

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield on 18th September 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.

38. MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 1997 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

39. APPLICATION FOR GRANT

The Parish Council considered a request from the Winged Fellowship. The Fellowship had five purpose built centres in the UK including one at Netley Waterside House and provided holidays and respite care for severely physically disabled people and respite for carers.

RESOLVED -

That the trust be informed that on this occasion the Parish Council is unable to offer grant assistance.

40. VILLAGE HALL - KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT

The Parish Council considered a request from the Village Hall Management Committee for a grant of 12½% towards the cost of work to improve the kitchen and bar area of the village hall. Total cost of the work was estimated to be between £2,900 and £3,490. Hampshire County Council and Test Valley

Borough Council had offered grant aid and the Management Committee were seeking a maximum of £365 from the Borough Council.

RESOLVED -

That the Management Committee be informed that the Parish Council would be prepared to grant 12½% of the cost of the works up to a maximum of £365.

41. CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

The Parish Council considered a request for financial assistance towards annual maintenance costs of the churchyard. A grant of £400 had been made in 1996.

RESOLVED -

That a grant of £420 be made towards this year's expenses.

42. PLANNING

(a) Mobile Home, Wood Farm, Elden Lane TVS6936/2

The application sought temporary permission for the mobile home at Wood Farm to support an egg production unit. It was explained that an agricultural appraisal would need to be undertaken to establish a need for an agricultural dwelling on the site. The egg production unit had been installed without planning consent from the Borough Council.

RESOLVED -

That the Borough Council be informed that the Parish Council objects to the proposals which it believes

- (i) will set an undesirable precedent
- (ii) involves a building of excessive size
- (iii) will support and encourage the generation of traffic to the site including large vehicles unsuitable for the adjoining highways
- (iv) the Borough Council be informed of the Parish Council's concerns at the development of the egg production unit without the submission of any planning application.

(b) Tree at April Cottage

The Chairman reported that following discussions with Parish Council members he had indicated to the Borough Council that there would be no Parish Council objection to the felling of a conifer at April Cottage.

RESOLVED -

That the action of the Chairman be endorsed.

(c) Fairbournes Farm

The Chairman referred to a possible redevelopment of the farmyard at Fairbournes Farm. The development which could involve the erection of up to 10 dwellings would allow the funding of refurbishment and improvement works to the original farm buildings. No formal application had yet been submitted to the Borough Council.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted.

(d) Review of Borough Local Plan

It was reported that Meryl Balchin and Michael Prince had attended a Borough Council workshop which explained the continuing review of the Borough Local Plan and the Borough Council's policy to involve community groups and the public in discussing the review of the plan. A seminar was to be held on Saturday 20th September which would give details about the preparation of a village design statement.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted and the Borough Council be requested for information following the seminar as no Parish representatives would be available to attend.

(e) Merriemead Farm

It was reported that consideration of this application was continuing and it was agreed that the Parish Council should confirm their wish to see restrictions on the operating hours of the business use and on lorry movements.

(f) Planning Working Group

Consideration was given to the establishment of a working group that could look at future planning matters that would affect Braishfield. These included the Borough Local Plan and village design statement, the future of the village shop and developments such as those proposed at Fairbournes Farm.

RESOLVED -

That Meryl Balchin, Michael Edwards and Pam Saunders be appointed to the working group.

43. HIGHWAYS

(a) Jermyns Lane/Sandy Lane Junction

Councillors Michael Edwards and Michael Prince referred to a site meeting they had attended with representatives of the Village Association, the Police and County Surveyors Office to consider further improvements to the above junction in an effort to reduce accidents. The Police believed that the junction was safe and did not require improvements to sight lines or signs. They believed that excessive speed along Braishfield Road and the inability of the older drivers involved in the accidents were the main contributory factors. The County Surveyor had subsequently agreed to highlight the Give Way signs on the Sandy Lane and Jermyns Lane approaches to the junction with yellow backing boards, to lay anti-skid surfacing and red coloured strips on the southbound approach to the junction to increase braking ability and to improve conspicuity and erect an additional cross roads warning sign on the approach to the junction from Braishfield.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted and the Parish Council's thanks be extended to Councillors Michael Prince and Michael Edwards for attending.

(b) General Highways Matters

The Clerk reported that in response to requests from the Parish Council the Area Surveyor would make the sunken trench in Braishfield Road safe, repair the damaged ditch in Dores Lane, clear the highway drainage ditch in Lower Street and monitor the condition and surface of the footway between Newport Lane and the junction with the War Memorial.

