MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRAILES PARISH COUNCIL

MONDAY 31st MARCH IN THE VILLAGE HALL, BRAILES

Present: Cllr Saint

Cllr Seccombe

Cllr Drury (Chairman)

Cllr Righton

Cllr Bailey

Cllr Ashall

2 Members of the Public

Andrew Murphy from Stansgate Planning

Disclosure of Interest.

Members are asked to declare personal interests in any item on the Agenda. You are reminded that the Code of Conduct, which took effect from August 28th 2012, provides that if you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion you should withdraw from the room and not seek improperly to influence a decision in the matter.

Cllr Righton disclosed an interest when discussing the pavillion

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| Approve discuss and sign the Minutes of the February Meeting  The Minutes were amended and approved and signed. |  |
| Members of the Public - None |  |
| Atten’s Byre Planning Proposal  Cllr Drury jumped straight to this planning item as Andrew Murphy had come to update the Parish Council on the progress of the planning application at Atten’s Byre.  Andrew showed us the new plans which show a reduction in houses from 10 to 7. There are fewer houses on the street which will keep the street scene more as it is, and allow a view of Brailes Hill from the Village Hall. The Public Open Space may change to an ecological space as the desire is to keep the spaces as rural as possible. The pond will be maintained by the home owners, and a private company will be set up to manage the maintenance. The other 2 green spaces will be soft landscaped. This new plan will also maintain the separation between Upper and Lower Brailes. The drainage is still planned to connect to the main drain as it runs under the site. There is a flood risk assessment currently underway for surface water and it is the intention to use drainage cells to collect rain water, then flow to the pond and finally into the Henbrook behind the site. There is every hope that the drainage will be an increase on the green drainage, which is to say that the drainage will be an improvement on it as it is now as a green field.  Cllr Bailey raised the issues that Highways had fed back on, which what is happening to the current access which is opposite the Village hall turning. There is a 5 bar gate on the plans that would appear to have no use, so why is it there if there is no intention to use this as access? He also asked about the new plot 1 height. Andrew Murphy replied that it will be a 1.5 storey house with a double frontage to take advantage of the views.  Cllr Seccombe asked more about the water storage crates. Andrew Murphy answered that there was a space above plot 2 where they could be sited.  Cllr Seccombe also asked about the planning status, was it outline or detailed. It is outline planning at this stage and the proposal is to use materials in keeping with the ANOB status.  Cllr Ashall asked for a new 3D plan to be done to see the impact of the new rooflines, as he thinks that the height of plot 1 will still be a problem and obstructing views. Cllr Drury suggested that plot 1 become a bungalow.  Cllr Ashall also asked about pavements. Andrew Murphy said that the only pavement was from the access road to the pedestrian crossing a few yards to the west.  Cllr Righton asked about the use of recycling of grey water? At the moment there is no plan to use the grey water, but this can be looked at.  Cllr Seccombe asked about the adoption of the road? Andrew Murphy said the road is to be built to be of adoption able standard. Cllr Saint added that the road needs to be adopted of there needs to be an agreement between Highways and the home owners. The road could be possible added to the management company that is managing the pond.  Cllr Seccombe asked about the timing. Andrew Murphy said that he hoped to put in the plans later this week but it was dependent upon the flood assessment. |  |
| Matters Arising   * Oak Posts – We have had 2 quotes:   Simon Goodson quoted to put in 10 posts for £45 plus VAT  Ash Landscapes quoted to put in 8 posts and hang the chain for £80 plus VAT  As neither quote was a like for like basis it was agreed by all that we needed to ask them to re-quote.   * Large Signs at Village Hall – the Village Hall committee saw no need for these. Cllr Ashall said it would smarten up that area. * War Memorial – the clerk reported that she had spoken to David Allcock regarding maintenance of the War Memorial. His feedback was that there was nothing urgent that needed done. If we wanted to do some work it could wait until September which is the next date for applying for a grant for the work to be done and he has provided a quote of £1.075 plus Vat to do everything that could be done. It was agreed by all to leave it until later in the year. * De-fibrilators – Cllr Drury pointed out that all the maintenance of these s being done by Will Docherty but he never puts in an invoice therefore never gets remunerated. Cllr Drury proposed that he puts in an invoice for £100. Cllr Righton seconded. * Pavilion Committee – the Pavilion Committee are hosting a party for Penny Whitesmith to recognize her work as Youth Group leader for 20 years. The Parish Council had been asked to do something to recognise this ages ago, and this was then asked for in way of a donation to the party. It was suggested that a one off donation to the pavilion of £150 was made, all were in favor (cllr Righton abstained as he had declared an interest as he is on the pavilion committee) * Website – The clerk reported that Tony DeMaillet has had to step down from his role as website host and editor, effective immediately. The clerk has make enquiries as to whether the Village Website editors would be willing to take on the PC website again. Craig Wiggins reported via e-mail that despite past criticism, the team would be happy to host the PC web pages, but would not be willing to edit them. * Update on Parish Council vacancy – The clerk updated that the closing date for the parish vacancy applications was the 28th Feb and we would have to wait to see if enough people applied to hold an election for the vacancies or not. There have been enough people asking to be nominated to stand as councilors that an election date of the 10th May has been set and now we are waiting for nominations to put themselves forward. The notice has gone up and the deadline of the 2nd April is set. Only after that will we find out if