MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRAILES PARISH COUNCIL

TUESDAY 26th MAY IN THE VILLAGE HALL, BRAILES

Present: Cllr Saint

Cllr Seccombe

Cllr Drury (Chairman)

Cllr Righton

Cllr Bailey

Cllr Jervis

Cllr Bennett

Cllr Ashall

3 Members of the Public

Apologies – Cllr Lloyd – These were accepted

1. Elect a Chair person and Vice Chair

Cllr Righton proposed that Cllr Drury remain as Chair and Cllr Bailey remain as Vice Chair

Cllr Ashall seconded.

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 an item on Matters Arising and also correspondence.

1. Approve and sign the Minutes of the April Meeting
2. Reports from other committees/groups/clubs in and around the village

Cllr Righton reported on behalf of the VILLAGE HALL

Activities – Caravans are doing well and provide a good source of income.

The Skate Ramp that was vandalized last year has been fixed by Jeremy Bennett as the company that provided the sheets had gone out of business.

There has been an increase in the electrical provision for the caravaners by temporary junction boxes and cables. There is also a 63A cable that can go out, which would also boost the electricity to the Flower Show.

The overhead lights have been changed in the Village Hall as the backs started to fall out onto the floor. The cost of this has been bourne ½ by the company that provided them, ½ by the VH Committee

The Drama Group is so successful that they are requiring large amounts of storage. It would be a wish of the VHC to increase the storage in the future.

It would also be nice in the future to provide floodlight to the car park and to tarmac the car park.

There has been an improved water supply.

Cllr Righton thanked the Parish Council for their continued support.

