

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2018 in Boughton Monchelsea Village Hall, commencing at 7.00pm

Present:

Cllrs S. Munford (Chairman), I. Ellis, J. Gershon, R. Martin, P. Herrin, D. Smith, L. Date,
B. Brown, J. Skinner, A. Whybrow, N. Wilde, D. Redfearn, R. Edmans,
A. Humphryes
Parish Clerk
Approximately 120 parishioners

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from Kent County Councillor Eric Hotson, PCSO Pete Gardner, KCC Warden Liz Lovatt, Scouts – Karen Filmer, Brownies – Hannah-Jane Dobbie, Friendship Circle – David Parry, Village hall committee – Rachel Newcomb
2. Welcome address and Report from Cllr Stephen Munford, Chairman of Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council and Borough Councillor for Boughton Monchelsea & Chart Sutton. Cllr Munford's speech included the following :
 - Details of what the Parish Council have been doing over the last year, including developing the Neighbourhood Plan, responding to planning applications, progressing 20mph zones, maintaining public open spaces, maintaining floor mitigation facilities and running the allotments
 - Noted that all Parish Council meetings and planning meetings are open to the public
 - Brief explanation of the planning process and the Parish Council's role in this
 - New planning policy relating to an additional 7000 houses for Maidstone Borough, highlighting the importance of Boughton Monchelsea's Neighbourhood Plan
 - Noted new data protection regulations and requested responses from allotment holders, e-mail circle members and litter picking volunteers
 - How to report issues to MBC and KCC, including fly tipping, potholes and overgrown vegetation
 - Only a few vacant allotment plots. These will be rotavated free of charge for new tenants. This offer will cease once all plots have been let out
 - New website will be launched in the next few months. This will be more user friendly and will include a planning tracker, linked to the MBC website
 - There is currently a vacancy for a south ward Councillor. Anybody interested in applying should contact the parish clerk
 - BMAT have recently secured a large area of land between Hubbards Lane, Heath Road and Haste Hill Road
 - Thanks to MBC for their prompt and effective response to incidents of fly tipping. MBC's John Edwards was at the meeting and asked residents to report issues via the MBC website. He added that MBC aim to deal with reports of fly tipping within 2 days. MBC also act on incidents involving people dropping litter and throwing it from vehicles

3. Presentations from local organisations :
 - Village fete committee – speech by Lesley Harris. £350 grant awarded.
 - Friends of St Peters – speech by Richard Martin.
 - Boughton Monchelsea primary school – speech by headteacher, Ruth Roberts
 - Community Choir - speech by Fiona Kenward. £300 grant awarded.
 - Bowls club - speech by Derek Carpenter. £200 grant awarded.
 - Playgroup – speech by committee member, Clare Smith
 - St Peters Church – speech by Rev Phil Goodey. £2500 grant towards churchyard grass cutting.
 - Regency Dancers - speech by Phil Goodey. £250 grant awarded.
 - Baby and toddler group - speech by Phil Goodey. £200 grant awarded.
 - Friendship Circle - speech by Phil Goodey. £300 grant awarded.
 - WI - speech by Patsy Wastell. £300 grant awarded.
 - Brownies – £200 grant awarded. The clerk read out a speech from Hannah-Jane Dobbie who was unable to make the meeting
 - Scouts - £300 grant awarded. Karen Filmer was unable to make the meeting but had advised that the money would be used towards new marquees
 - Helping Hands - speech by Katy Abson. £300 grant awarded.
 - Royal British Legion – £350 grant to be awarded, close to remembrance day
 - Salvation Army – £300 grant to be awarded, following Carols on the Green
4. Presentation of 'Parishioner of the Year' award. The award for 2017/18 was presented to Katy Abson. Cllr Munford spoke regarding Katy's hard work in setting up and managing Boughton Monchelsea Helping Hands and presented her with a framed photo of the village.
5. Presentation by Cllr Rob Edmans – 'Twenty's plenty'. The presentation can be viewed on the Parish Council's website www.boughtonmonchelseapc.org.uk ('Parish Info' tab)
6. Presentation by Cllr Doug Smith – Boughton Monchelsea Neighbourhood Plan and Landscape Masterplan and Management Plan. Cllr Smith. The presentations and draft Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed on the Parish Council's website www.boughtonmonchelseapc.org.uk ('Planning' tab)
7. Open Forum

Residents spoke as follows :

- Rev Goodey spoke regarding the speed of traffic and condition of the road on Church Hill. He stated that the grass verges were deteriorating due to parking at school run times. He also expressed concern regarding the bottom of Church Hill - damage to hedgerows and the edges of the road. Cllr Munford stated that the Parish Council would bring these issues up with KCC Highways.

- A number of residents expressed concern regarding parking and alleged business activities (car repairs) on the road at the junction between Green Lane and Meadow View Road. Cllr Munford stated that the Parish Council have no authority but had reported the issues to the Police and KCC Warden. He added that the Parish Council would also report to the social housing provider, if there was one. The issues would be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.
- A resident spoke regarding the two new houses on Green Lane, next to the Curious Eatery. She stated that potholes needed repairing and asked whether a section of footpath could be constructed in front of the properties. Cllr Munford stated that this would be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.
- Residents expressed concern regarding the speed of traffic on Heath Road next to the primary school and road safety at the Green Lane / Brishing Lane / Heath Road junction. Cllr Munford stated that these issues would be discussed further with KCC Highways.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Refreshments followed.