

# BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a meeting held at  
Acorns on Monday 8 September 2014

**PRESENT:** Graham Bennett (Vice-Chairman), Rosie Groves (Secretary), Sheila Still (Treasurer), Sue Coleman, Mike Mullane, Sue Mullane, Chris Balchin, Michael Stubbs.

**APOLOGIES:** David Robinson (Chairman).

GB opened the meeting as Chairman as DR was away.

## MINUTES

RG noted two amendments to the last minutes: under Distribution and Website the reports were provided by SM (not SS) – apologies to Sue. The minutes were then approved as true record.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

DR had sent a report:

- Congratulations to MM and SM for the bumper edition of July/August news.
- Shop opening had gone well.
- Committee are encouraged to contact Carole Renvoize to be trained in the use of the defibrillator.
- DR had written to HCC to protest against possible closure of Bunny Lane recycling site.
- Dorset Steam Fair had gone ahead with 11 people despite the mud – DR might amend the system next year to make it easier for people to drop out if weather is bad without incurring too much cost.
- DR had spoken to committee members about his intention to stand down at the end of the year. Also at the last meeting RG had said she intended to stand down after many years as secretary. No committee member had wished to become chairman so we would have to look outside. DR had some candidates in mind and asked the committee to discuss this so that he could make contact with them on his return.

There was some discussion about the defibrillator. SM had volunteered for training. The committee thought that the provision of a defibrillator was an excellent initiative and that if we could have first responders as well that would be even better.

**Correspondence.** Letter received from TVBC informing us that Romsey's application for designation as a Neighbourhood Area had been approved and this means a Neighbourhood Plan can be prepared. Also letter from TVBC saying that Test Valley revised local plan has now been submitted for inspection by a Planning Inspector.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

SS presented the account balances as at 08/09/14. The finances were in a healthy state and sufficient to meet our costs at the moment.

SS said that the community account amount was relatively high because a lot of advertisers had paid up for the year. One persistently bad paying advertiser would be removed. Committee agreed that some could be transferred into the deposit account.

Donations to date were £371 from 25 people. SS thinks having the donation request nearer the front of the News has helped – and having it in a different place each time also helps.

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

DR and MS had attended the September meeting and DR had sent a report:

- MS and DR had raised issue of speeding through the village. A minimum of 6 volunteers needed to man the speed gun project. The BVA had undertaken to muster these. Estimated cost to the community would be £2500. The BVA can via the News raise awareness to get people to observe the 30mph limit. The PC would ask the police for another random speed check basing it on speeds near Megana Way/Kiln Lane.
- Bike Racks – DR raised for a third time and Mike Edwards will take it on.
- Dorothy Ross had written tendering her resignation so a new member will be needed – PC will go through usual motions of asking for nominations.

SS had looked into the procedure for electing Parish Councillor – if the PC receives a written request from 10 people then it must hold an election.

## **PLANNING**

See Chairman's Report – correspondence.

## **NEWS AND RESIDENTS GUIDE**

**News.** MM said that the next edition would have plenty in it – the usual mix. He raised the possibility of charging for adverts for non-profit making events if the event itself was charging. There are 6 pages of Notices on average and we have to keep a balance between the costs and benefit of printing a bigger magazine – although he is very pleased with the service being provided by the printer.

Obits. CB suggested contacting Sarah Boothman for an obit for Eric Irish. SC had sent flowers and a card from the BVA to Jean Irish.

**Residents' Guide.** CB asked whether there should be a timetable for renewing the guide in 2015. Suggest an advert in February News asking for updates – but this will not

prevent the need to go through whole guide again and manually update it. MM thought the sponsor would probably be prepared to continue.

## **MEMORIAL BOOKLET**

SM had sold some more booklets and gave £36 to SS. SC had sold some and suggested putting them in the shop around 11 November.

## **DISTRIBUTION**

SM asked whether as the distributor she should expect to be given inserts for distribution with the News as and when required by other organisations. If so she was happy to do this but felt that a small acknowledgement of thanks would not go amiss. GB and CB to raise with Village Hall Committee. **CB and GB** would raise this at the next meeting of the VH Committee.

## **WEBSITE**

CB had asked the committee for ideas for updating the website. DR had suggested more pics, more current news and more interaction, but acknowledged that this would need a lot more work. CB reported that he had been trying to get the PC to join in with us, but that they do not wish to work with us and they had set up a new website. He asked whether the BVA should take some pages on the PC website so that the whole village had one standard website. **GB** will raise with Mike Edwards. SS also noted that some advertisers were out of date – **SS** would give CB a list of annual advertisers who should be included.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Speed watch.** There was a long discussion about this. **MS, MES, SM and SS** volunteered to operate speed gun. MS noted that original speed wire had been near school where people are moving slowly and confirmed that PC would ask for a speed check near Kiln Lane where speeds will be greater. It was felt that volume of traffic going to Kings Somborne had increased and MS said 30mph speed limit should be extended all the way. GB noted that civilians cannot prosecute – SS explained the system: police will visit someone whose car number has come up 3 times, but they cannot prosecute on civilian evidence. BVA could muster 6 volunteers so back to PC for action.

SC notified committee that she would be standing down at end of year, but would be happy to continue doing cards and flowers.

## **DATES OF MEETINGS**

10 November 2014 – 7.30pm	Hazel Cottage. (MM, SM)
12 January 2015 – 7.30pm	Braishfield Lodge East. (SC)
22 January 2015 – 8.00pm	BVA AGM. Committee Room.