

Report on proceedings at the Braishfield Parish Meeting held
at the Womens' Institute Hall, Braishfield, on Thursday,
20th April, 1978, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present. Mr. R. Corry (In the Chair), Parish Councillors Mrs. B.M. Bell, Mr. A.E. Cobbold, Mr. H. Steiner, and Mr. P. Watkins, together with approximately 27 parishioners.

Apologies: An apology for absence was received from Mrs. Sleeman.

1. Mr. A. Lalande - Retiring Clerk

The Chairman informed the meeting that Mr. A. Lalande had found it necessary to resign as Clerk due to business commitments and had been succeeded by Mr. S. Emery. The meeting paid tribute to the most efficient and conscientious manner in which Mr. Lalande had fulfilled his duties as Clerk and also to the very considerable help he had given to the residents during his seven years in office. The Parish Council had arrangements in hand to suitably acknowledge its appreciation of Mr. Lalande's services.

2. Clerk's Report

The report (copy attached) of the retiring Clerk (Mr. Lalande) was taken as read.

In elaboration, the Chairman reported that the present area of the Parish was 1741 acres and the population, based on the 1971 census, was 586.

During the past year the Braishfield Football Club had taken on the task of mowing the recreation ground with gang mowers purchased by the Parish Council, this had effected a considerable cash saving. The football club had enjoyed a most successful season to date, the Saturday team having been promoted to division 1 of the Southampton League and the Sunday team, having won the New Forest Cup, were strong contenders for league honours requiring only 3 points from 8 matches to be sure of winning the division. The meeting expressed its congratulations to the football club on its success.

The Chairman further reported that in April, 1977, a party of 36 parishioners visited Crouay in Normandy when Braishfield officially became twinned with this village. This was followed by the setting up of a Sub-Committee of the Parish entitled the "Twinning Committee" which had as part of its objective the co-ordination of official visits to France and visits of the French to Braishfield. In May, 1977, the Crouay football club visited Braishfield and were beaten 5-1. In September, the Braishfield football club visited Cronay and again were victorious by the same margin. The Mayor of Crouay, together with a large party, including beautiful young ladies in national costume attended the Braishfield Country Fair and in August the Mayor, together with 17 children, camped in the pavilion on the recreation ground.

In November, the French joined with the residents of Braishfield at the remembrance service and laid a wreath at the War Memorial. Early in 1978 the Twinning Committee organised a draw, with a prize of £100, in order to raise money to defray some of the expenses incurred. In May of this year the French were proposing to pay another visit with their football club when, amongst other arrangements, a dinner dance would be held at Kings Somborne Village Hall. In addition, there had been private visits between friends in each village thus fulfilling the whole objective of the twinning arrangements.

The Chairman referred to the threatened closure of the village school and to the visit of Mr. P. Merridale, Chairman of the Hampshire Education Committee, who had assured the parishioners that there were no impending proposals to close the school. Congratulations were extended to Mrs. Shepherd and the Braishfield Village School upon having won the area netball competition in the face of strong opposition.

In conclusion the Chairman referred to a programme on trees to be transmitted on B.B.C. television on 21st April with Mike Purton and Roy Lancaster.

3. Proposed Braishfield Village Hall

The Chairman reported that a public meeting had been held on 13th April, to consider the proposals for the provision of a village hall for Braishfield and that the meeting had passed the following resolution:-

"RESOLVED -

- (1) that this meeting unanimously requests that a village hall for Braishfield be provided;
- (2) that the new hall be sited on land to the east of the garage (adjacent to the recreation ground), in accordance with the planning permission;
- (3) that strict compliance with the planning condition, that the perimeter trees be retained and supplemented, be observed;
- (4) that the Feasibility Committee make application to the Hampshire Council of Community Service for a grant of £33,000, being 50% of the envisaged outlay of £66,000; and
- (5) that a Village Hall Management Committee be set up at the Annual Parish Meeting on 20th April, 1978, and that all social and sporting organisations in Braishfield be invited to be represented on this Committee."

With reference to (5) above, it was explained that under the provisions of the Model Deed for Village Halls a "Management Committee" could not be formed until there was something tangible to manage. In the circumstances, the Feasibility Committee could continue its task until such time as the land acquisition had been finalised in the name of trustees and vested in the Official Custodian for Charities. It would, in accordance with the Trust Deed, be necessary to elect members

onto the Management Committee and the Feasibility Committee recommended that 3 persons be so elected onto the Feasibility Committee, the composition of which could then become the Management Committee at the appropriate time.

