MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRAILES PARISH COUNCIL

MONDAY 28th JULY IN THE VILLAGE HALL, BRAILES

Present: Cllr Drury (Chairman)

Cllr Bailey

Cllr Lloyd

Cllr Bennett

9 Members of the Public

Apologies – Cllrs Ashall, Righton, Seccombe, – These were accepted

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.

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| 1. Approve discuss and sign the Minutes of the June Meeting   The Minutes were approved and signed. |  |
| 1. Members of the Public   Tony de Maillet spoke as Chairman of the Neighborhood Plan. He wished to draw the Parish Council’s attention to an incident that happened recently. On the 2nd July there was an East Area Planning Committee Meeting. At this meeting the planning application for Land Off Sutton Lane and Land adjacent to Atten’s Byre was up for discussion. 2 members of the Neighborhood Plan were there and one spoke against the plans. He introduced himself as ‘Acting Chairman’ of a subcommittee of the Neighborhood Plan. This action directly contradicted the Parish Council who was supporting the application. Mr. de Maillet apologized on behalf of the Neighborhood Plan Committee as the individuals acted without any authority and should not have contradicted the Parish Council nor spoken against planning applications whilst claiming to represent the Neighborhood Plan. This action throws the whole Neighborhood Plan into question as it is supposed to fit in with the core strategy as where development can take place not where it can’t. The 2 people have apologized. Cllr Drury asked if they would be resigning and he answered that they have been asked to and they will get back to the NP next week.  The Neighborhood Plan has been approved on its area. £6,783 has been applied for for printing, banners, distribution etc. If they don’t get all the money applied for through the grants, they will be asking the Parish Council for the shortfall to be included in the next precept. |  |
| 1. Matters Arising from the last meeting  * Mick Edmonds from the Pavilion Committee spoke about plans that they have to extend the storage shed in order to accommodate items like the costumes from the drama group and brownies storage. Plans have been done which he talked us through, and initial estimates of cost are £6,300. If the plans were submitted by the Parish Council, of which the Pavilion Committee is a subsidiary, then the Parish Council can reclaim back the VAT. There have been pledges of funding to £3,000, of which £1,000 has been donated already. He was asking the Parish Council to make up the £3,300 shortfall. Cllr Drury said that he proposed that the plans be accepted in principle, all agreed. Cllr Bailey asked that more detail be given regarding funding, and Cllr Drury added that all councilors should be present to vote further. It was agreed that more financial detail be provided by next month’s meeting in order for all councilors to consider. * Ian Lane asked to speak to the Parish Council regarding a new house that he intends to submit plans for. He wanted to approach the PC and neighbors before they were formally submitted to hear their feedback. He intends it for his son and is a 1.5 storey eco-friendly house. It will have no oil and rely on other forms of heating like ground source/air source heat pumps, high insulation levels etc. It is well screened on all sides and has its own existing access and has a public footpath on the right hand side. Cllr Drury asked what feedback he had received already. Mr. Lane replied that it was a process he had started but not finished and he had 2 more weeks before submitting the plans to SDC formally. He welcomed any Parish Councilor to come and look at the site and ask any more questions. Cllr Bennett asked if the plans included heat recovery, Mr. Lane answered that it was too early at this stage for the specifics internally. Cllrs Lloyd recommended speaking to the planning department at Stratford District Council. Cllr Bailey asked if it was an existing plot, it was not. * Howard Taylor – Cllr Drury updated the Parish Council the he spoke to Mr. Taylor who has commissioned a land survey to ascertain the exact height of the land and how much the ditch will need digging. Until the results of this survey are concluded he can’t start the work. * Mr. Horner – Had replied to the letter sent thanking him for cutting the trees overhanging the footpath and would he look at cutting back the trees higher up. His reply was that he had done all the tree work he intended to do for the time being. Cllr Drury asked him to look again at the trees, in particular the first branch as you come from the bridge up to Brailes House. He replied that he would look at doing the work needed to that tree. * Margaret Pogmore has written to the clerk asking for a copy of the budget for this year. The clerk replied that one was never done as she was never shown how or what was needed and has no old paperwork. After seeking the advice of WALC it was decided that one done from this point on would suffice so the clerk presented the Parish Council with