

BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 21st January 2020

PRESENT

Ian Jeffery (Chairman), Sheila Still (Treasurer), Julie Kemp (Distribution), Michael Stubbs (Planning), Wendy Dolby-Stevens (BVN Editor), Margaret O’Keeffe (Committee), Carolyn Ward (Committee), Lucas Marshall, Angela Bevan, Chris Balchin (CB), Lorna Dolby-Stevens, Lynda Holyoake, Geoff Holyoake, Colin Holyoake (CH), Eilidh Holyoake, Tim Howkins (TH), Carole Renvoize (CR), David Robinson and Mike Prince(MP).

APOLOGIES

Jill Briggs(Secretary), Kevin Freemantle (Committee), Jane Bennett, Graham Bennett, Meryl Balchin, Betty Horton, Mike Horton, Steve Renvoize, Viv Robinson, Hazel Prince

CHAIRMAN’S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

He then introduced the Committee members as follows:

- Ian Jeffery –Chairman of the committee.
- Sheila Still – Treasurer and longest serving member! Looks after the finances and makes sure we don’t spend too much.
- Wendy Dolby Stevens – BVA News Editor – makes sure the BVN includes all your wonderful stories and photos.
- Julie Kemp - BVA News Distributor – Julie and her team of volunteers make sure we all receive every issue of the BVN.
- Michael Stubbs - Planning/Network – Looks after the Network emails, notifies us of planning issues and organises the NYD walk.
- Carolyn Ward – WebEditor. Is currently going through the process of getting to grips with the website to ensure everyone is kept up to speed with events, etc.
- Margaret O’Keeffe – Committee member. One of our noses to the ground and very important helpers at our events.
- I’d also like to mention Lucas Marshall – whilst not being on the committee as such, has helped at many events and, hopefully, will continue to do so.

The missing members are

- Jill Briggs – Secretary and looks after the Village Diary.
- Kevin Freemantle – Committee member. Again, keeps us informed of things going on and is an important link to the school and the younger villagers!

Ian expressed his thanks you to the whole team. Without them, we wouldn’t be able to put on the events that we do. People often say how lucky we are that so much seems to go on where we live.

Ian echoed that and said it’s a great area and we’re very fortunate to have such an awesome group of people, not just on the team, but outside of that too, who offer help where they can.

MINUTES OF AGM 2019

The minutes of the last AGM, having been available on the website, were confirmed. Proposed by Mike Prince and seconded by Angela Bevan.

MATTERS ARISING and CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

For the last two years, the opening sentences have reflected an interesting year:

Brexit lumbering on providing hours of entertainment for all,
Trump continuing to impress with his ability to bring nations together (!) and
Jeremy Corbyn now looks longingly and perhaps hopefully at No 10.

Well, things have definitely moved on, but I think “lumbering” was the right expression!

For the BVA Committee, it’s also been an interesting year –

- We tried holding the BVA meetings in a more public arena, but attendance was low so we took the decision to cut costs and once again hold the meetings at our private houses.
- It still amazes me that the information from so many sources can be placed into order and printed and distributed in a very short space of time. I never hear any grumbling from issue to issue, so you know it is being run efficiently and effectively.
- We held the Family Fun Day on the Rec. The weather was kind and we had some great sports to join in with including continuous cricket (new to me), rounders, frisbee, badminton and boules. Thank you to everyone who attended. I realised over the following few days that I'm not as young as I used to be.
- The Letters section within the BVN raises the occasional interesting topic. Please keep your comments coming, along with any stories you'd like to share.
- Network membership is still high but we'd always like more to join. This is a great way of letting people know what's going on so please join if you haven't already.
- Looking at other committees where we participate; Michael chairs the Speeding one, trying to make our roads safer. He also attends the Village Hall meetings on behalf of the BVA. Sheila, Julie and others often attend Parish Council meetings and Margaret and I sat on the Emergency Planning one.

Ian then passed over to Sheila to report on the financial position.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sheila referred all to the balance sheet (see below).

Income

Relating to the income, advertising is up by 4.3% against last year in part due to some advertisers taking advantage of full page and colour on the back page. You will note that donations have increased by 53.4% and we thank a few very generous villagers who have helped our Association thrive and made it possible to keep the Braishfield Village News alive. The Xmas event produced 48% extra revenue but we had higher costs in putting on the event. The family fun day took a lot of organising for a very poor turnout hence a loss was made.

