

BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22nd March 2011 at 7.30pm
in Grafty Green Village Hall**

PRESENT- Councillors: Mr R Turner (Chairman)
Mrs S Close
Mr R Galton (Vice-Chairman)
Mr M Hitchins
Mrs P Anderson (Clerk)

Cllr Jenny Whittle

7 Members of the Public

1. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Wickens, Cllr Jenny Gibson, PSCO Siobhan de Burca and PCSO Nicola Morris.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REGISTER OF INTEREST CHANGES

There was one declaration of Interest from Robert Turner re the Village and one from Ron Galton regarding the Boughton Malherbe History Society, no Register of Interest changes.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18th January 2011 having previously been distributed were unanimously **Agreed**, the official copy was signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4. LOCAL POLICING

4.1 Police Report

The Council were extremely disappointed to note that the Police were not represented, the Clerk explained that she had received an email just before 7pm explaining that they had been called to an incident involving Social Services in Headcorn.

Crime Figures: No further crimes to the end of January

February	Theft of Old Agricultural Machinery
March	2 Theft - Ladder in Headcorn Road & Mobile stolen at venue

Concern was expressed regarding the increased levels of crime in the surrounding areas, and questions were asked about what the Police are doing about it, PA said she would convey this to them.

ACTION PA

4.2 Speedwatch

There had been no speed checks since the last meeting. Keith Anderson, who is now trained is helping Chris Wheal with co-ordinating checks etc. and the checks are about to start again.

5. HIGHWAY & FOOTWAY MATTERS

5.1 Potholes

Although repairs have been carried out to various potholes, the one near Woodsden Hall needs looking at again, there is another one at bottom of Liverton Hill, plus one in front of Liverton Hill Farm and Wrens Nest. PA has contacted the Ulcombe Parish Clerk about potholes in Eastwood Road.

ACTION PA

5.2 Liverton Hill – Improvement to Warning Signs

The clerk reported that she had been notified on 16th March that work would be carried out within 8 weeks.

ACTION PA

5.3 Bus Stop in front of the Homestead

John Collins has advised that we would need to go through KCC as well as the bus companies explaining why the bus stop should be moved after 70 years and where it should go. We should also

bear in mind that from April there will only be 2 departures on Monday-Friday. This was discussed and it was suggested that perhaps the bus could wait opposite its current position where there is a concrete pavement, once it's time to leave, then the bus could turn around and continue on to Maidstone.

ACTION PA

5.4 Gully & Carriageway-below Stream Farm

The clerk reported that she had chased Kent Highways but not further work had been carried out

ACTION PA

5.5 Water Leak – Liverton Hill

French drain leaking just below Ivy House Farm – as above KHS have been chased but nothing done.

ACTION PA

5.6 Surface Water in front of Maples

RG was asked if this was still a problem, he confirmed that it was.

ACTION PA

5.7 Carriageway Roundels

Not expecting the roundels to be re-painted for some time, because of cuts.

ACTION PA

5.8 Blocked Pipe Ash Tree Farm

PA had only just reported this issue and apologised for the delay.

ACTION PA

5.9 Liverton Hill HGV's

The Draft is now complete and is currently under internal review, after this it will go out for Consultation. A suggestion was made that perhaps foreign lorries should be made to purchase a Brit Disc the same as the Vignette (Tax Disc) which lorries from other countries have to purchase when Travelling in Europe, Cllr Whittle pointed out that some lorries have long distance fuel tanks which means they don't even buy fuel when in this country.

ACTION PA

6 RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

6.1 No. 59 Bus

Last meeting was held on 14th February, timetables have changed with the present 1325 and 1703 departures returning to Maidstone 'out of service', it was suggested that perhaps these buses could return 'in service'. PA was asked to mention this to John Collins. The next meeting is due in July, it is hoped that it can be brought forward which will allow more time for input to further proposed changes due to start at the beginning of the Autumn term.

ACTION PA

6.2 Emergency Plane

A meeting is still to be arranged.

ACTION MH

7 PUBLIC SESSION

Apologies were received from Woodcock Farm re the problems with their sewage system.

It was reported that the footpath sign opposite Liberton House is missing.

ACTION PA

A complaint was received about the parking in front of the Village Hall. When a function is being held there is often no room to unload because of unauthorised vehicles being there. Robert Turner said he would look into who owned the land, it was suggested that if the Village Hall did own the land the Chairman (Mike Hitchins) should inform the owner of the vehicles that he is not allowed to park there.

ACTION RT/MH

A request was made for a sign to be put up that says Grafty Green Village Hall, as often people come to functions and have no idea that the building is the Village Hall.

ACTION MH

A member of the public reported that the Bowley Lane signs are broken.

ACTION PA

One of the parishioners pointed out that some sections of hedges had been removed on the Church Road side of Ivy Farm by Mr Charlton and replaced with fencing.

