

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Wednesday 5th February 2013

PRESENT:-

Mike Prince (Chairman)
Dorothy Ross, Clive John, Beverley Murtagh
John Rhodes, Mike Edwards, Carole Renvoize
Katie Hardy, Acting Clerk

Parishioners: David Robinson, Richard Brazier, Mrs. Edwards

114. Apologies:
Peter White

115. MINUTES

Agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd January 2013 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

116. MATTERS ARISING

None.

117. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Parish Council has had a request from the Horticultural Society requesting permission to use the recreation ground for the Annual Flower Show on Saturday, 13th July 2013.

It was agreed that the Clerk grant permission to the Horticultural Society.

KH

118. PLANNING

a) 13/00172/TREES

3 Weeping Willow reduce and remove regrowth by 3m, fell 1 Bird Cherry
Clayhill, Braishfield Road, Braishfield

– no objections were raised.

Determinations:

See Clerks Report

119. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

Potholes

It was agreed that the Clerk log the large pothole on Farley Lane on the HCC website.

KH

Speed Measures

Cllr. Clive John gave a comprehensive summary of the three road speed measures currently available to the Parish Council:

1. The current option is a shared device with Ampfield Parish Council at a cost to Braishfield Parish Council of £850 per annum. This speed device does not collect any data and is installed and maintained by Test Valley Borough Council.
2. A new device will soon be available as a result of funding from the Abbotswood Consortium. This device can be installed on the existing brackets. The device will be installed and maintained by Romsey Extra Parish Council. There will be no cost to participating Parish Councils. This device does collect data which would be useful to assess when speeding is at its most common through the village.
3. The Community Speed Watch device would be shared between 2/3 neighbouring parishes at a cost of £2,500 - £3,000 in total. The device would be distributed between the parishes and the scheme would be run entirely by volunteers. The device collects speed information, however registration details would have to be collected manually and relayed back to Police Headquarters for further action if/as appropriate.

Concern was raised about the financial implications should either party decide to cancel the current arrangement outlined in Option 1 above.

It was agreed that Cllr. Clive John contact Ampfield Parish Council to determine what its position on the subject.

CJ

Concern was also raised about the issue of 'road rage' occurring as a result of Option 3 and the realistic longevity of volunteers running the scheme.

120. POND

Nothing to note

121. FOOTPATHS

Cllr. Dorothy Ross stated that Manor Farm, Michelmersh has replaced some old stiles with some new 'dog friendly' dog gates. Cllr. Ross said that these were a great improvement. The Clerk stated that she would relay the information also to Michelmersh & Timsbury Parish Council.

122. RECREATION GROUND

a) Playground Surfacing

Cllr. Carole Renvoize informed the meeting that she has obtained four quotations for replacing the existing bark chip surfacing in the playground with a wetpour safety surface. The average quote is in the region of £18,000.

It was agreed that the Clerk make enquiries re: funding to Viridor Credits, Capital grants, and Section 106 monies. KH

It was also agreed that the Clerk contact local children's groups to determine support/need for the project. KH

b) Pavilion

following some discussion, it was agreed that John Rhodes write to the Charities Commission stating that:

- The Football Club is being granted relatively cheap use of the recreation ground, as it performs a great deal of the ground's maintenance at no cost to the Parish Council.
- It would be inconsequential to demonstrate comparative costs at other locations, as the club is founded and run in Braishfield. It would therefore cease to be 'Braishfield' Football Club if it's home ground was elsewhere.
- The valuation of the new pavilion is approximately £100,000.

123. REPORTS OF PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

No meetings attended

124. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

TVBC Councillor, Martin Hatley was not in attendance.

125. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Invoices for Payment

It was agreed that the invoices noted on the Clerk's report be paid.

b) Precept

Chairman, Mike Prince informed the meeting that the Parish Council had been awarded a one-off payment of £470.65 to offset the cost of the introduction of Council Tax Support.

Cllr. Clive John asked if the Parish Council has any liability with regards to any shortfalls in the Parish as a result of Council Tax Benefit.

It was agreed that the Clerk make enquires to TVBC.

KH

126. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Car Park Database

Chairman, Mike Prince informed the meeting that the recreation ground car park had been placed on a national database of public carparks.

It was agreed that Cllr. Prince request that the car park be removed from the database, as it is for recreation ground and village hall users only. MP

b) Village Communication

Cllr. Beverley Murtagh raised the issue that Neighbourhood Watch related emails which are circulated by the local constabulary are extremely helpful to rural communities. A discussion then followed regarding the use of email to circulate relevant parish information and updates to parishioners on a regular basis.

It was agreed the John Rhodes would circulate any relevant informaton via email and submit an article in the BVA News advertising this service to parishioners. JR

127. DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 5th March 2013 at 7.00pm.

128. OPEN PERIOD

Mr. David Robinson stated that he would strongly support a 'round robin' type village email initiative. He stated that, although the BVA news is an excellent medium to relay information, email is a more effective way to communicate time sensitive information.

Mr. Robinson highlighted the state of the village's roads and verges, stating that many of the road verges were now crumbling away and that simply repairing pot holes was not a long term solution to the problem. He enquired if there had been any feedback from Councillor Martin Hatley with regards to a site visit from Mr. Jonathon Bambridge, Highways Department. Chairman, Mike Prince stated that the Parish Council has not received to date any update on this issue.

Parishioner, Richard Brazier then spoke on the following issues:

a) Affordable Housing

Mr. Brazier seeked clarification on the Parish Council's position with regards to the proposed Affordable Housing Site situated on the south side of the Wheatsheaf Pub, running between the gas pipe and the pub boundary. Chairman, Mike Prince stated that a public meeting would be called as/when further plans are submitted.

Mr. Brazier raised concern that the survey conducted six years ago which highlighted a 'need' for affordable housing in the village was now out of date and that the affordable housing provision at Abbotswood should now be taken into consideration when assessing an affordable housing need in the village.

Chairman, Mike Prince agreed that this survey should be re-visited.

b) Section 106 Funding

Mr. Brazier asked the Parish Council if additional Section 106 funding from Abbotswood could be allocated to Braishfield village projects. Mr. Brazier asked if the Parish Council could raise the issue with Cllr. Martin Hatley, as he has been unable to obtain an answer from him.

c) Blackthorne House

Mr. Brazier asked for an update on the planning application of this property. The Clerk informed him that the planning application was still 'pending'.

Mr. Brazier requested that the Parish Council request an additional Section 106 contribution from Developers to assist with the village hall renovations if this property is converted into residential dwellings.

Following some discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk invite Cllr. Martin Hatley to a meeting to discuss several of the issues raised above.

KH

Recreation Ground Hire

Parishioner, Mrs. Edwards enquired if there was a set of criteria for hiring the recreation ground for a commercial interest.

Cllr. Mike Edwards stated that currently there was not, however the Parish Council should have an arrangement in place to distinguish between residential and commercial use.

Cllr. Mike Prince stated that in the recently amended hall hire agreement, the recreation ground is not automatically included in the hall booking and that agreement would need to be given by prior arrangement with the Parish Council.

Mr. David Robinson suggested that the Parish Council draft a booking criteria and a set of fees for hiring the recreation ground. However several Councillors suggested that it would be impractical to book out the entire recreation ground for prolonged periods for time to a commercial user.

Mr. Richard Brazier suggested that a middle ground could possibly be reached if a set of terms and conditions were drafted between the Parish Council and a commercial user.

Meeting Closed 9pm.