

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Tuesday 6th May 2014

Present

Parish Councillors:

Mike Prince (Chairman)

Mike Edwards

Clive John

Beverley Murtagh

Carole Renvoize

Dorothy Ross

Peter White

Borough Councillor : Martin Hatley

County Councillor : Alan Dowden

Parishioners: approximately 30 parishioners attended

327. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Proposed by Peter White and seconded by Mike Edwards that Mike Prince is appointed Chairman for the coming year. This was agreed unanimously.

Proposed by Mike Prince and seconded by Peter White that Mike Edwards is appointed Vice Chairman for the coming year. This was agreed unanimously.

328. Apologies

None

329. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st April 2014

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st April 2014 were agreed.

330. Matters Arising

Village table tennis equipment:

Mike Edwards has written to the Test Valley Borough Council's Head of Planning concerning the intention to use Section 106 money (from the construction of a dwelling in Hill View) for table tennis equipment etc. The Planners have rejected the proposal as it does not fit the criteria of the Section 106 agreement with the developer. Martin Hatley thinks that this may be because stated use for the money was different originally. Mike Edwards will look further into this: there is a possibility of amending the Section 106 agreement with the co-operation of the developer. Martin Hatley may have Borough Council funds for the project.

Defibrillator:

Carole Renvoize has some information from a Community First Responder co-ordinator, who may be able to attend the July meeting. Mike Edwards is also looking at appropriate options. Martin Hatley says there may be Borough Council funding available. Michelmarsh & Timsbury Parish Council also wish to have a defibrillator. The initial cost is in the region of £2,500 which includes a secure cabinet.

Roundabout (Braishfield Road/Jermyns Lane/Sandy Lane):

It was noted that Hampshire County Council Highways department are monitoring the performance of the new roundabout. This was re-assessed at an HCC meeting on 25th April but we have not heard the outcome yet.

High-speed Broadband:

Clive John and Mike Prince met with the BT regional director and have learned that BT have no firm dates to extend fibre-optic broadband to Braishfield but it may occur in late 2016. In Braishfield the work will entail running fibre-optic cable between posts above ground because there are only 2 BT cabinets serving the village (cables are normally run below ground). Local industrial estates, as well as private residences, have very low speeds. Mike Edwards is interested in the idea of the community self-funding as has happened elsewhere; perhaps it is possible to use Section 106 money.

Website:

Beverley Murtagh liked the idea of having a photograph of each Parish Councillor on the website, and this was generally agreed.

331. Correspondence

“The Bugle Sounded”:

Braishfield Village Association have thanked the Parish Council for contributing the costs of printing the booklet “The Bugle Sounded”. This will be available soon at a suggested minimum price of £2. One place where it will be available is the church.

Play Area Periodic Safety Inspections:

RoSPA have written offering to carry out periodic safety checks for a fee. The Play Area is already inspected at regular intervals by TVBC therefore it was agreed not to appoint RoSPA.

CPRE (Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England):

The next CPRE Hampshire meeting will be the AGM at Itchen Abbas Village Hall on Friday 16th May at 11am. It is followed by a talk and lunch. Details are on their website: <http://www.cprehampshire.org.uk>

Braishfield Primary School:

Peter Stuart of the school has emailed on various matters:

On Saturday 7 June the school will be holding a sponsored walk using footpaths and lanes around the village.

In 2013 the school used the Recreation Ground for a night of family camping. This was a success and they request permission to do so this year on Friday 18 July. It was agreed that this could go ahead. This raised an issue of managing bookings for the Recreation Ground as currently there is no forum for keeping dates or displaying them publicly. Use of Google Calendar will be looked at.

Peter Stuart’s class would like to take on a project in the community. He suggested that the telephone box on Braishfield Road would be ideal. However, the phone box is still in use because mobile phone reception is patchy in the village, so it will not be possible to use this as the community project. Beverley Murtagh pointed out that the Bus Shelter near to the school is owned by the Parish Council, so it was agreed that this could be offered to the school for decoration etc.

332. Planning Matters

Applications Pending, or with Recent Outcome:

Reference	Address	Summary	Parish Council Response	TVBC Status
14/00175/FULLS	Necton Cottage, Paynes Hay Road	Change of agricultural land to domestic	Obj	Permission
14/00308/FULLS	Sharpes Farm, Lower Street	Garden alterations	Obj	Permission
14/00714/TREES	Village Hall	Tree work	Nobj	No objection
14/00710/FULLS	Potters Clay, Braishfield Road	To erect shed	Nobj	Permission
14/00985/TREES	Beechwood, Church Lane	Tree work	Nobj	
14/00767/FULLS	Blackthorn House, Blackthorn Close	To erect double garage	Nobj	
14/00843/OUTS	Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	Equestrian rehabilitation facility, pony barn, dwelling	Obj	
14/0729/FULLS	Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	Replacement sand school (equestrian)	Obj	
14/00883/FULLS	Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	Change of use of land to equestrian	Obj	
14/00841/FULLS	Pucknall Farm, Dores Lane	To erect a new agricultural dutch barn; new access route	Obj	
13/02778/FULLS	Land off Braishfield Road	Erection of 9 affordable homes	Nobj	

PC original response: Sup supported, Obj objected, Nobj No objection

New Applications:

None

Detailed Consideration of Applications:

Blackthorn Close:

Parish Councillors have been contacted by residents or potential purchasers of 5 Blackthorn Close (which is currently for sale), concerned of the impact upon No.5. It was agreed that this was a matter for the parties to pursue as neighbours. The Parish Council have no objection.