RESOLVED -

That the position be noted.

(c) Kings Somborne Road

RESOLVED -

That following a series of accidents on the approaches to Kings Somborne

the Kings Somborne Parish Council be asked to consider requesting the Area Surveyor to erect a slow or warning sign on the bend south of Furzedown.

(d) Kiln Lane Verges

Reference was made to the poor condition of the highway verges in Kiln Lane and generally throughout the Parish.

RESOLVED -

That the Area Surveyor be requested to give details of the County Council's current policy for cutting verges.

44. RECREATION GROUND

(a) Regular Use By Football Club

The Chairman referred to a meeting that had taken place immediately prior to the Council meeting between Parish Council members and the Chairman of the Football Club Peter Winfield and Secretary of the Youth Team, Steve Collins. The meeting had been convened to discuss regular use of the ground by Braishfield Football Club and possible use by the Braishfield Youth Team. The Youth Team would require use of the pitch on Sunday mornings although it was likely that only five matches would be played between now and Christmas. Football Club representatives reported that the Wheatsheaf Football Club who had previously used the ground on Sundays had now disbanded. The Club also reported that they would not use the Recreation Ground for training sessions after October as floodlit facilities had been arranged at Romsey School. Parish Councillors had also drawn attention to the use of the Village Hall car park by football club members and to noise and bad language by players during matches. Peter Winfield agreed that the Club would seek alternative parking and put up signs to deter visiting teams from using the Village Hall car park. The Club also stressed that they were concerned and making efforts to stop bad language on the pitch. The poor quality of the maintenance work undertaken by the Club at the Recreation Ground in return for free use of the playing pitch was drawn to the Club's attention. It was agreed that communication between the Club and the Parish Council should be improved.

RESOLVED -

(i) that the Braishfield Youth team be permitted use of the Recreation

Ground on Sunday mornings on the understanding that the Wheatsheaf Football team no longer required these facilities.

- (ii) that the Braishfield Football Club would continue to use the pitch on Saturdays and that club representatives would continue to liaise with the Parish Council's Recreation Ground representatives Mike Edwards and Mike Prince about use of the ground in adverse weather conditions.
 - (iii) that the Football Club's maintenance and cutting of the perimeter of the Recreation Ground be improved and include regular removal of undergrowth and suckers.
 - (iv) that the Football Club cease use of the Recreation Ground for training sessions after October.
 - (v) that the Football Club make alternative arrangements to parking in the Village Hall car park and makes strong efforts to reduce noise and bad language by players during matches.
 - (vi) that Club representatives meet the Parish Council at least once each year and that a regular meeting take place immediately prior to the Council meeting in June each year to discuss the previous season and arrangements for the coming season.
 - (vii) that the agreement for the regular use of the Recreation Ground include both the Braishfield Football Club and Braishfield Youth team.
- (b) Perimeter Fencing

Reference was made to the outstanding work still to be undertaken by the contractors who had replaced the boundary fence along Braishfield Road and Common Hill Road. An interim payment of £1500 had already been made leaving an outstanding balance of £866. Reference was also made to a resident who had expressed concern about the removal of the hedgerow along the Common Hill Road boundary.

RESOLVED -

- (i) that the contractor be
 - (a) required to remove and clear all remaining scrub and vegetation from the boundary fence
 - (b) grade land back away from the bottom of the fence
 - (c) spray along both boundary fences to kill vegetation
 - (d) be requested to quote for the removal and clearance of the iron

bar on the Common Hill boundary.

- (ii) that the Chairman seek advice on alternative landscaping and planting along the Common Hill boundary of the Recreation Ground.

(c) Disclaimer Notice

RESOLVED -

that the Chairman arrange for the installation of a sign disclaiming the Parish Council and Village Hall Management Committee's liability at the car park.

(d) Recreation Ground Litter Bin

RESOLVED -

that the Borough Council's attention be drawn to the litter bin at the Common Hill entrance to the Recreation Ground which had been jammed.

45. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Council's representative Councillor Martin Hatley attended the meeting and reported on outstanding matters which included the current series of workshops encouraging community participation in the alterations to the Borough Local Plan.

46. ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED -

that the following accounts be paid

L Shelton, salary for August, September and expenses to date - £145.50
Braishfield PCC churchyard maintenance - £420