

BRAISHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Braishfield
on Thursday 2nd January 2014

PRESENT:-

Mike Prince (Chairman)
Clive John
Dorothy Ross
Carole Renvoize
Beverley Murtagh
Peter White
Mike Edwards

19 parishioners

266. MINUTES

It was agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd December 2013 are signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

267. SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCH

A card from Richard Dorlay thanking the Council for its donation towards the senior citizens' lunch was noted..

268. MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL REQUEST

The Council decided against making a contribution towards the cost of musical instruments for Mountbatten School.

269. PLANNING

a) Applications pending or recent outcome

13/02286/TREES	Spring Cottage, Braishfield Road	tree work	nobj	permission
13/02261/TREES	Colsons Barn, Church Lane	tree work	nobj	permission
13/02283/FULLS	Meadow View, Newport Lane	front extension	nobj	permission

PC original response - Sup supported, Obj objected, Nobj no objection

b) New Planning Applications

The Council considered new planning applications as follows:

13/02646/FULLS	Village Hall, Braishfield Road	Extension	Support
13/02820/TREES	Cherry Hill,	Tree work	No objection

Braishfield Road

13/02866/LBWS	Hall Place, Eldon Lane	Amended renovation works	No objection
13/02778/FULLS	Land off Braishfield Road	Affordable Housing	Objection to the design

c) Braishfield Village Hall

It was agreed to support the application to extend the Village Hall. However, the Council has significant reservations about the lack of a fire exit route round the north side of the building owing to the proximity of the boundary at the north west corner.

The Council was disappointed that the Village Hall Management Committee did not discuss the application which affects Council land and said that it would be taking this matter up later. The proposal to construct steps up to the playground is unlikely to be approved as they are regarded as being unsafe.

d) Affordable Housing

There was an extended open period in which Mike Prince invited members of the public to state any new views on the application and any objections on planning grounds.

Many points were put forward, including objections to the site itself for Village Design Statement reasons. There was also discussion on the design using tall two storey houses with steep pitched roofs. Again, there is contrary to the Village Design Statement. It was believed that the height would allow for modification in future to extend the accommodation. Concern was expressed that the site could be expanded, though this is limited to the south by the presence of a gas main.

After ending the open period, the Council agreed to accept the principle of affordable housing but to object to the application on grounds of design, as the general character of the village is of lower housing with dormer windows. Although there was considerable objection to the site proposed, the Council believed this would be the case with any site, such as an extension to Hill View.

270. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETYa) Potholes

The Clerk was asked to report a pothole near to Red Cottage in Paynes Hay Road and to complain about the general state of the road from the northern end of Lower Street right up to The Manor.

b) Culverts

The Clerk was asked to report the blocked culvert under the Dummers Road/Common Hill Road junction and the inadequate culvert near to the Dog & Crook PH.

c) Fire Hydrants

The Clerk was asked to write to Southern Water concerning the signs for Fire Hydrants which have been moved recently.

271. POND

Nothing to report.

272. FOOTPATHS

The Clerk was asked to write to Hampshire County Council concerning the absence of Monarch's Way from its list of important paths and consequent omission from the maintenance schedule.

273. RECREATION GROUNDa) Playground

The Council expressed satisfaction with the new playground surface but it was asked again what guarantee applies.

There was no news on the grants being received, so no payment has yet been made for the surface.

b) Pavilion

The Football Club has erected a security fence at the rear of the pavilion to protect building materials and other equipment. Apart from this not being within the terms of the lease, there are insurance considerations. The Clerk was asked to write to the Football Club requesting that all equipment is removed.

c) Playing surface

With the recent very wet weather, it was asked if the Council should exercise its right to close the ground for sport. It was felt that the Club and the match referee would not wish to play football matches on an unsafe surface. The Council will monitor the situation.

d) Lime trees

The Clerk has accepted the quotation from Ian Knight for the lime trees making the point about protecting the snowdrops.

e) Bicycle rack

Mike Edwards said that he is still considering the provision of a cycle rack for the Recreation Ground area.

f) Car park

Mike Edwards agreed to examine the car park surface for any maintenance requirements. Use by Southern Water and pending Village Hall building works were mentioned during discussion.

274. FINANCIAL MATTERSa) AGREED that the following accounts are paid:

JBF Rhodes	Salary & expenses December	£144.68
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b) Bank accounts

After approval of the above invoices, there is £12693.98 uncommitted in the two bank accounts.

275. AOBa) Electricity supply

In view of the apparent unreliability of the electricity supply through the substation behind Newport Terrace, the Clerk was asked to write to SSE pointing out that the supply was installed at a time when there were far fewer houses in the village and that household usage has risen considerably since then.

b) Broadband

The omission of Braishfield from the superfast broadband plan was noted, even though the exchange has 'superfast' capability.

276. OPEN PERIOD

An objection was made to the suggestion of planting a replacement oak tree on the verge outside the School. This was on the grounds of obstructing site lines. It was suggested that it could go near the pond, or as a replacement for the ash by the newspaper box.

The Clerk was asked to write to Clancydocwra on behalf of the Parish Council and the villagers thanking them for the way in which their staff were very helpful during the water main replacement work.

277. DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 4th February 2014 at 7.00pm.