Pucknall Farm:

4 separate applications are under consideration under the direction of two different planning officers, and all seem to pertain to one larger scheme. The Parish Council will object on the grounds that the need for a new dwelling has not been demonstrated, and over concerns about the new access on a blind corner of Dores Lane.

Affordable Housing:

The application went before the Southern Area Planning Committee in March. The decision was deferred in order to allow the applicant time to revise the design of the dwellings. On Tuesday 13th May Southern Area Planning Committee will consider the application again.

BVA has contacted the Parish Council with the results of a straw poll carried out by email which found 111 against the scheme, 18 in support of it and 12 undecided. A petition has been submitted to TVBC by others with names of 44 people in support of the scheme.

The Chairman of BVA and a number of parishioners attended the meeting to state their continued objection to the site being counter to the Village Design Statement (VDS). They requested that the decision be deferred again in order to give time to explore the possibility of using land at the end of Hill View (know as Site 8) potentially available from Fullers now that the Newport Inn is for sale.

Martin Hatley and Alan Dowden reminded the meeting that TVBC is not in a legal position to defer a decision: it must determine the application as it stands or the applicant is entitled to make an Appeal whereupon the decision will be taken by the Planning Inspectorate. Alternative sites in the locality do not form part of the application and are not taken into account in making the decision. The Planning Committee will visit prior holding their meeting.

The Parish Council objected to the original scheme on the grounds of the design. During the meeting he Parish Council discussed the revised design for the scheme. Conservation officers have made some comments of the revised design. Generally the new design was considered acceptable; therefore Peter White proposed the motion that

“The Parish Council has no objections to the site and withdraws their objection to the design”

Votes were as follows:

Mike Prince (Chairman) FOR

Mike Edwards FOR

Clive John AGAINST (the site is counter to the VDS and original report from the TVBC Conservation Officer)

Beverley Murtagh FOR

Carole Renvoize FOR

Dorothy Ross FOR

Peter White FOR

i.e. 6 votes in favour and 1 vote against: the motion was passed.

333. Highways and Road Safety

Resurfacing of the Paynes Hays Road has commenced.

Drainage to Dores Lane will be improved during the current financial year.

Noted above, the final safety audit of the roundabout at Sandy Lane has not been concluded.

334. Footpath and Pond

The illegal use of Footpath 9 as a vehicular access is an ongoing issue in conjunction with HCC.

There are no issues regarding the pond.

335. Recreation Ground

The Play Area has been provided with a rubber safety surface to replace the woodchips. Thanks was given to Katie Hardy (acting Parish Clerk at the time) for her work in organising the funding and work.

The lease of the Football Club is with solicitors.

336. Report of Parish Representatives

Mike Prince will circulate the Chairman's report at the Annual Parish Meeting immediately following this meeting

337. Borough Councillor's Report

The reports of Martin Hatley (TVBC Councillor) and Alan Dowden (Hampshire County Councillor) will be circulated at the Annual Parish Meeting.

338. Financial Matters

Mike Edwards has requested 6 quotations and received 3 bids for repairs to the surface of the car-park. R&D have worked for the Parish Council in the past and their quotation is the lowest for all options quoted. They have quoted as follows:

Area 1: £3,460

Area 2: £4,500

Area 3: £5,870

All figures exclude VAT and the Parish Council are entitled to recover VAT. Areas 1, 2 and 3 are of increasing size. It was generally agreed that Area 1 is a priority as the tarmac surface has broken up here; and tarmac is loose on the surface in additional areas forming Areas 2 & 3. The cost of repair to Area 3 equates to approximately half of the Precept and the Parish Council felt wary of leaving the council potentially short of funds in the event of unforeseen circumstances during the coming year. It was agreed to proceed with repair of Area 1.

The accounts of the Recreation Ground and War Memorial were agreed as satisfactory.

339. Any Other Business

None

340. Open Period

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, Richard Brazier raised the matter of tall evergreens to the east of the village hall (these cause a problem of shade and debris falling on the hall. The landowner may be prepared to discuss the trees but she wants the Parish Council to improve the fencing in order to prevent stray balls landing on her ground. Mike Edwards will set up a meeting.

A parishioner requested an update about the mature oak in the school grounds. It is currently standing as a trunk with the branches having been removed. The Parish Council confirmed that it is due to be completely felled and it is thought that the contractor simply ran out of time to complete the job during the Easter holiday. (Post-meeting note: the tree was felled on Wednesday 7th May 2014).

The scheme at Pucknall Farm was discussed by the floor. One parishioner mentioned that at one time there was a Planning Approval for a biomass generator at Slackstead and this would have led to 44 tonne trucks using Dores Lane. Other parishioners were concerned by the volume of traffic that already uses Dores Lane. This is evident by the degradation of the verges and the formation of informal passing places / lay-bys. The project at Pucknall Farm can only add to the traffic. Dores Lane is narrow and has tight bends. Mike Prince suggested that perhaps the lane should have a speed restriction: weight restrictions are not helpful as they are “except for access”.

Richard Brazier of the Village Hall Committee stated that there will soon be a presentation of the proposals for the Hall. Hundreds of thousands of pounds will be needed to execute the plans. The Hall is losing revenue presently. Coffee mornings / afternoons are underway and are proving popular. There is a lot of interest in the shop project.

Chris Balchin enquired about the mains water leak on Crook Hill. Mike Prince confirmed that it fell outside the scope of the Southern Water mains replacement within the village and the matter is ongoing.

341. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 3rd June 2014.