It was pointed out that the Parish Council had not yet determined whether it would support the proposals for a village hall.

RESOLVED - that the following persons be elected to serve on the Feasibility Committee and that the appropriate application be made to the Official Custodian for Charities for the Feasibility Committee to become a Charitable Trust:-

Mr. R. Hodgson, Squirrels Lodge, Braishfield
Mr. J. Meehan, Brook House, Braishfield
Mr. G. Shipton, The Post Office, Braishfield

4. Matters Raised by Parishioners

The following matters were raised by parishioners and referred to the Parish Council to initiate the necessary action:-

- (1) Crouay Twin Town sign - emphasised that neither Crouay or Braishfield were "Towns" and that the signs should reflect this;
- (2) provision of pull-in outside of the church to accommodate, inter alia, wedding cars, hearses, etc.;
- (3) enquiries to be made of the County Council as to whether there is a 6'6" width restriction on all roads in Braishfield, and ask for suitable signs to be provided requesting people to drive carefully through the village - subject to the Parish Council first having an opportunity to approve the size and type of such signs;
- (4) reinstatement of the verges in Kiln Lane which have been seriously eroded by heavy transport in association with the laying of the gas pipe line;
- (5) that negotiations take place with the owner of the land traversed by footpath No.14 with a view to the footpath being realigned; and
- (6) the football club to be asked to reinstate the hedge on either side of the gateway serving the recreation ground at Common Hill.

5. Parish Council - Expression of Appreciation

The Village Association expressed its appreciation to the Parish Council for all its help and co-operation over the past year. These sentiments were endorsed by the meeting.



BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Copy of a Report to be submitted to the Annual Parish Meeting to be held at the Braishfield Women's Institute on Thursday 20th April, 1978 at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. R. Corry was elected Chairman and Mr. A.E. Cobbold was elected Vice Chairman for the ensuing year. There have been 15 meetings of the Council during the course of the year and all members have attended regularly.

The District Councillor for Braishfield, Mrs. M. Sleeman, has also attended the great majority of meetings and her help is very much appreciated.

The Village celebrated her Majesty the Queen's 25th Jubilee with a party for the Senior Citizens and the Children on the Recreation Ground on the afternoon of June 6th with a Barbeque in the evening for other people. Each child and Senior Citizen was presented with a Mug. The cost of these mugs was contributed by a number of the Parish Councillors and the District Councillor personally. A sum of £177.74p was collected by a Sub-Committee in aid of the National Jubilee Appeal and the Council would like to record its appreciation to the Organisations and Individuals who donated so generously and willingly to this Appeal. Grateful thanks are also due to Mr. Bill Henderson and his Committee who organised the Tea Party and the Barbeque and to Mr. Philip Watkins who chaired the Committee organising the Appeal. A handsome Flag Pole has been erected on the Recreation Ground in recognition of the Jubilee.

The Parish Council would like to record its congratulations to the Braishfield Village Association on its magnificent achievement in winning the District Best Kept Village Competition. Mr. Michael Purton and his team of helpers did a marvellous job in tidying up the Village and the Council would like to record its thanks. The Council appreciate the very great co-operation between the Village Association and the Parish Council and there are many matters where the joint efforts of the two bodies are very rewarding.

The provision of a Main Drainage Scheme in the Village has also been one of the Council's chief matters for discussion.

An Open Meeting was held on 5th January when representatives of the Test Valley Borough Council were present and it was decided to press for a limited Main Drainage Scheme that would only deal with the trouble spots in the Parish. The Parish Council have been pressing the T.V.B.C. along these lines and it is likely that further news will be forthcoming during the current year.

A Village Hall Feasibility Committee has been set up to consider the possibility of constructing a new Village Hall. This body is quite separate from the Parish Council but the Parish Council is represented on this with Mrs. Bell who is the Feasibility Committee's Chairman.

Many other matters have been considered throughout the year including a large number of Planning Applications, Road Improvements, Footpaths, the Recreation Ground and heavy lorries using the Village lanes.



PARISH COUNCIL

The Rateable Value of the Parish is estimated at the 1st April 1978 to be £52,700 (1977 £52,106) and the produce of a 1p rate for rating purposes for 1978/79 will be £510 (1977/78 £505).

A short meeting of the Parish Council will follow the Parish Meeting.

A. P. LALONDE

Clerk to the Braishfield Parish Council

Apple Cottage,
Braishfield,
Romsey,
Hampshire