Expenditure

Printing costs show a small decrease which is down to some issues having fewer pages than others. BVA Expenses include the cost of purchasing a gazebo for use in events, as previously the committee has been using their own. We made a donation to the BUMS in recognition of their support and also to the school association as a contribution to the sponsorship of their relay marathon held in May.

Presentation costs relate to retiring members of the committee in recognition of their hard work for your association over the years.

Although an overall loss has been made this year I consider we are still a very viable association and able to meet future commitments.

CB asked about the cost of insurance and it was explained that the subject of Public Liability cover had been raised to cover events as it is possible none would be afforded to the BVA under the Parish Council/Village Hall insurance.

Sheila then put the accounts forward for adoption. These were proposed by Michael Stubbs and seconded by Julie Kemp.

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>Income</u>		<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>			<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Braishfield News Printing		1714.88	1790.72	Advertising		2080.00	1995.00
BVA Expenses		219.10	86.00	Advance Advertising		-552.00	-463.00
Remembrance Wreath		20.50	40.00	Donations		740.50	482.70
AGM Expenses		61.91	9.00	Postal Subscriptions		40.00	40.00
Family Fun day costs		270.34		Family Fun Day		100.00	
Xmas Event Costs		570.52	260.78	Xmas Event		641.70	430.85
Donation to BUMS		100.00					
Presentations		461.99	264.66				
Webhosting		43.13	43.13				
Distribution costs		30.50	151.07				
TVBC Licence		20.00	20.00				
BVN Expenses		34.64					
Insurance		297.47					
Music Festival 2020		50.00					
Braishfield School Assoc.		100.00					
Residents Guide			490.00	Residents Guide			200.00
BVA/RAF100			698.50	BVA/RAF100			848.50
Donation to Social Contact			100.00				
Reconciliation Discrepancy			-1.00				
Excess Income							
(Excess Expenditure)		-944.78	-418.81				
Total	£	3050.20	3534.05	Total	£	3050.20	3534.05
<u>Accumulated Balance & Liabilities</u>				<u>Assets</u>			
Balances B/Fwd 1/1/19		6189.94	6145.75	Community Account		5731.16	6093.94
Creditors (Xmas event)		30.00					
Excess Income							
Excess Expenditure		-944.78	-418.81				
Bal c/fwd 31/12/19		5275.16	6564.56	Debtors 2019		96.00	
Advertising in Advance		552.00	463.00	Debtors 2018			96.00
				Petty Cash			
Total	£	5827.16	6189.94	Total	£	5827.16	6189.94
				S. Still Hon. Treasurer			
I have examined the above accounts and found them to be correct according to the information provided							
W.J. Miller				Date			

NEWS AND RESIDENTS GUIDE UPDATE

Wendy Dolby-Stevens provided an update on the latest position.

This was Wendy's first full year putting the editions together which had seen some challenges along the way. Things are now much more organized and it's good to see so many advertisers, both new and existing.

The editions have been of various sizes through the year, but December's was a bumper one with 52 pages.

Wendy also mentioned that the BVN was entered into the National Parish Magazine competition and came 42nd out of 350 entries. A fantastic effort, appreciated by all present.

Turning to the Residents' Guide, there was no update this time, but see Objectives for 2020 below.

PLANNING AND TRAFFIC CALMING

Michael Stubbs gave an overview of the year's planning activities with specific mention to Cupernham Lane, which is very much built on and has many more applications in place. Looking at the in-filling within Braishfield, especially proposed developments like Little Beeches at the top of Crook Hill, he explained that the hamlet layout of our village is under threat so please object to plans if you feel the need to. Some poor quality back garden developments are being proposed which are not good for the village.

TVBC does have a heat-map showing proposed developments (in red) and north Romsey is covered. South Romsey seems to have escaped so far.

CB raised the issue of nitrate being found at some sites which may halt buildings. This is being investigated more and more by the authorities.

CR explained that planning for Little Beeches had been refused.

On the traffic calming side, Michael explained that a plan had been drawn up by HCC but the estimated speed reduction was calculated to be just 1-2 mph. A new department is now looking at new and bigger schemes and a speed survey is being initiated.