the election is to go ahead. * White Gates - Cllr Bailey has seen the white gates at the entrance to the village at Swalcliffe. He made enquiries as to the cost of these with the Swalcliffe Parish Clerk. Theirs cost £1729.00 Inc Vat and they ordered from OCC. Cllr Bailey wanted to know if the other councilors saw a need to have the same here and what they could have Cllr Saint said that there needed a road safety audit to be done, Jo Edwards at WCC deals with the process. Cllr Drury suggested that there was someone in Weston Sub-Edge that can provide hunting gates, which are the ones used. It was agreed that 4 sets would be needed. All were in favor. * Pre-School – the clerk has been perusing enquiries into pre-school childcare in the village. There is a person she has had contact with who would be willing to be a nursery/pre-school manager, but there needs to be a company in charge. The current ideas are that this could be a community based venture run on a non-profit basis. The next step is now needed, namely money – it is going to take £5,000 per month to run, and there needs to be a period of time that it will prob run at a loss therefore at least £20,000 needs to be found as a starting pot. Many Latham from WCC education dept has been very helpful in this process so far. She has suggested that there needs to be a whole of village survey in order to establish the need for childcare. The Parish Council wanted to know what the school’s ideas are and to what extent they are prepared to be involved. Cllr Saint suggested that there may be seed money available. | Cllr Drury and Bailey were going to put together a plan of what was needed  Cllr Righton said he’d ask the opinion of some people and report back at the next meeting.  Cllr Bailey volunteered to speak to Andy Whitesmith to ascertain what was involved in editing the pages and report back.  Cllr Bailey to follow up  Clerk to write to School Governors to ascertain the school’s views |
| Floodwatch Report  Ken Taylor reported that Cllr Drury still has to fix the wall by the little grip by the Coach House.  Holloway Hill has problems. The day after the last meeting Jeff Morris and his team did come and jet up Holloway Hill by the Traitors Ford turning. There is a spring gurgling so there is water between the 2 road surfaces which needs dug up and started again.  Rectory Lane, opposite 1649 there was a question over the maintenance of the gully but due to the water flowing from Holloway Hill now, highways have taken control here as well, which is good news. | Cllr Drury to fix |
| County and District Reports  Cllr Saint – Is having problems resolving the street light in Miller’s Way. He is chasing it via SDC; the response from who deals with adoptions is being very slow.  Budget and Fire Service, after Cllr Righton raised concerns about cutbacks in the Banbury Service, and the impact for us, given they are a backup service for us, Cllr Saint reported that he can be re-assured that a decrease in budget will not lead to an increase in vulnerability. This is due to more cost effective procedures being put in place so despite cut backs; no loss of service will be seen.  Superfast Broadband. Cllr Saint explained that there were going to be CSW broadband boxes being unveiled in Snitterfield, and whilst this is not going to affect us, this is a start for the area.  Cllr Seccombe had nothing to report |  |
| Maintenance   * The day after the last meeting, Cllr Drury spend some time showing Jeff Morris from Highways round all the ongoing maintenance problems in our parish. Jeff Morris said that he would e-mail me with a plan and updates. As yet the Clerk has heard nothing. Cllr Saint suggested that all points to be directed to Jeff Morris be e-mailed to him to chase up. | Clerk to e-mail Cllr Saint |
| Reports of other meetings/committees – NONE |  |
| Correspondence   * The Clerk had received an e-mail from Gary Bosnor complaining about the cutting down of 3 apple trees in Betty’s Field. She replied to Mr. Bosnor that the matter would be investigated and contacted the field owner, Mr. Howard Taylor. Mr. Taylor responded that the trees location were, as far as he was aware, outside the conservation area, and therefore not requiring planning permission. The clerk has looked at the location supplied by Mr. Taylor via Google Earth, and it does appear that the trees are outside the conservation area but she will check With Stratford District Council Planning. * Caroline Warren responded to the clerk after her letter to say that the concerns the PC has are shared by her, and she has had discussions in the past with Highways about keeping the gullies clear. | Clerk to check location with SDC as to whether the cutting down of the trees was permissible.  Clerk to respond to Caroline Warren |
| Planning   * 14/00184 – Shires Edge Extension – Approved * 14/00217/FUL – Land Off Castle Hill Lane – Refused, Cllr Seccombe added that the enforcement action to ensure the land is returned to its former level will now continue. * 14/00752/FUL - Fieldstone House – Supported * 14/00749/FUL – Hinefield House – Supported * 14/00679/LDE – 7 Winderton – the PC was asked to comment only if they could prove that the holiday cottages had been used since 2004 for any other purpose – i.e. long term lets – the PC could not, therefore would not comment * 14/00257/FUL – Attens Byre –   The proposal was for the erection of stables that would at first be used to house sheep, and may in the future be used for horses. Cllr Seccombe stated that this was not the erection of stables but a farm building. All councilors objected to the proposal of the erection of stables, but none had an objection to the chimney being proposed.   * Margaret Pogmore had contacted Cllr Bailey with concerns that the house being built next to Myrtle Cottage was not being built according to the plans, which she thought showed a curved drive so cars did not have to reverse out onto the road. The wall being installed did not allow for this. | Cllr Righton to check  Clerk to check plans |
| Finance   * Receipts – Headstone for Geoffrey Clifton - £100   BT - £18.37   * Payments   Cheque No 101171 – WCC – Street Light Maintenance - £375.98  101172 - Clerk’s salary £358.38  101173 – WCC Street Light Hanging – Sept ’13 - £186.77 |  |
| Date of next meeting  **April 28th in the Village Hall** | Items for next meeting:  Community flood resilience workshop  School Governors  Trees on Playing Fields – Ivy  Finance report |