Mike Davidson thanked Ron Galton on behalf of himself and the parishioners for all that he had done and was still doing with regard to the planning application on Ivy Farm

8 PLANNING

8.1 Planning Applications Received

The following applications were considered and recommendations made:

8.1.1 Land at Ivy Farm, Headcorn Road, Liverton Hill-MA/10/2029 Update Ron Galton

The consultation period had been extended to 8th April. A copy of a letter dated 1st March from

DHA to MBC in response to Kent Wildlife had been received. The Digester should be at Langley, feed is being, mixed there, this is just an add on rather than a necessity, Mr Charlton is trying to justify the need for PPS7, the digester is not proven but experimental. Only so much waste can be spread on Ivy Farm as it has a nitrate content, his other farms are in nitrate controlled zones, where will it go? Several parishioners had been in touch asking for points to make in their objection letters. RG agreed to put together some notes to assist those who needed help in composing their objection letters and leave a number of copies in the shop for collection.

ACTION RG

8.1.2 Petsfield – possible Breach of Planning Permission

Richard Thick had contacted Planning and determined that nothing more could be done on this, retrospective planning permission would be sought.

8.1.3 Broadstone Cottage, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green ME17 2AT – MA/11/0315

Application to demolish barn and build new one bedroom single storey house on footprint. Dig up old concrete yard & landscape to create parking & garden. Recommendation: No objection as long as brick & peg tiles match Broadstone Cottage and there is adequate parking for both domestic and business vehicles.

8.1.4 The Bell House, Sandway, Boughton Malherbe ME17 2BD – MA/11/0261

Erection of one and a half storey side/rear extension and replacement front porch (re-submission of MA/10/0882) Recommendation: No objection

8.2 Planning Decisions Received

The following Decisions received from MBC were **Noted**:

8.2.1 Gardners Cottage, Chilston Park, Boughton Road, Sandway ME17 2BE - MA/10/1960

Application for listed building consent for the erection of a two storey side extension. MBC: Granted permission

8.2.2 Gardners Cottage, Chilston Park, Boughton Road, Sandway ME17 2BE - MA/10/1960

Application for erection of a two storey side extension. MBC: Granted permission.

8.2.3 Liberton House, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green ME17 2AN - MA/10/2077

Application for erection of a single garage. MBC: Granted permission.

8.2.4 Land at Ivy Farm, Headcorn Road, Liverton Hill – MA/10/2030

Application for the prior approval of the local planning authority for the formation of a reservoir as shown on section plan, site layout plan, site location plan, application form and supporting letter received 19th Nov.2010 MBC: Granted prior approval.

9 CORRESPONDENCE – The following correspondence was Noted:

KCC – email from Nick Chard re his leaving

KALC – Minutes of meeting 1st March

Action with Communities – Invitation to join Action with Communities

Communities & Local Govt – A guide to Localism

KALC – Parish News

MBC – Concurrent Functions-Developing a new approach to Funding

10 MATTERS OF REPORT – To receive reports from

10.1 County & Borough Councillors

Jenny Whittle

The main focus was on budget savings totalling £95m for 2011-12, which equates to 10% of KCC's net revenue budget excluding schools, with a further £65m having to be found for 2012-13. The good news is that there is a KCC council tax freeze for 2011-12, the Highways maintenance budget and the Members Highway and Community Grant schemes for the benefit of 17 parishes has been protected. 1500 posts (total staffing around 13000) will be removed from the Council over the next four years to help achieve the savings. A pothole crew has been deployed to undertake long term pothole repairs.

Jenny is still campaigning on our behalf regarding Liverton Hill signage, as well as the request from residents at the top of Liverton Hill to put in a speed limit of 30mph right the way through. Representations would be made with regard to the possible increased traffic movements on

Liverton Hill for the Planning Application from Ivy Farm, Liverton Hill has so many problems because of it being so narrow and a single track road. Jenny said that it might be useful to speak to the clerk for Kingswood and Broomfield as they have the same problem with Gravelly Bottom Road.

Richard Thick was not present

10.2 Chairman

Nothing to report.

11 FINANCE

11.1 Income received since last Meeting

The clerk advised that no monies had been received since the last meeting.

11.2 Authorisation of payments made since the last Meeting

There had been no payments made since the last meeting.

11.3 Cheques presented for signature

It was proposed by Cllr Hitchins and seconded by Cllr Wickens "that the Council approve the following payments". This was **Agreed** and the following cheques were signed:-

300347	R Tew – Xmas Tree etc.	£ 210.00
300348	P. Anderson- Salary & Expenses	£1109.00
300349	St. Nicholas Church	£ 500.00
300350	G. Green Gardening Club	£ 400.00
300351	G. Green Village Hall	£ 300.00

11.4 Balance at Bank

The Accounts Book was circulated to the Members and it was **Noted** that the balance was £215.76

11.5 Concurrent Functions Grant

Precept increased from £6.18 to £8.37

12 BOUGHTON MALHERBE HISTORY SOCIETY – Update

Ron Galton reported that there are now only 100 books left out of a total of 500, he thinks they will all be sold, there were 200 issued to residents which means 200 have been sold. Everyone agrees that the book is absolutely marvellous.

13 ANY OTHER INFORMATION/ITEMS ARISING

- 13.1 The Chairman produced an article from the Daily Telegraph reporting that all Parish Councils would have to operate a PAYE system as they were considered to be Employers, even though they may only have one employee as was the case with us, this would create a lot more administration. The clerk explained that in the past tax on earnings had been declared to the Inland Revenue and recently paid over by completing a Self Assessment Return online. PA would contact the Inland Revenue to determine the new ruling and how it would affect our Parish Council especially given the fact that she was the only employee.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

10th May 2011 Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting
 16th August
 15th November

There being no further matters to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed. Dated