

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield on 17th July 1997

PRESENT:-

A Lalonde (Chairman)
Mrs M Balchin
M Edwards
Mrs P Melbourne
M Prince
Ms P Saunders
Councillor M Hatley (representing Test Valley Borough Council)

APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from T Howkins

27. MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 19th June 1997 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

28. BOROUGH NEWS

The Chairman reported the receipt of a letter from the Borough Council's Chief Executive responding to the Parish Council's comments about the Test Valley Borough News. He noted the comments but confirmed that the Borough Council had not to date received any other complaints about the publication, the cost of which was approximately 30p per household.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted.

29. CASBROOK COMMON

The Chairman reported the receipt of a letter from the County Surveyor confirming that the replanting scheme at Casbrook did not include the roadside trees in Bunny Lane. These would however continue to be monitored and

replanting undertaken if necessary.

30. TEST VALLEY IN BLOOM

RESOLVED -

That the Parish Council accept the offer to be made by Test Valley Borough Council during National Tree Week (26th November-7th December) and that a request be made for a rowan tree.

31. PLANNING

(i) 2 Newport Lane

It was reported that the Borough Council's Planning Officer had now given consent for a dormer window to be provided at this property.

(ii) Merrie Mead Farm

It was reported that the Borough Council's Area Planning Manager had indicated that a condition restricting working hours at the above premises may not be justifiable as there had not been any specific complaints about the operation of the business in previous years. Parish Council Members considered a restriction appropriate as permission for a non agricultural use would be granted and several residents in the area had noted lorry movements to the farm at 3.00 am.

RESOLVED -

That in view of the likelihood of a permanent permission being granted operating hours should be restricted to 7.00 am until 7.00 pm Monday to Friday and 7.00 am until 1.00 pm on Saturdays to provide some form of control at the premises. All lorries including the applicants should be restricted to movements within these times and no movements at all on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

(iii) Village Shop

Details of the Village Retail Services Association had been circulated to Members together with details of schemes operated by the Association to help prevent the loss of village shops.

RESOLVED -

That further consideration be given to the services offered by the Association once Test Valley Borough Council had completed any

investigations into the viability of the Braishfield shop.

(iv) Hawkes Farm

It was reported that the Borough Council's enforcement officer was investigating the use of Hawkes Farm by Ace Skips following complaints by local residents. It was understood that lorries were using Featherbed Hill as a short cut.

32. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (i) It was reported that the County Surveyor had invited representatives of the Parish Council and Village Association to meet a member of his staff to discuss ways of improving safety at the crossroads. Possible measures were suggested by members including larger signs and the introduction of a speed restriction in both Jermyns Lane and Sandy Lane on the approach to the junction.

RESOLVED -

That Councillors Mike Edwards and Mike Prince together a representative of the Village Association be appointed to meet a representative from the County Surveyor's Department.

(ii) Other Matters

RESOLVED -

That the Area Surveyor be informed of a pothole in Braishfield Road opposite Berberis, a collapsed drainage ditch in Doors Lane and flooding in Lower Street possibly as a result of blocked drainage ditches.

33. VILLAGE POND

RESOLVED -

That work be undertaken to cut weeds and nettles along the northern boundary of the pond area.

34. RECREATION GROUND

(i) Overhanging tree

RESOLVED -

That the Borough Council's consent be obtained to trimming the branches of a copper beech tree overhanging the school shed.

(ii) Car Park Fence

The Chairman reported that he had discussed the condition of the car park fence with Phil Watkins the adjoining landowner. There was however no proven evidence as to ownership of the fence.

(iii) Ownership of Recreation Ground

It was confirmed that the Recreation Ground had been a gift to the Parish for recreational purposes only. This information was provided in response to a possible future request by the school for land to allow an extension to the school.

(iv) Use of Ground by Football Clubs

Reference was made to a further request from the Football Club for arboricultural work to be undertaken to trees overhanging the football pitch.

Reference was also made to the agreement with both The Wheatsheaf and Braishfield Football Club's for regular use of the ground and members sought greater contributions from both clubs either in kind or by the introduction of a payment. The request for a new Braishfield Youth Team to play on Sundays was also given further consideration.

RESOLVED -

(i) That the Football Clubs request for tree lopping be submitted to the Borough Council's Arboriculturalist Officer with any work being funded by the Football Club.

(ii) That only one match on Sundays be permitted and

(iii) That a meeting be held with representatives of each of the Football Clubs to discuss future use of the ground.

(v) Children's Play Area

RESOLVED -

That the Test Valley Borough Council be requested to inspect the play area to ascertain whether the bark chipping surface needed replenishing.

(vi) Parking Outside Village Hall Door

RESOLVED -

That the Village Hall Management Committee be asked to provide a sign requesting no parking near to the entrance doors to allow elderly residents to park close to the recycling bins and to allow emergency services access to the premises.

(vii) Braishfield Road/Common Hill Road Boundary

It was reported that the contractor had undertaken work to the new fence and that following discussions with the recreation ground representatives the Chairman had authorised an interim payment of £1,500 towards the cost of the fencing works. Further undergrowth would be cleared during the autumn and two concrete posts had yet to be removed on the Braishfield Road boundary. The Parish Council also learned of concerns expressed by a resident about the loss of the hedgerow along the Common Hill Road boundary.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the position concerning further work be noted and
- (ii) That the Chairman's action authorising an interim payment of £1,500 be endorsed
- (iii) That Parish Council Members consider possible alternatives for a replanting scheme along the Common Hill Road boundary and to report these to the September meeting of the Council.

(viii) Dog Bin

Councillor Michael Edwards reported that the dog bin was to be resited on the far side of the Recreation Ground in the near future.

35. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Martin Hatley reported the sad death of the wife of Jimmy Wyss, the former Borough Council representative for Braishfield. Councillors Mrs Pauline Melbourne and Pam Saunders had attended her funeral. He also referred to the request to remove a branch from an oak tree next to the village hall and to the formation of a waste minimisation club by local businesses. It was understood that Test Valley Borough Council were keen to receive ideas on the celebration

of the Millennium and it was agreed that these would be referred to the next meeting of the Millennium Committee by the Parish Council representative Michael Prince. Councillor Hatley referred to the Parish Council's request for information on road names in the Parish and confirmed that Braishfield Road ran from Winchester Road, Romsey to the Manor crossroads in Braishfield. Kings Somborne Road ran north from the Manor crossroads. Councillor Hatley also expressed concerns about the impact that changes in the Hampshire County Structure Plan would have on Braishfield. A recommendation had been made for an additional 1,660 dwellings in Test Valley South over and above the 1,050 dwellings recommended by the Deposit Structure Plan. These included an additional 500 dwellings originally allocated for the Andover area. It was understood that this would mean a total of 4,700 homes being built in the southern half of Test Valley between 1996 and March 2011.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the Borough Councillor's report be noted
- (ii) That further consideration be given to possible renaming of Parish roads only after discussion with residents affected and
- (iii) That the Parish Council's concern at the number of homes scheduled for the southern half of Test Valley be expressed to Councillor Alan Dowden and to both the Leader of the County Council and the Leader of the minority group requesting them to oppose the increased quota.

36. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED -

That the following accounts be paid:

Test Valley Borough Council, emptying of bins for the period October to March 1997/98

L Shelton, salary and expenses to date £70

37. CLERK'S SALARY

RESOLVED -

That the Clerk's salary be increased to £750 per annum with effect from 1st April 1997