



Registered Charity Number 1070462

**Annual General Meeting of Better Braybrooke on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

**Present:** Caroline Kempster, Godfrey Daniel, Trevor Goodwin, Dominic Sabetian, Nigel & Helen Gossling, Lauretta Okagbue, Angela Haines, Johnathan & Susan Brown, Martin Phillips, Nick Hennessy, Bob Brown, Claire Mercer and Graham Crane

**Apologies:** June Kempster, Mac Scard, Judith Cubison, Brenda Honeysett, Sonya Shah, Les Longley and Anna Sabetian.

**1. Welcome**

Caroline welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming. Everyone then introduced themselves

**2. Chairs Report**

**3. Confirmation of minutes for last AGM**

The minutes from the last year's AGM were accepted as an accurate record.

**4. Matters Arising**

Godfrey reported since last year:

- The properties in the lower part of Elphinstone Road had been done up and the post box restored;
- The new roundabout by the Langham had improved traffic flow;
- There would be a consultation on Mount Pleasant traffic calming shortly.

**5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2008-2009**

Dear Friends,

This is my 10th Annual Report for Better Braybrooke.

During the last year our General Meetings have featured the following guest speakers: Cathy Walling (Assistant Curator, Hastings Borough Council) on History of the Museum with historic slides of Braybrooke Ward, Barry Lovell (Environmental Community Officer – Hastings Borough Council) on the role of the Environmental Community Team, Nigel Gossling (Better Braybrooke Member) on Gardening with Mediterranean Plants and Herbs, and Councillor Godfrey Daniel with a quiz on the

responsibilities of Borough and County Councils. I'd like to thank all those who have contributed and informed our discussions over the year.

We are pleased with the support given to us by the Police and the Environmental Community Officers. I'd like to give a special thank you to Sonya Shah, our PCSO, for her positive support for our group.

Turning to The Pocket, we are very grateful to Park Lane for sponsoring two picnic tables. We have met with Emma Foster (ESP – Education & Special Projects Ltd) to investigate safe play equipment, but at present we do not have the financial resources to progress this. We still hope to acquire a netball post via Hastings Borough Council. Sadly our planned tea party and table sale in August had to be abandoned due to inclement weather but we are grateful to Angie Litvinoff for all the preparation for this event. It was lovely to have the support of "In2play" and "i-candy" in putting on events for young children in the Summer Holidays.



We have met with the Probation Service and the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and they have agreed, in principle to help maintain The Pocket. I'd like to give a very special thank you to Angela Haines, for both her liaison work and in arranging for the special tidy-ups of our community space. We were pleased that our Councillors helped us to make The Pocket a "dog free" zone and we have the necessary signs in place. Thank you, Shelley, for locking and unlocking the gates – an important and much appreciated job!

We were pleased to be able to support the new Hughenden & Beaconsfield Residents' Group in their aims to clean up that area and get the community more involved in local issues.

We are still trying to encourage more members to join and are particularly thankful for Angie Litvinoff's endeavours when she was Membership Secretary. Graham Crane has ably stepped 'into the breach', and would welcome more ideas for how we can get more people involved with Better Braybrooke.



On behalf of Better Braybrooke, Trevor Goodwin and I are members of the Central Area Management Board Meetings which were chaired by Councillor Godfrey Daniel. These meetings involve community representatives from Braybrooke, Castle, Silverhill & St Helen's meeting with service providers eg Primary Care Trust, East Sussex County Council, Hastings Borough Council, and Sussex Police. I was the Central Area Community Representative on the Hastings Area Based Grants Advisory Group which advised Hastings Borough Council on the use of Working Neighbourhood Funding, and attended the Play Pathfinder discussions. Graham, our Secretary, attended discussions on the Hastings Borough Council Draft Corporate Plan & Budget. Lauretta Okagbue attended a Communal Bin visit to Brighton to help inform that controversial debate. Many Committee Members attended a meeting with the HVA (Hastings Voluntary Action) Funding Officer about raising funds for Better Braybrooke and, as a consequence, we have started to submit various grant applications. We enjoyed the welcome event at eat@thepark in Alexandra Park and have been pleased with the improvements the new management have made.

Other issues that have been addressed, with the help of our Councillors, include: improving the appearance of the dilapidated buildings at the bottom of Elphinstone Road, renewing road markings in Dordrecht Way, clearing road gullies, Elphinstone Road traffic calming, especially the mini-roundabout near The Langham Pub and the replacement of the post-box in Elphinstone Road.

I'd like to praise all the Committee Members and Officers for their dedication and time over the last year, and especially, our Councillors, Godfrey Daniel and Dominic Sabetian, for their support and good humour and in personally raising so much money for our Group. A special thank you, from me, for the wonderful contributions of our Treasurer, Trevor Goodwin, and our new Secretary, Graham Crane. A big thank you to all those who have brought raffle prizes to our meetings – they've really helped to keep us in funds. Thanks are due to "Trinity Wholefoods" for ensuring the hospitality at meetings is of a superb quality! We are also grateful to the residents of Sherwood House, and Cathie Murphy for their continuing hospitality, but above all to Molly Hills – without whom none of us would get in to the meetings!

We have retained our ENTRUST Environmental Body Status and have complied with the obligations of our charitable status.

Lastly, a reminder of our forthcoming General Meeting & Committee Meeting Dates for the rest of the year! All our meetings are at 7.30pm, with the General Meetings being held here:

Caroline Kempster  
Chair - Better Braybrooke

09 June 2009



## 6. Treasurer's Report

Trevor handed out details of the accounts and took us through them. He said they had been independently audited and approved by the committee.

## 7. Election of Officers

All those nominated were elected unanimously:

Chair:	Caroline Kempster:
Vice Chair:	Claire Mercer
Treasurer:	Trevor Goodwin
Secretary:	Graham Crane
Membership Secretary:	Sue Brown
Committee Members:	Lauretta Okagbue, Cllr Godfrey Daniel (ex-officio) Cllr Dominic Sabetian (ex-officio)

**9. Committee Co-options for Special Knowledge**

Angela Haines was co-opted

**10. Appointment of appropriate person to certify accounts**

HVA were appointed as auditors

**11. Any other business**

Nick Hennessy gave us a very interesting talk on events in Alexander Park, for which everyone thanked him, and we held the raffle.

**12. Future General Meetings:**

Tuesdays @ 19:30 in Sherwood House: 8 September & 15 December