

# BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Braishfield  
on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014

## Present

### Parish Councillors:

Mike Prince (Chairman)  
Mike Edwards (Vice Chairman)  
Wendy Dolby-Stevens  
Beverley Murtagh  
Carole Renvoize  
Peter White

### Others:

Parish Clerk: Kate Orange  
Borough Councillor: Martin Hatley  
(arrived at approximately 9:30pm)  
Hampshire Constabulary: P.C. Jo Cole  
Residents: David Robinson (BVA)  
Hilliers Arboretum: Wolfgang Bopp &  
David Clayton

## 440. Apologies

440.1 Clive John gave his apologies. He was unable to attend for family reasons.

## 441. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

441.1 None were declared.

## 442. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014

442.1 The Minutes of the meetings were agreed as a true and accurate record.

## 443. Matters Arising

443.1 The Parish Council have received an invoice from Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) for the uncontested election of November 2014. Martin Hatley has

contacted the returning officer on behalf of the Parish Council. The Parish Council considers that the polling cards should have been issued after it was known whether polling would take place.

444. Police Matters

444.1 Jo Cole reported for the Romsey Rural area.

444.1.1 Horses escaped into Hilliers Arboretum and other properties earlier in the year. There will be a court case in February 2015.

444.1.2 There is no crime to report for Braishfield.

444.1.3 Generally, residents should be vigilant about fraudulent phone calls.

444.1.4 Russ Hodges is the new Sergeant for "Rural"

444.1.5 The police have been undertaking vehicle testing in conjunction with VOSA, and have had some success finding red diesel.

444.2 Mike Edwards had a query about vehicles who park over footpaths rather than on the highway, thereby obstructing the footpath. Jo Cole said that these can be reported to her, ideally with a photograph, and she will have an informal talk to the owner.

445. Correspondence

445.1 Hampshire County Council (HCC) have notified the Parish Council that there is a Traffic Order Proposal for Sandy Lane. It is proposed that the speed limit shall be reduced to 30mph at the eastern end. This is the speed limit already in force on Braishfield Road and most of Sandy Lane. The Parish Council has no objection.

445.2 The Clerk has received an email from Hampshire Association of Local Councils. HCC will hold a conference for people who own, work in, or manage village shops. This will take place on 22 January 2015. The Clerk will pass it to the Braishfield Pantry.

445.3 TVBC have sent an estimate of election costs for the May 2015 elections. The final cost depends on factors such as the number of electors, but will be in the region of £1400 for a single election or £1000 for a double election (for example, where the general election takes place on the same day. However, should the

Parish Council election be uncontested (that is, where the number of candidates match the number of seats) the cost will be considerably lower.

445.4 Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) have requested a donation. The Clerk is to check whether the Parish Council have donated to CAB in the past. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

446. Recruitment of Councillors (Widening Recruitment) & Election

446.1 Refer to item 445.3: TVBC have sent an estimate of costs for the May 2015 election.

447. Defibrillator (AED)

447.1 The Parish Council needs to establish a site for the AED and phone which is acceptable to the Village Hall Committee. The Parish Council wish it to be placed where it may easily be found in an emergency: a prominent, well lit position. Mike Prince will discuss this with the Chair of the Village Hall Committee. The AED and phone cannot be made available for use until the position has been agreed.

447.2 A second training session has been organised for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

447.3 Community Support Group (Community Resilience)

447.4 Discussion was deferred until January.

448. Planning Matters

448.1 Applications Pending:

Reference	Address	Summary	Parish Council Response	TVBC Status
14/01090/FULLS (has undergone significant revisions)	Ganger Farm Ganger Farm Lane Romsey Hampshire SO51 0QA	275 dwellings, sports pitches etc	Objection made; pending further comment	Pending
14/02638/TREES	Wengen Church Lane Braishfield Romsey Hampshire SO51 0QH	2 x Ash - Fell	No Objection: defer to TVBC	Pending
14/02608/TREES	The Close Church Lane Braishfield Romsey Hampshire SO51 0QH	Tulip Tree - Fell	No Objection: defer to TVBC	Pending
14/02550/TREES	Land Adjacent Chapel Works Newport Lane Braishfield Romsey Hampshire SO51 0PL	Remove limb from Ash overhanging garden, clear one branch to achieve a 3m clearance around house.	No objection	Pending

448.2 New Applications: None

448.3 No applications for Building Regulations or Planning approval have been submitted for the large outbuilding at the rear of 7 Hill View Road. This matter is ongoing and the Parish Council are in touch with the planning department.

448.4 Determinations:

448.4.1 see Clerk's Report End November 2014

449. Highways and Road Safety (including Traffic Though the Village)

449.1 Michael Stubbs has been corresponding with Martin Hatley and has published an article in the BVA News. It summarises many of the current traffic related issues in the village.

449.1.1 The Parish Council will consider traffic speed and volume once it has the data from the roadside data recorder.

449.2 The traffic data recorder is currently on hire to the Parish Council and has been fitted beside Braishfield Road in the Kiln Lane region.

449.2.1 The cost of this is £118.80 including VAT. Clive John has not received the invoice yet but expects to do so before the next meeting. The Clerk will be able to arrange to pay this between meetings.

449.3 Hyde Housing Association have asked the Parish Council to propose a name for the new affordable homes development (13/02778/FULLS). A form inviting suggestions from residents was included in the December issue of BVA News.

