

## **Bramshaw Parish Annual Assembly 2015**

Held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in the Community Room of Bramshaw Village Hall.

**Attendees:** 4 Parish Councillors- Denis Shaughnessy, Sue Bennison, Nigel Challis, Jenny Watts, New Forest District Councillor Diane Andrews, Hampshire County Councillor Edward Heron, 14 members of the public and Jane Mullan, clerk to the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the notes from the Annual Assembly 2014 represented matters discussed at that meeting.

### **Traffic Calming:**

#### **Cllr Edward Heron**

Following the consultation earlier in the year on traffic calming, there was an overall consensus that there should be some form of traffic calming within the village, but not to impact on day to day life of residents. It is believed that the main 'speeders' are people passing through the village and not living in it.

Before proceeding further Edward has asked Bramshaw to wait for a report that has been requested by Hampshire County Council into speeding and animal casualties on the B3078/90 and the Beaulieu Lyndhurst Road and whether it would be feasible to use Average Speed Cameras (ASC) on these road. At present only Highways England can use average speed cameras, but there is improving technology which makes the equipment affordable. A scheme has been trialled in Poole.

The outcome of this report, due in September, will obviously have a bearing on where Bramshaw goes next with traffic calming. If ASC were thought to be suitable, and HCC were prepared to fund them, then the issue is resolved. If not, then a further consultation would be required as to establish what type and the locations of any traffic calming. Ideally the locations would not be in the centre of the village because the aim is to push the 'short cutters' back onto the main roads rather than using Bramshaw as a rat run.

All the legal paperwork is in place for Hampshire CC to change signage on the B3078 on a quarterly basis to attempt to reduce driver fatigue of signs and keep it in people's minds as about animal deaths. Also the 30/40 mph signs on Brook Hill will be changed soon.

A discussion followed on the size of the vehicles coming through Brook and Bramshaw in particular HGV's and even a double decker bus. Denis Shaughnessy pointed out that there is a restriction on many roads throughout the forest. This had been discussed at the last parish council meeting, and the council would like to ask for volunteers to monitor lorries as they enter and leave the restricted zone.

The destination for a large percentage of the lorries, '(Inert)' is Pound Bottom and as such this has no end date as a landfill site, but once the void is filled, that is it. CGS are currently working on a planning application to bring the site towards closure and its restoration.

## Council Achievements during 2014-15

### DEFIBRILATOR:

Bramshaw Parish Council obtained a £400 grant from the British Heart Foundations towards the cost of a defibrillator and cabinet which is going to be sited at the Village Hall – *Total cost to Parish Council -£885.85.*

### NEW VILLAGE SIGN AT END OF VICE LANE

The council has replaced the Bramshaw sign that had rotted away at the end of Vice Lane with a traditional shaped and pressed letter sign on oak posts. *Cost of sign and posts: £347.09.*

### REFURB OF PHONE BOXES:

Daniel Stickland is just completing the refurbishment of the Nomansland box, having completed Furzey and Fritham boxes during last summer. They are all being used as book exchanges and information centres and are really successful. *Total cost for refurb of 3 boxes not expected to exceed £750.*

### PLANTING OF GOLDEN JUBILEE TREE and TREE GUARDS for BOTH JUBILEE TREES

The Jubilee Oak has now been planted on Wych Green as the parish council felt that the trees in that area were old and prone to dropping limbs – Peter Reynolds suggested we contact Sandi Shaw at NFDC to test the older trees for Honey Fungus. Oak tree guards have been constructed around the Golden Jubilee tree and the Silver Jubilee tree. *Cost £769.*

### LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

Bramshaw signed up to the scheme sponsored by Hampshire County Council – This allows us to instruct the contractor (Lengthsman) directly to undertake work that the residents and council feel need doing in the parish – *HCC grant £1000 – Bramshaw to match fund.*

### 40 mph SIGNS

Edward Heron advised that the paperwork is now in place, for the removal of the 40 mph signs on Brook Hill between the Bell Inn and the village shop, and they just have to programme the works in.

### Other Priorities –

#### Rural Broadband and the BT ‘box’.

Edward Heron explained how HCC was now onto Phase II of Super Fast Broadband installation to rural properties, which on completion 97% of properties would have access to the facility. However the remaining 3% are more difficult to complete and currently BT are looking at the technology of mini-exchanges on the top of a pole – more information is expected over the next 12-18 months.

He also advised that the '2 mile limi' of this phase is more a technology issue than subsidies or money.

Despite a site now having been agreed on land at The Bell Inn, it has now slipped out of the programme – Edward Heron will look into when it might be reprogrammed to happen.

## **GARAGES IN BRAMSHAW**

Redevelopment of the Bentley Garage delayed because Asbestos had been found on the site. However works are underway again now. It is understood that once works are completed, one of the conditions of planning being granted was that the car transporters unloaded and loaded inside the premises, and not outside on the forest as currently happens.

The Rosary Garage has now changed hands – DS explained how the council had had a meeting with Steve Avery in 2014 to discuss the possibility of fundamental change to the village by redeveloping the site into a 'new hub' – moving the hall and shop to the site, and building houses on the hall site. However policy is such that it would not permit housing.

There are however tools available to form a community plan so that the community has more influence over how the village develops.

Suggested the Parish Council has at its June meeting agenda items on: -

Consultation on the Rosary Garage and

Community plans.

## **Finance**

The precept in Bramshaw is £16 per house – average for NFDC is £65 per house.

Concern was raised that this was insufficient information to give at the Annual Assembly – the meeting was directed to the website and all the information is available there – and from July 2015 the Transparency Code comes into effect for all Parish Councils, even one as small as Bramshaw.

## **Other Comments:**

Tennis Tournament on 5 September 2015 – see BT for more information.

Amendment to last year's notes – the Parochial Church Council had awarded the church a grant of £2000 towards the cost of restoring the bells and not £8000 as stated.

Meeting closed 9.30 pm.