

## BRAMSHAW PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Assembly for the Parish of Bramshaw was held in the Village Hall on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 7.30p.m.

### Attendees:

5 Members of the Parish Council, including Denis Shaugnessy (chair of the Parish Council) who chaired the Assembly  
14 Bramshaw Parishioners  
2 Parishioners from neighbouring parishes  
Kathy Heron, Hampshire County Councillor  
Henry Forse, New Forest District Councillor  
Mike Bemand, Hampshire Constabulary

### Apologies

Richard Boler (Bramshaw Parish Councillor)  
Gemma Wilks (Bramshaw Parish Councillor)

### 1. PRESENTATION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Denis Shaugnessy, ensured that all those present had introduced themselves.

He then presented a report of the Parish Council's work over the previous year (available as a powerpoint presentation on the Parish Council's website) drawing particular attention to:

- Planning applications
- The introduction of new 30mph limits in the Parish and the accompanying signs
- The repairs to the verges of Blackhill Road
- Repairs to dangerous potholes
- The annual inspection of the Parish's roads and consequent repair work
- Improved liaison with the National Trust
- The Parish Council's response to the National Park Authority's Plan
- The development of the Parish Council's website
- The clearing of brambles from public benches
- The procurement of new noticeboards for the parish, using a grant secured by Cllr Kathy Heron
- The budget and the extent of its reserves (£10K)
- Possible future expenditure, including the employment of an odd-job worker

### 2. PRESENTATIONS BY ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

PC Mike Bemand made a presentation on behalf of the Hampshire Constabulary. He outlined the extent of crimes in the parish – which is comparatively low – and the arrangements for the enforcement of speed limits. He responded to questions about emergency response, neighbourhood watch, and the police community support officer.

Cllr Sue Bennison made a presentation on behalf of the Bramshaw Film Club, in particular that the club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month in the Village Hall.

David Coates (parishioner) made a presentation on behalf of the Parish Church., in particular that family involvement in the church has grown so that on the previous Sunday there had been more than 40 children present.

District Cllr Henry Forse made a presentation on behalf of the New Forest District Council, in

particular referring to refuse disposal and the District Council's tight budget for 2009-10. He responded to questions about the possibility of a new Lidl distribution centre in Ower, litter bins in the parish, refuse collections and recycling, and levels of taxation.

County Cllr Kathy Heron made a presentation on behalf of the Hampshire County Council, in particular referring to 30 mph limits and the short gaps in limits such as that between Bramshaw and Brook, the piloting of a lengthsman scheme in Bordon, in the north of the County, and taxation.

Barbara Sturgess (parishioner) made a presentation on behalf of the Women's Institute, pointing out that this was a thriving group with 60-70 active members.

Jack Sturgess (parishioner) made a presentation on behalf of the Gardening Club, which has over 30 members.

He made a further presentation on behalf of Probus, an association for retired professional and business men.

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ASSEMBLY

The minutes of the 2008 Parish Assembly (**date?**) were distributed and agreed as a true record. Matters arising from the minutes were discussed under the item (4) Priorities for the Parish.

### 4. PRIORITIES FOR THE PARISH

Cllr Denis Shaugnessy outlined the priorities which the Parish Council had agreed as a result of the discussions at the previous Parish Assembly:

**list to be provided by Denis from powerpoint.**

There was discussion of:

- Bus transport – in particular about the link scheme run by Community First, based in Devizes Wiltshire, which has 60 drivers in the local area who will take people to and from the doctor and on other such essential journeys. The scheme is open to Bramshaw parishioners but if it is to be widely used, the Parish needs to provide volunteer drivers as well as demand for the service. Users of the service pay a donation which is paid in a sealed envelope. Insurance cover is provided by the Link scheme and all drivers now have to have Criminal Records Bureau checks. Reference was also made to Community Action and a Lyndhurst based link scheme.
- Potholes – it was reported that separate individual reports to Hampshire County Council make greater impact than collective reports from the parish councils.
- Speed limits on Forest Road and the extensive HGV traffic to the Pound Bottom landfill site. County Cllr Kathy Heron reported on the work she had been undertaking to ensure that a fair share of the landfill traffic generated by the development of the new park-and-ride site, adjacent to the A36 on its eastern entry to Salisbury, was going through Downton, rather than all of it going through Nomansland.
- Widening by stealth – there was discussion of the verge repairs on Pipers Wait which have led to road widening by stealth.

- Safety on Forest Road – there is a need for a footpath so that children may walk to school in safety.
- The possibility of a mobile shop for the local campsites - the feeling of the meeting was that this would be very damaging to the health of the local shops. County Cllr Kathy Heron urged people to lobby the Verderers on this issue to ensure that no licenses were issued to mobile shop owners.

There was general support for the priorities outlined, with particular support for the thriving shop, good management of social housing, and building the strength of the Bramshaw parish community.

Further points raised included:

- Linking any parish social event to a charity;
- Drawing attention to the existence of the Bramshaw Cricket Club;
- Cllr Nigel Challis' work on a welcome pack for parishioners;
- The forthcoming Bramshaw Parish Fete on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009;
- Further questions about the Western National bus that runs one-way through Bramshaw and Brook each day in term time;
- The themes of the Parish Council's work around how Bramshaw looks, feels and functions.

## 5. VOTES OF THANKS

Cllr Denis Shaugnessy thanked all those who had attended the Assembly for their active participation.

The Assembly thanked Cllr Shaugnessy through a general round of applause.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks being proposed to County Cllr Kathy Heron who is retiring from the County Council after many years of loyal and effective service.

Close of meeting: 9.35pm