a budget to date. There were several glaring holes, such as no allocation for the Neighborhood Plan that the Council all agreed on which were as follows: NP - £2,000; website – nil (Tony de Maillet donated £7.50 for renewing the domain name). Cllr Bailey proposed, Cllr Lloyd 2nd the budget. A copy is attached to these minutes * Mowing – The clerk has spoken to Matt Austin about the poor standard of mowing. Mr. Austin replied that the fault was not with the contractors, but with the level of work they were being paid to do and the only thing to do was to complain to his boss and to pay for additional cuts ourselves. Cllr Saint was angered by these comments as it is clear that the contractors are not doing what they are supposed to be doing. He found and read out the website of the contractors detailing the standard they are employed to carry out and it is not being done. The landscape website states that there are 2 levels of service. 1) 6 cuts per annum; 2) a cut every time the grass is 6 in tall. These are called performance cuts and should have cuts every 2-4 weeks. The grass was cut at the end of June in Brailes and again last week, so it is within the 4 weeks stated. He is planning to take this further up on our behalf. * Cllr Bennett updated the Parish Council on the Parish, Town and County Liaison meeting that she attended at the end of June. The main point was that there was upcoming training for councilors aimed at planning. The relevant one for Brailes was in Shipston on the 2nd November in Shipston. Cllr Bailey suggested that these get very full and should be booked as soon as possible. She also heard about mowing – there are to be cutbacks over the next 4 years. Mowing and potholes may become the individual parish’s responsibility. David Close from Wellesbourne took the meeting. | Mick to provide more detail. He was going to e-mail the clerk the drawings and architects details  Cllr Saint to follow up with Ollie Scholefield  Any interested councilors to contact the clerk to book in asap. |
| 1. Floodwatch Report   Mr. Ken Taylor gave his report which is attached to these minutes. He also wanted to know how to instigate a water flow survey? Was it only large developments if so do our 18+4+5 houses not count? Warwickshire are putting in a scheme to match SDC funding which is to be drip fed over the years for flooding relief! Cllr Drury thanked Mr. Taylor very much for all his hard work. | . |
| 1. County and District Reports   Cllr Saint reported that the broken cover at the entrance to Orchard Close had been fixed (although Ken Taylor remarked that in the process of fixing the cover the contractors managed to fill the drain with new cement that has blocked the drain!). He thought that the light in Miller’s Way was fixed (it has since come to light that this has not been fixed).  As of the 18th July the annual Councillors grant fund was launched. This is a fund of up to 5k and the closing date in the 10th Oct.  On the 16th Sept there is a funding workshop.  At a district level there is an ongoing battle with grass. The consultation of the local Plan closed on the 17th July. Dave Nash is in charge. There will a special meeting on the 15th Sept to discuss the next phase to get it to carry more weight in determination of planning applications; therefore the Neighborhood Plan if it fits with the Core Strategy will have more weight too. |  |
| 1. Maintenance   The kerb outside Frank Barwick’s needs maintenance.  The repair of the man hole cover by the entrance to Orchard Close as mentioned before caused a back up of sewerage due to being filled with cement! | Clerk to speak to Mr. Jeff Morris |
| 1. Reports of other meetings/committees – None |  |
| 1. Correspondence  * The clerk has been asked by Cllr Bailey to order the bench for the bus stop opposite Jeff’s Close, and write to 3 households concerned to let them know. * John Pearce at no 1 Orchard Close has asked if a tree could replace the willow tree removed from the land on the corner as you go up Orchard Close. The land is privately owned so the Parish Council may be limited as to what it can do. However Ken Taylor offered to liaise with Gary Bonsor to look into the matter. * Maggie Goren has been in touch regarding the Neighborhood Plan to inform the clerk that she is planning to apply to Stratford District Council for funding. * The clerk has received correspondence from Margaret Pogmore as discussed earlier in the meeting. * Mr. Lane also was discussed earlier in the meeting. | Clerk to carry out  Ken Taylor to liaise |
| 1. Planning   Planning Appeal Ref 13/00584/DEM – Brailes House Appeal comments had to be submitted by the 17th July. The Parish Council submitted comments to oppose the application for the same reasons as previously mentioned in earlier applications |  |
| 1. Finance   Receipts – none  Payments - Cheque No  101186 – Simon Goodson £85.00  101187 – Clerk’s Salary £489.67  101185 – WALC – Chairmanship Training £30.00 |  |
| Date of next meeting – Tues 26th Aug at 7.30 pm |  |
| Items for next meeting – Apologies – Cllr Saint and Cllr Bailey  Pre-School update |  |