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| 1. Members of the Public   A member of the public brought up the fact that there had been a Water Study commissioned by Stratford District Council in 2012. The results of this highlighted that Cherrington was at its consent limit. Why then are extra houses being allowed to be built?  Cllr Drury mentioned that Cherrington needs to look at their water works and there had already been attempts made to improve the situation there but the work is reputed to have been unsuccessful.  Cllr Righton added that there have been several recent camera studies done on the pipe work.  Cllr Seccombe added that this was a good point to raise and that Severn Trent has a statutory obligation to supply houses with water and drain water from them, no matter what the state of the system  Another member of the public mentioned that there was an area of identifiable Japanese Knotweed. This plant is on the list to be reported and although it is in Tysoe parish, soon if it spreads, will be in Brailes | Clerk to report |
| 1. Matters Arising  * Oak Posts   The clerk contacted both parties that quoted to put in the oak posts in to mark the garden of remembrance. Simon Goodson has quoted at £65.00, Ash Landscapes at £80. Cllr Ashall proposed that the Parish Council accept Simon Goodson’s quote for £65.00. All Cllr’s were in agreement. Cllr Righton abstained.   * Review of the Parish Plan.   Cllr Bailey explained that part of the Parish Plan’s Action plan was to review it annually. This didn’t happen last year. The following is an update rather than an action plan as the Neighborhood Plan will pick up the actions.   * + 1. Encourage New Ventures – Parish Council to be involved     2. Strengthen links with the school. The school used to come to report at meetings, there is work ongoing regarding the pre-school.     3. Parish Housing – More affordable housing for youngsters as well as suitable housing for the elderly – there are 2 new housing developments going through the planning process currently.     4. Engage constructively with the NP     5. Businesses welcomed into the community – no evidence     6. Business Networking – the Parish Plan committee had 2 meetings to encourage local businesses to meet and network. The businesses themselves didn’t want to take this any further.     7. To review existing facilities for youngsters and to engage in sports, especially holiday activities – there has been nothing done to support this.     8. Transport – investigate traffic calming possibilities – Cllr Bailey has looked at white gates at the village entrance but at the moment this looks to be cost prohibitive.     9. Bus Shelters – No further forward     10. Going for greener issues – encourage a greener parish – NP investigating issues e.g. superfast broadband     11. Information – the Parish Council website has been re-organised and re-located to the community website.   The NP will pick up more of these things   * Review of Procedures/Standing Orders the clerk has reviewed the Procedures and Standing Orders. The report is attached to the minutes. As a result Parish Council agreed to form an employment committee of the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Cllr Righton proposed, Cllr Ashall seconded. Cllr Righton proposed that the whole Parish Council be part of the planning committee and the clerk attend meetings that are needed as and when decisions need made outside of Parish Council Meetings. All Agreed. Internal audit – Cllr Seccombe made the point that this is more relevant to larger councils and cost has a bearing. Cllr Drury proposed that Cllr Ashall do an internal audit 2x annually. Cllr Bailey seconded. Budgets have been done; the clerk hasn’t seen or received them. * Rectory Lane Culvert – The clerk has asked for the deeds to the culvert opposite 1649 cottage on Rectory Lane, and is waiting for them to be raised | The Neighborhood Plan will action many of the points brought up in the PARISH Plan so there is no need for the Parish Council to action them as well |
| 1. Floodwatch Report   Ken Taylor has done a floodwatch report that is attached to the minutes.  Ken, Cllr Ashall and Cllr Righton intend to attend a floodwatch resilience workshop.  Howard Taylor hasn’t done the maintenance required as per his riparian rights and therefore the clerk has been asked to write a letter to him to remind him of this responsibility otherwise the matter will be passed to the County Council for enforcement.  The owner of number 34 Jeff’s close also needs to do maintenance. Gary Bonsor has offered to do this but is wary of being left with the task permanently. | Clerk to register attendees  Clerk to write to Mr. Taylor  Chairman to speak to owner in person as first action |
| 1. County and District Reports   Cllr Saint – post elections his roles remain the same.  Maintenance – the list that Jeff Morris had has been lost so a new list needs to be done. The pot holes have been filled, Holloway Hill is still a problem and Cllr Righton reported that water is flowing down the road as it is raining now.  The broken cover in the entrance to Jeff’s Close, Cllr Saint has taken a photo and passed it to Paul Cowley, who claimed that the land does not belong to highways therefore it is not their responsibility.  Cllr Drury said that this is irrelevant as the cover was broken by the contractor who was re-surfacing Sutton Lane at the time. Cllr Drury witnessed it being broken; therefore the repair bill lies with them.  The flood signs that Cllr Drury requested - Cllr Saint spoke with Michael Green who is also responsible for the work round the Coach House and the temporary signs there. Cllr Drury explained that he had been requesting permanent signs; Cllr Saint said he’d look into it again.  Cllr Saint brought up that Jeff Morris’s performance needs to be addressed as he is becoming as frustrated as we are about the lack of action regarding maintenance.  Cllr Drury asked that a word regarding mowing needs to be had. The grass cutting done last week was poor in quality as the grass had been left too long before it was cut and therefore could not be cut well in one cut. Cllr Saint replied that the contractors are also liable for the CC mowing and that Matt Austin is in charge of mowing and his boss Oliver Scholefield at the District Council should be proficient in all matters mowing as that is all they do!  Cllr Seccombe – wanted to clarify the planning process by the District Council. If the Parish Council disagrees the planning application automatically goes to the planning committee, although the vast majority of applications are dealt with at DC level. A lack of drainage/sewerage/flooding can be a good reason for objecting to applications. The onus is on the developer to prove this is not a problem and to provide a solution. The report that Mrs. Montgomery was talking about is a good reason for objection should one be sought.  Cllr Drury added that in Brailes a lot of time and money has been spent on flooding issues which has been proved to be working and has vastly improved the flow of water to reduce flooding so this is working well now.  Cllr Seccombe added that the planners take a view of the whole area and not necessarily individual villages flooding issues should the Parish Council want to object.  Cllr Seccombe went on to say that with the recent elections he did a lot of canvassing and knocked on a lot of doors. The public were interested in speeding in the village and also were keen that the village school flourishes.  Cllr Ashall added congratulations to Cllr Seccombe for being re-elected to his position for another term, Cllr Drury seconded this. | Clerk to send list of maintenance to Cllr Saint and Jeff Morris again! |
| 1. Maintenance  * The potholes on the high street have been temporarily filled. * Cllr Righton reported that down traitors Ford Lane, beyond the Sutton turn the side of the road has gone, he was asked to do the ditch on the other side of the road before the road works were carried out, which he has done, but the road works have not been carried out. * Cllr Ashall asked if the maintenance had been carried out in Winderton, Cllr Jervis confirmed that this had been done. | Clerk to report |
| 1. Correspondence  * The clerk has been contacted by Pennyann Scholes on behalf of the Girl Guides to ask if they could take over some of the flower tubs in order to carry out the Guides commitment to the community. Cllr Ashall asked how long this was for. Cllr Ashall then proposed that this be accepted, Cllr Righton seconded. * The clerk then read out a letter from Mrs. V Righton to the Chairman and the clerk. There had been allegations made by Mr. Beamish that Cllr Righton has acted in an improper manner and has not declared an interest in the recent planning application at Hinefield House. Mrs. Righton was keen to point out that these allegations were false. | Clerk to respond to Pennyann |
| 1. Planning    * + Planning Application Consultation 14/01215/FUL Hill HOUSE – Cllr Bailey explained that this was a 2 story side extension that was only slightly larger than the existing lean to. There was a possibility that the 2nd story could be overlooking the barns next door. He thought that the parish council should support not losing the trees that provide a visual screen. He noted that the next door neighbor hasn’t objected.      + Planning Application Consultation 14/00984/LBC Glen Cottage – The Councillors have met and response was submitted supporting this application as long as Listed Building Regs are adhered to.      + Planning Application Consultation 13/03160/OUT Land Adjacent to Attens Byre – The councilors have met and a response was submitted in overall support of this application with conditions.      + Planning Application Consultation 14/00679/LDE 7 Winderton. This is a Certificate of Lawful Existing Use or Development   Planning Application Consultation 14/00257/FUL Attens Byre. The application has been withdrawn, and a new application to put in a chimney only has been put in for. The Parish Council would have no objections to this. | Cllr Bailey to submit the comments |
| Finance   * Receipts – Burial £200 * Payments –   Cheque no 101176 – Clerk’s salary £489.67  101177 – Will Docherty - Defibrillators £95.46  101178 – Amanda Wasdell – Childcare £65.00  101179 – D W Clark – VH Field drainage £720.00  101180 – Angela Bradberry – expenses £84.00  101181 – WALC Subs (not chq 101176) £356.00    The clerk has prepared the annual accounts to be sent off for external audit with Grant Thornton. She took the Councillors through the annual spend and income to the satisfaction of the entire Councillors. |  |
| Date of next meeting – Mon 30th June | Items for next meeting:  Burial plots |