MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRAILES PARISH COUNCIL

MONDAY 30th MARCH IN THE VILLAGE HALL, BRAILES

Present: Cllr Drury (Chairman) Cllr Ashall

Cllr Righton Cllr Lloyd

Cllr Bennett Cllr Greaves

Apologies –

Around 6 Members of the Public

Before the meeting opened the chairman announced that the meeting would be recorded.

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| 1. 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 declared an interest when discussing mowing of the burial ground as he has been asked to provide a quote |  |
| 1. Approve discuss and sign the Minutes of the Feb 23rd Meeting   There were a couple of amendments – Cllr Lloyd pointed out that in reference to Cllr Greaves asking that all press statements get approval from the Parish Council prior to publication that she did indeed have approval and that she had in writing the confirmation from Polkadots of their commitment to the pre-school project, they retracted this at a later date, so she acted in good faith.  Cllr Bennett corrected the paragraph regarding the Action plan to read Parish Action plan and the date was 2012 not 2011. Betty’s Field and Miller’s Way share the same planning consultants, not the same developers.  The minutes were then approved by all and signed |  |
| 1. Members of the public –   Ken Taylor asked Seven Trent what is happening at Cherrington given there appears to be an upgrading of water purity rather than capacity, so any development like Betty’s Field would have a large impact. He received a letter in return from Severn Trent to state that the capacity take an increase of 50 properties without problems, and like all the utilities has a duty to supply homes with water.  Cllr Saint gave an update on the Core Strategy. There was an interim report in March and stated that part of the Core Strategy was sound, but part needed more work. The Local Service Village policy is largely unchanged with the 50-75 house allocation to a category 2 village like Brailes remaining and possibly being pushed to the upper limit. Severn Trent, like all the service has a duty to supply dwellings with utilities. If the works at Cherrington aren’t up to that the houses won’t be allowed to be built.  Cllr Righton added that if storm water was caught by households it would greatly improve the situation.  Martin Cole asked if the Parish Council could justify the amount of money spent on the new notice board? The chairman replied that given the complaints and importance of the notice board they felt it was justified.  Paul Clark asked that agendas and minutes be put on the website. The clerk responded that the agendas for planning meetings went on the website in the planning section and the minutes, once approved went on the website too. He asked why the draft minutes could not go up.  After a discussion of the councilors they all agreed that a draft copy of the minutes could go on the notice board, Cllr Lloyd however was in favour of the councilors being sent the minutes for comments first. A draft copy of the minutes will get published once the councilors have a chance to check for spelling mistakes/errors.  Paul Clark also asked Cllr Seccombe if he had seen that Local Service villages were to take 84 houses rather than the 51-75 of before. Cllr Seccombe hadn’t seen this. |  |
| 1. Reports from other Committees/Sub Committees  * Neighbourhood Plan – The Core Strategy plans would have no impact on the NP. * The survey is due to come out soon and will need Parish Council approval. Tony asked if a meeting could be scheduled mid month if needed to do this – the clerk suggested that when a date was known for the survey to be finished that decision could be made. * The Chairman asked Tony de Maillet if he was standing as a councilor and what would happen to his chairmanship of the NP if he was elected as a councilor? Tony de Maillet replied that he was planning to do both jobs. |  |
| 1. Floodwatch Report  * Given there has been very little rain, there wasn’t much to report. The sewage leak from the back of the George had been fixed. The water on the road near the Gate had also been fixed. |  |
| 1. Matters Arising since the last meeting  * The clerk asked that she change the recognized phone number to her own mobile as the Parish Council provided one doesn’t last very long in battery and therefore lives on charge by her computer which has poor reception and is not very portable. All agreed by a show of hands. * Burial Ground – all agreed to Cllr Righton’s quote regarding the mowing but agreed to keep an eye on the mounting costs to prevent them from getting too large. * The clerk asked for a review of the pricing structure of burials. All agreed to keep the structure as is with the already agreed increases as of the 1st April. These would go on the website. * All agreed to ask Cllr Greaves to join Cllr Bennett to chair the planning committee. He agreed to this. * The chairman asked that Cllr Lloyd be asked to join the board of governors at the primary school. Cllr Seccombe did not think that this was a right of the Parish Council. * A volunteer for the Feldon News Committee is needed. It was suggested that this be pushed back to after the election. * Parking of the vehicles of the butchers at the Village Hall for safety reasons. Cllr Righton said that this was all sorted by the Village Hall Management Committee. * Email system. The clerk is to look into Google groups more and speak to Tony de Maillet regarding the @bpc email. * Recording device – the chairman suggested the Tony de Maillet liaise with Lisa Bryan, the Village Hall Caretaker, along with Tony de Maillet and Cllr Drury to try to sort the recording device. * Signs – The chairman reported that the condition of the road signs was dangerous. Cllr Saint is pursuing the matter * Nursery update. Cllr Lloyd updated that she had had very good meetings with Sarah Plaskitt and Christian Hilton at Shipston and Acorns primary, who has pledged that he would use a facility at Brailes for wrap around care in Long Compton, the children could be transported by minibus at their expense to and from Brailes. Shipston Primary in currently oversubscribed so an overspill could be sent to Brailes, and while Sarah Plaskitt has announced that she is leaving Brailes she has promised to do all that she can to support Cllr Lloyd. Both Winchcombe Farm and Greenfields have expressed an interest in becoming a nursery provider, but with new premises, not the existing one. Cllr Righton asked where the rest of the money was coming from. Cllr Lloyd replied that it would be self funding and come from private investment. Cllr Greaves wanted clarification that the Parish Council wasn’t responsible in any way financially for the project? The Chairman, clerk and Cllr Lloyd all agreed and assured Cllr Greaves that while the Parish Council has no financial responsibility and has no recourse should monies be committed and then not forthcoming, but the Parish Council is wholly supportive in all other aspects of the work that Cllr Lloyd was originally asked to take on. Securing the childcare needs of the village will help ALL of the village as it ensures the village thrives. There is only so long that the primary school can run with small classes and no real alternative childcare and no wraparound, so her work is benefitting everyone, not just those to whom this is relevant. Cllrs Righton worried about costs for lower paid parents and Cllr Lloyd said that she hoped that assisted places might be a feature in the future. Cllr Lloyd added that the Women's Institute, the Mother & Toddler Group and Friends of Brailes village represented by Alison Willatts, Rachel Locke and Katie Haycock were assisting with staff recruitment * Parish Plan. Cllr Greaves asked Cllr Seccombe to look into this – he wrote a letter to Cllr Seccombe who forwarded it to Stratford District Council. He received a response that suggested that if the Parish Council wasn’t happy with the report then they needed to decide what to do about it. There seems to be some confusion regarding who commissioned the 2013 report and Cllr Seccombe stated that the Parish Council needs to decide which report it wishes to adopt. As there has been some doubt as to the accuracy of the 2013 report SDC has taken it from their website. Cllr Ashall put forward that Cllr Greaves and himself look at the raw data for themselves and determine which report is accurate. Paul Clark added that it would be beneficial to have Peter Jordan’s input. Cllr Drury proposed this, Cllr Lloyd seconded, all agreed. * Cllr Bennett talked about a seminar she attended about preserving the ANOB and promoting wildlife and habitats by not mowing verges. The environmental benefits are to plants, small mammals and birds. Cllr Seccombe observed that most people want to see neatly mown verges vs. conservationists who want to see not mown verges. Cllr Saint will pass the information on to both the District Council and County Council and will send documents to the contractors. | Cllr Greaves to follow up, Cllr Bennett to change the planning application comments.  Clerk to investigate  Clerk to report to Rev Morgan  Clerk to liaise  Cllr Saint to report  Cllr Greaves and Cllr Ashall to look at raw data supplied by clerk |
| 1. County and District Reports   Cllr Seccombe has done a survey asking what the villagers’ main concerns were. They were  Speeding  Planning  Litter  Recycling  Cllr Saint – would still be here after the election as County councilors weren’t up for re-election this time. There was a slight increase in the council tax due to a 1.0% increase from the county council and a 25 rise from the police.  Several wards are changing in that the boundaries are changing, but ours uniquely is not, it remains unchanged. Several county councils are combining authorities. There is a chance that Warwickshire could get combined with Greater Birmingham and the Black Country. The debate is ongoing but stalling. |  |
| 1. Maintenance.  * Pot Hole 200m down Holloway Lane from Sutton Turn |  |
| 1. Correspondence   Phil Walker has written regarding the parking on School Lane. Unfortunately this is not something the Parish Council has any power over.  The Clerk has been in contact with David Birch from Shipston Town Brass Band and has handed the brass instruments over to him. He will confirm the date of the concert once he has liaised with Maggie Goren. |  |
| 1. Planning   14/03588/FUL – Rear of Old Bakery – The planning committee met and voted to oppose this application on planning grounds  15/00442/FUL – Attens Byre – The planning committee met and voted to support this application  15/00393/FUL Gable End, Upper Brailes – Planning Committee met and support this application  15/00317/FUL Old Farmhouse – Permission has been granted  15/00245/FUL Chendawan – Permission has been granted |  |
| 1. Finance   Receipts –  Payments –  Cheque no 101221 – A Wasdell – Clerks salary £587.60  101222 – SDC – Election £1390.56  101223 – RBS – Financial package, software and support £814.20  101224 – N. Drury- Chairman’s expenses £200  101225 – WALC – Latest Publications £56.25  101226 – A Wasdell – Office Expenses £291.55 |  |
| Date of next meeting – Monday 27th April 7.30pm in the Village Hall |  |
| Items for next meeting - |  |
| The Chairman announced that this meeting would be the last for Cllr Righton who has been a councilor for nearly 30 years. The councilors sang a rendition of For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow and Cllr Righton was thanked for his service to the Village, commitment and hard work over the years. |  |