MEETINGS

Six BVA meetings have been held since the last AGM along with several sub-committee meetings looking at the events throughout this and next year.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2019

We set ourselves a number of objectives for the year with much success.

1. It's essential that we add at least one more team member and preferably someone who is able to assist with the website. Achieved with Kevin joining us.
2. Continue to publish the BVN with villagers' articles with the necessary advertisers support, although there may need to be some minor changes (financial report). Achieved, plus we've seen a slight increase in the number of people/companies wanting to advertise.
3. We will work with other committees around the village and offer support wherever and whenever we can. You've heard that we are active on the Emergency Planning, Village Design Statement and the new Speeding committee. This one is ongoing, but where we can, we've continued to work with other groups around the village. We very much hope to see this continue through 2020.
4. To hold a Christmas event in December. Despite the weather, the Village Hall came to our rescue and it was held indoors. It was great to see so many there supporting this and special thanks to BUMS for keeping us entertained.
5. To hold a family based event during this year whilst planning a bigger event for 2020. The Family Fun Day was held as mentioned previously and plans are ongoing for the music festival to be held on 13th June.

6. To organise the 2020 New Year's Day walk. Thanks to Michael and Mary Stubbs for organising this. The weather was very kind and it was very well supported with around 40 in attendance.

Other Events

As mentioned previously, there was the Family Fun Day which was indeed great fun.

It was a relatively quiet year with much of the focus on the summer event coming up.

Remembrance Day

On Sunday 11th November, Ian was honoured to lay a wreath at the war memorial on behalf of the BVA at the Remembrance service. In the past, there have been some incidents with traffic, but he was pleased to say that any motorists were very respectful with some pulling over and pausing their journey.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2020

Alongside our usual Aims, we will be adding:

1. To replace Michael. He is one of the "techie" experts and kept a close eye on all things planning, so we'd like someone who would like to take on a similar position.
2. Continue to publish the BVN with villagers' articles with the necessary advertisers support
3. We will work with other committees around the village and offer support wherever and whenever we can. Whether this is Emergency Planning, the Traffic committee or the equally important committees around the village, I very much hope to see this continue through 2020.
4. To hold a summer music festival. Things are underway, but getting bands to actually commit has been proving a little difficult.
5. To organise a Christmas event. Whether this will be similar to previous years has not been decided. Holding the 2019 event indoors put a different perspective on things, so one for discussion.
6. To organise the 2021 New Year's Day walk. This was so successful last year, it would be lovely to keep the (what is now) tradition going.
7. Residents Guide. To start the process of putting this together for publication in 2021.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

After 5 or so years, Michael has decided to step down from the BVA, but I'm delighted that he has agreed to continue with assisting with the Network and organising the NYD walk. All the Committee thanked Michael for his efforts over the years.

Ian was pleased to confirm that all other members will remain in their current roles but this did mean we now have one vacancy.

Prior to the meeting Lorna Dolby-Stevens had expressed an interest in joining the Committee and in particular, taking over the Network. She duly put herself forward during the meeting and was proposed by Ian and seconded by Sheila.

Ian welcomed Lorna to the Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) CR thanked all members of the BVA for their efforts over the past year, particularly with keeping villages advised via the BVN and Network.
- 2) CR mentioned that following the passing of Lynn Nicholls (husband of David who delivers the newspapers to the box at the Rec), it would be nice if the BVA could present something to him, but wait until after the funeral (28th Jan). This was agreed and would be picked up as soon as possible.
- 3) TH asked if the carriageway by the new footpath (Crook Hill to the roundabout) was any narrower. MP confirmed that it does look that was due to the cones, but it actually four inches wider.

- 4) CR then confirmed that agreement had been reached that the new path would be named after John Bevan. All were delighted with this news.
- 5) CR confirmed that Parish Council meetings take place on the first Tuesday of every month and that it would be good to see some villagers there.
- 6) CH thanked Michael for all his efforts over the years in keeping the village updated on planning issues, and for fighting his corner.
- 7) CH also has connections with the Social Club and has offered help with the Music Festival. Ian confirmed he will be in touch soon to discuss.

DATE OF THE NEXT AGM

To be confirmed.