Council c/o The Village Hall. The Clerk will speak to the Land Registry about restrictions and land value.
17. HOME START EASTLEIGH
It was agreed to make a donation of £60 to Home-Start Eastleigh.
18. FIRE & RESCUE PLAN
The 2010-2013 Fire & Rescue plan was noted.
19. HAMPSHIRE ACTION TEAMS
The formation of Borough-wide Hampshire Action Teams by Hampshire County Council was noted.
20. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
The attempt to publicise TVBC meetings in order to increase public involvement in Council affairs was noted, but the Council questioned whether putting up a notice on the board which is already in Test Valley News would be of help.
21. NEW EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS
It was agreed to inform TVBC that the Council preferred having a Leader and Cabinet for the new Executive arrangement, rather than a Mayor and Cabinet.
22. PLANNING
a) Applications pending or recent outcome

HCC/2010/0080	RF Salvidge, Bunny Lane	Remove requirement for bund	Obj
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HCC/2010/0082	RF Salvidge, Bunny Lane	Create skip park	Nobj	
10/00567/FULLS	14, Hill View	Infill dwelling	Obj	Withdrawn
10/00528/FULLS	Chalk Pit Cottage, Braishfield Road	Rear extension	Nobj	
10/00702/FULLS	Ampfield Cottage, Dores Lane	Two storey extension	Nobj	
10/00849/FULLS	Hazel Cottage, Braishfield Road	Single storey extension	Nobj	
10/00631/FULLS	Apple Cottage, Braishfield Road	Extension	Obj	
09/02386/FULLS	Lionwood, Braishfield Road	Detached garage	Obj	Permission

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

b) New Planning Applications

The Council considered new planning applications as follows:

10/00164/FULLS	Merriemeade Farm, Church Lane	Extensions	No objection
10/01031/RESS	Abbotswood, Braishfield Road	Highways reserved matters	Objection
10/01039/FULLS	14, Hill View	Additional dwelling	Objection
10/01191/TREES	Forge Cottage, Braishfield Road	Tree work	No objection

c) 14 Hill View

The Council agreed to object to the revised application for 14 Hill View on the grounds that it represented an over-development of the plot. It appears from the drawing that the distance between the existing and proposed dwelling would be only about 1.7m. In addition, this would be a shared access to the rear of the properties. Both these points are indicative of over-development. The proposed design does not harmonise with its neighbours and would be detrimental to the street scene.

d) Hillside, 4 Lower Street

The Council discussed a further letter from Paul Jackson of the TVBC Planning Department in which he considered that nine objections to the application was insufficiently significant to warrant the application being sent to the Planning Committee.

The Council strongly disagreed with this view as the number was a fair proportion of local residents. The Clerk was asked to write back to Paul Jackson making this point, and also to Martin Hatley, as Planning Portfolio Holder, making the more general point that local opinion is not being taken into account under the existing rules.

e) Abbotswood

The Council agreed to object to the Abbotswood application for a number of reasons:

The facilities for cyclists on the east side of Braishfield Road are insufficient. It is suggested that there should be a separate cycleway past the new roundabout.

There is a need for a definite and proper roundabout at the Abbotswood entrance, rather than a mini roundabout. The Council questioned whether the pedestrian crossing at the entrance is adequate.

The Council was concerned about light pollution and questioned whether the EN13201 standard proposed is in fact the best standard, or indeed good enough, and wondered if the lighting units shown in the application are the best available for least light pollution.

23. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

The Clerk was asked to report the pothole in Dummers Road near to the cricket ground entrance.

The Clerk said that he had not heard anything further about the faulty speed sign or its repair. The matter is being handled by Ampfield Parish Council and TVBC.

24. FOOTPATHS

a) Footpaths 6 and 1

The Clerk has reported the poor state of stiles on these footpaths.

b) Footpath maintenance

There was a long discussion on the need for footpath maintenance including work on the fencing of the Recreation Ground. Kate Marshall and Nick Virgo volunteered to make contact with a couple of 'possibles' who might be able to carry out some work in the near future. Dorothy Ross said she would contact the Probation Service about work which might need to be done in the Autumn.

25. POND

The Clerk has spoken to Dick Ord about maintenance of the seats at the pond and is awaiting a response.

26. RECREATION GROUND

a) Fitness Trail

Further proposals have been received from the Village Association for the fitness trail and these will be discussed at a meeting the following day between Mike Prince, George Elliott and representatives of the supplier. The Council is anxious that the signs are appropriate and that the equipment is not too close to the football pitch.

b) Manholes

The Clerk confirmed that he has sent an invoice to the Village Hall for its agreed share of the manhole work.

c) Grounds maintenance

The Village Hall has been looking for someone who might wish to carry out maintenance work but has so far been unsuccessful. Kate Marshall said she would make some enquiries of a couple of contacts. The Village Hall will be drawing up a specification for the work and Mike Edwards said he would speak to Norman Fielder about how much time he used to spend on it.

d) Football pavilion

The Football Foundation met with Adrian Moore of the Football Club together with Mike Prince and Kate Marshall on 25th May. The Football Foundation seemed to be more geared up to support larger clubs with several pitches wanting brick-built buildings, the cost of which is somewhat out of the Braishfield Football Club/Parish Council league. The Football Foundation did however say that it has a 'Build the Game' scheme with smaller grants up to about £20000.

Adrian Moore agreed to update the plans he drew up about five years ago. It was also agreed that the various waste management companies would be contacted about grants.

27. REPORTS OF PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Mike Edwards reported that Village Hall finances have improved recently but the increased electricity meter charges still nowhere near cover the Southern Electric bills for the building.

Nick Virgo attended the TVBC Sports Consultation Meeting from which a sports strategy should be forthcoming. He mentioned swimming for older people and publicity of footpaths/walks.

Mike Prince attended a meeting of the Test Valley Association of Parish Councils which heard about the new TVBC Executive arrangements and the Code of Conduct. Longparish Parish Council talked about their Parish Plan.

28. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) AGREED that the following accounts are paid:

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses for May	£193.80
Home Start	Donation	£60.00

b) Bank Accounts

The Clerk reported that there is £9840.97 in the bank accounts

c) Accounts

The Council authorised the Chairman to sign the 2009/10 accounts for the Parish Council, the Recreation Ground Charity and the War Memorial Charity.

d) Audit Commission

The Clerk explained that when the Audit Commission wrote to the Council in March about the timing of the 2009/2010 audit, he responded saying the dates would not be met. (The Audit Commission had asked to be informed as soon as possible if the dates could not be met). Nearly two months later, the Audit Commission responded saying that this was not acceptable and that Parish Council meetings should be changed, if necessary, to meet the dates. The Clerk said that he had made a personal response in which he informed the Audit Commission that he would be making a formal complaint to the Commission and would also be writing to Mr Eric Pickles MP. He had also informed them that he had forbidden them from incurring any costs of sending unnecessary chasing letters when they knew the dates would not be met.

The Clerk also explained the accounts timing problem starting with receipt of the bank statement at the end of April, the preparation of the accounts (in time for the early June Meeting), the posting of the notice giving the electorate the right to look at the books, the Council signing the Audit form at its next meeting after the electorate has looked at the books and finally visiting John Murray, the Council's Auditor. According to the Audit Commission, all this has to be done by 12th July.

The Council asked the Clerk to draft a letter for Mr Eric Pickles and Caroline Nokes, but first it wished to know what the law actually said about the dates, rather than simply being given dates by the Audit Commission. It was noted that the Commission's Auditor said that he set the date.

29. DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 20th July at 7.00pm.