449.3.1 The following suggestions have been received:

- Butterfield Close (William Butterfield was the architect of All Saints church and it is the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth in 2014).
- Common Piece Road (this, according to the nominator, is what the land was known as in the past).
- Two Trees Close (children of the village knew the gateway as the “two trees”. The nominator has submitted an interesting letter and copy of a poem about it.)
- Wheatsheaf Close (due to proximity to the pub.)

449.3.2 Mike Edwards will write an article on the website, inviting feedback from residents.

449.4 Peter White reports that a drainage clearance team arrived in Dores Lane about a fortnight ago. They stated that they were going to clear ditches and gulleys. It seems that they have not completed the work and Peter White will make enquiries

of HCC.

449.5 A culverted section of ditch to the side of Braishfield Road near to Willowbrook House is partially blocked. The Clerk will report it to HCC.

450. Footpaths and Pond

450.1 The Clerk reported that Ben Kington will clear footpath 13 in late December.

450.2 Peter White has received correspondence from a resident on various footpath problems. Peter will make enquiries about land ownership.

450.3 Wolfgang Bopp spoke on behalf of Hilliers Arboretum.

450.3.1 Footpath 1a connects the arboretum to Braishfield Road via Crook Hill Farm. The Arboretum has a long term plan to alter some of the landscaping within the gardens. The diversion of footpath 1a forms part of these plans. The proposal entails constructing a new path to the side of Braishfield Road south of Crook Hill Farm, and along Jermyns Lane to the current entrance of the arboretum.

450.3.2 The path will be positioned outside the new deer fence. There will be trees between the path and the road, and the surface will be gravel. There will be no lighting. The intention is to retain a rural feel, whilst increasing safety for pedestrians.

450.3.3 The Arboretum will begin consulting with the Ramblers Association and Open Spaces Society, and follow with the formal application. The process will take in the region of 18 months.

450.3.4 The project will be funded by s106 contributions from the Abbotswood development. The trigger for this is the construction of 600 dwellings. This is anticipated to happen in 18 months time.

450.4 The Parish Council supports the project because many pedestrians, including school children and sixth-form students, travel between Braishfield and Romsey, and have to walk along the road at the moment. As traffic increases, this journey is becoming more hazardous and unpleasant.

450.5 Jo Cole suggested that horse riders should be deterred from using the path, by design.

450.6 Connecting the proposed footpath along Braishfield Road with the existing one

entails a new section between the Dog & Crook and Crook Hill Farm. This will need to be provided by Hampshire County Council, and is beyond the scope of the Arboretum's project.

451. Recreation Ground

451.1 The latest inspection of the playground (dated 11/10/14) show no risks. We are advised that there were wet leaves on the safety surface at the time of the inspection.

451.2 There will be a joint Village Hall Committee / Parish Council working party to clean the parking area. This is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 10am.

451.3 The proposed location for the bike stands is west of the play area. Costs were discussed at the October meeting. Mike Edwards will order the stands.

451.4 Volunteers have stepped forward to refurbish the noticeboards (Recreation Ground entrance and on the corner of Common Hill Road.

452. War Memorial

452.1 Mike Edwards has noticed the surface of the War Memorial needs to be cleaned.

452.2 The Clerk will enquire how to arrange for Braishfield Road to be closed during the Remembrance Sunday service in 2015.

452.3 Blackwell and Moody repaired the War Memorial following the bus collision with a bollard. Their invoice is in the post. The Clerk will claim from the bus company.

453. Donations / Grants

453.1 The Horse-chestnut tree in the Church Rooms car-park was discussed. The Parish Council debated whether making a contribution towards felling the tree was allowable under s137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Clerk has sought advice from the auditor and HALC: both have advised that s137 allows for such a contribution, where the project is of benefit to inhabitants of the parish. It was agreed that the felling of the tree is of benefit to some residents of the village, as the tree has been deemed unsafe by experts; and it could endanger residents using the car-park. The Clerk advised that expenditure under s137 this financial year is within the allowed limit. The Parish Council agreed to contribute one-third of the cost, which is £280.

454. Reports of Parish Representatives

454.1 None

455. Borough Councillor's Report

455.1 The Local Plan inspector will visit the area this month. There have been some minor amendments and the live document is available on the website of TVBC.

455.2 The requirement is for a 5 year supply of land for housing and also for Gypsies and Travellers sites. There are current proposals for Gypsies and Travellers sites at Timsbury (Bunny Lane) and Wellow (2 sites).

456. Clerk's Report

456.1 Kate Orange has produced a Clerk's Report (End November 2014) and a copy is attached to these Minutes.

457. Financial Matters

457.1 Payments agreed by the Council were:

Photocopying notices for BVA new (re: street-naming)	15.07
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Southern Water: water supply to pond to 20 November 2014	5.54
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Kate Orange Clerk's Salary for November	166.73
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HMRC PAYE on Clerk's Salary	41.60
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Clerk's expenses (postage and printing)	6.29
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Speed data recorder rental	118.80
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457.2 The Clerk has applied for a refund of VAT dating back to the start of the financial year.

457.3 The Parish Council discussed the budget for the 2015 – 2016. It was agreed to set the Precept at £11,000. This is an increase of £500 from the current financial year,

and is to cover allowances for various items not included in the current year's budget, such as election costs, legal costs and training.

458. Any Other Business

458.1 Beverley Murtagh has prepared a tree on behalf of the Parish Council, for the Christmas Tree Festival (All Saints church 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> December).

458.2 The Parish Council briefly discussed General powers under the Localism Act. These can be exercised when the Parish Council meets certain criteria. These include having a qualified Clerk. The Clerk is to obtain an estimate of costs for becoming qualified.

459. Open Period

459.1 No matters arose.

460. Date of Next Meeting

460.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015.