

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Braishfield Parish Council
Held in the Church Rooms on 10th March 2026 7.00pm (19.00 - 20.30)

Present

Members of Braishfield Parish Council:

Chairman Cllr Jane Bennett
Cllr Ian Knights
Cllr Julie Benson
Cllr Richard Brazier
Cllr Michael Stubbs
Cllr Sally Yalden

Others:

Clerk/RFO: Meri Knights (cover)
Ward member: Cllr Sally Yalden
Members of the Public: 9

2313 Apologies

Jane Ray due to other commitments

2314 Members' Interests in the Business for the Meeting

None

2315 Accuracy of Minutes

The Council agreed the accuracy of the Minutes of the Council Meetings of 3rd February 2026

2316 Public Participation

None

2317 Any changes to Councillors Declarations of Interests

None

2318 Correspondence

See agenda item 12 a)

2319 Chairman's Report

a) Thanks to those who helped with delivery of Housing Needs Survey to every house in the village

b) Borough Councillor's Report

Enforcement cases: 5 in Braishfield

Councillor Community Grant: £1468.83 outstanding

Five Year Housing Land Supply - as of April 2025 Test Valley can demonstrate a deliverable housing land supply of 2.54 years, against the NPPF requirement of 5 years. This represents a slight decline from 2.76 in April 2024. Significant increase in number of speculative planning applications. Affordable housing down - housing need increasing - housing land supply down

Pot holes - 68% deterioration in roads due to potholes. Requesting TVBC to lobby HCC

2320 Planning Decisions:

a) 25/02989/PDQS - Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane - prior approval required and granted

b) 25/00422/FULLS - 1 Hill View Road - permission recommended

2321 To decide comments for TVBC:

a) 26/00244/FULLS The Dog & Crook

OBJECT with comments:

Our original comments when the accommodation block was applied for, flagged concerns over the parking for this popular village pub. The loss of 3 parking spaces as a result of this retrospective application will exacerbate the parking problems experienced by local residents and footpath use by pedestrians.

Local residents have flagged up that this space has already been used for events where loud music has been played until late causing a disturbance. Consequently, if TVBC see fit to retrospectively allow this application conditions must be attached whereby it is only used for storage and no other purpose.

b) 26/00281/FULLS Little Beeches, Braishfield Road

OBJECT with comments:

1. Height of the Proposed Front Fence

The existing fence appears to be excessive in height. A maximum height of 1.2 metres would be more appropriate for a front boundary fence and would be consistent with typical planning guidance for frontages in residential areas. In order to comply with the Village Design Statement we would like to see the planting of native hedging in front of the fence to soften the street scene.

2. Ecology Report and Bat Roost

The submitted ecology report confirms that a bat roost was present within the building - please ensure that all works affecting the bat roost are properly licensed and compliant with Natural England requirements before any approval or further development proceeds.

3. Dormer Windows Overlooking Neighbouring Property

Please ensure that any dormer windows conform to permitted development regulations including the height of openers and use of frosted glass.

c) 26/00381/TREES The Wheatsheaf, Braishfield Road **OBJECT** comments sent to TVBC requesting a TPO is placed on the tree. Officer due to visit and make a recommendation

2322 To Discuss:

a) Update on donations received - £11670 and £3000 (£6740.19 spent
Remaining funds to be used for future applications

b) Bargate application - planning officer working towards a decision on 20th March and if approved could go to Southern Area Planning on 7th April.
A comprehensive traffic survey has been submitted - all reports commissioned have been a significant asset in our objection

c) Macra Ltd - open meeting on 12th February was closed early. Macra were disappointed in the attendance. A planning application is expected late summer 2026

d) Neighbourhood Development Plan - slow progress re draft. Housing Needs Survey has been delivered for completion with a drop in event held by TVBC on 8th April

e) 25/02989/PDQS Pucknall Farm - issues with nature of dwellings and no CIL contribution due

ACTION: Cllr Brazier to draft a response to TVBC highlighting concerns

f) National Planning Policy Framework Consultation

ACTION: Clerk to check if Parish Council can comment and closing date

g) Meeting with Graham Smith and Simon Finch TVBC Planning

Discussion re Bargate application and lack of communication. Reiterated the strength of our objections in our consultants' reports. Lack of public information and delays in preliminary decisions re TVBC officers

2323 Councillor Co-Option

2/3 people have shown interest

ACTION: Clerk to follow up and send application form

2324 Update on:

a) Horse Road Signage - Alan Dowden has confirmed that this is low priority for HCC

b) Car park resurfacing - work started on 7th March, full closure of car park on 19th March. Parking bays will be marked

c) Grant application HCC Bus Shelter - submitted and waiting decision

d) Grant application TVBC - one more quote required

ACTION: Clerk to obtain

2325 Clerk's Report

a) Payments

£816.83 Jane Ray - Salary

£21.96 Jane Ray - Mileage

£75.40 - Overtime - **indicates current volume of work, distribution of tasks needs to be reviewed**

£120.00 Mike Ray - Speed radar movement

£1537.09 - Railton TPC Ltd

£260.00 - Steve Tilbury Consulting

£24000.00 Rocon Contractors - **payment to be made after completion of works and grant received from TVBC**

b) Pre-authorized payments made between meetings

£116.20 Test Valley Maintenance

£280.00 Ian Knight (Hedge laying)

£238.80 Elan City (warrantee payment)

£32.76 Misra Ltd (footpath map printing)

c) TSB Online Banking Limits - **Clerk £500 Jane Bennett £25000 - APPROVED**

d) Insurance Renewal amounts - **carry forward**

2326 Lengthsman Scheme

£1600 balance outstanding. Possible projects include: removal of school noticeboard/clear play area. Cllr Yalden suggested that all councillors need to contribute. Cllr Stubbs is unable to take on management of the scheme.

2327 Matters for Agenda at Subsequent Meeting

Cllr Yalden sends apologies as she will be at SAP. SUDS payment

2328 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 7th April 2026

Signed Chairman: _____

Date: _____