

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26th
January 2010

**A MEETING OF BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
Tuesday 26th January 2010 at 6.30pm in Grafty Green Village Hall**

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

Cllr Jenny Whittle

PCSO Siobhan de Burca
PCSO Jo Watts

3 Members of the Public

APOLOGIES: Cllr Jenny Gibson
Cllr Richard Thick

TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Jenny Gibson and Richard Thick.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REGISTER OF INTEREST CHANGES

There were no declarations of interest on items on the Agenda and no Register of Interest changes.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th November 2009 were **AGREED** and signed as a true record. The balance brought forward of £1807.74 in the Finance Section was correct, the error had been made on 12th May Minutes, a receipt of £1400 had been shown as £1000 with the carried forward figure showing £1407.74 this has now been amended to £1807.74, the Chairman initialled the correction.

LOCAL POLICING

PCSO Siobhan was pleased to report that there had been no reported crimes in our Parish, she reported that the average number of crimes in the whole of Headcorn Ward had dropped from 17.7% to 16%. She also reported the following information based on figures for Oct-Dec 2009 compared to the same period in 2008:

The average number of burglaries in this area has decreased from 4 to 2.7 (33.3%)
The average number of robberies in this area has increased from 0 to 0.3 (100%)

The average number of vehicle crimes in this area has decreased from 1 to 0.7 (33.3%)
The average number of violent crimes in this area has decreased from 2.7 to 1.7 (37.5%)

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 9.7 to 17 (75.9%) this could be due to Kent Police encouraging residents to report this type of crime to 01622 690690.

Electronic speed signs were discussed and PA was asked to contact the Parish Clerk at Headcorn and ask how much the speed sign had cost and how they had achieved having it installed.

ACTION PA

Speedwatch

PA reported that she had only very recently received a reply from Malcolm Buller the Speedwatch Assistant, he had asked for forms to be completed with a suitable location which would be checked for safety etc. PA had asked him to meet with her to approve a location after which the form could be completed. We require a Speedwatch Co-ordinator which should be one of the Councillors, PCSO Jo Watts suggested that if we had a Police Liaison Officer this could be a member of the public who could also be the Speedwatch Co-ordinator.

ACTION PA

MATTERS ARISING from Minutes of 17th November 2009

40-30 Mile Speed Limit Changes

The site was checked on 23rd December the Police Speed Check Area signs were ordered on 7th January, the reason it had all taken so long is because a new team had only recently been put in place. Road markings at the north end of the village, as well as in the middle, would be done as soon as the road is salt free.

ACTION PA

HGV's Weight Restrictions

This issue will be put on the back burner for the time being.

ACTION PA

No. 59 Bus

John Collins had informed PA that the next meeting had been cancelled and would be held whilst he is on holiday. Mike Hitchins is to attend instead.

ACTION PA

Potholes

The potholes in Woodcock Lane have been marked out again, there are some very large potholes PA is permanently in touch with Kent Highways. PA was reminded that there is a very large pothole in Church Road with a Cone in it to alert motorists.

ACTION PA

Petsfield

A letter had been written dated 23rd November, JW requested a copy. PA reported that she had been told that the case would be heard on 14th January 2010, this had not happened and the next meeting was due on 25th February.

ACTION PA

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Liverton Hill

The application for a yellow warning sign was still in progress. A site meeting had been held with Michael Heath, the Police and a Design Engineer on 19th January. Jenny Whittle said that she had received a letter from a PC in the Traffic Division saying that they would not support the request and the speed limit is 60 miles per hour, she would

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email the letter to PA, she also commented that a member from the Parish Council should have been invited as we had instigated this issue. A letter is to be written.

ACTION PA/JW

Gully & Carriageway just below Stream Farm

PA reported that the gullies had been tested and were in working order, now passed to the Community Operations Team.

ACTION PA

Water leak on Liverton Hill (Opposite Pumping Station)

PA reported that she had discovered that Kent Highways had shown this issue to be resolved; it has now been re-opened for drainage to investigate.

ACTION PA

Changing Stiles/Kissing Gates

RG informed the meeting that this would be bought to a close because landowners are not in favour of kissing gates.

PUBLIC SESSION

The PC was told that a gully opposite Ivy House is blocked and just above Ivy House there is subsidence/pothole.

ACTION PA

A member of the public asked us to report the water gushing across Headcorn Road opposite Crumps Lane when it rains heavily.

ACTION PA

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Decisions Taken – added after Meeting (overlooked by PA)

Yew Tree Farm, Eastwood Road, Boughton Malherbe – MA/07/0373

Application to discharge conditions for Conversion of barn to form one residential dwelling (resubmission of MA/06/0109) - Approved

Yew Tree Farm, Eastwood Road, Boughton Malherbe - MA/09/1224

Application to discharge conditions for Demolition of existing garage, shed and greenhouse and erection of detached oak framed double garage and log store. - Approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Audit Commission – Appointment of new External Auditor

English Rural – Annual Report

KCC – Consultation Draft: Community Infrastructure Provision Service Strategies

Kent Highways – Kent Permit Scheme

KALC – Minutes of Meeting 7th December 2009

KCC – Annual Performance Report

Policing Kent – December Maidstone Edition

FINANCE

Balance in Hand on 17th November '09

£5236.60

The following cheques have been issued:-

300325 Misco-Microsoft Office 07 for PA

64.57

Closing Balance 26th January '10

£ 5172.03

It was agreed that a Finance Committee Meeting is to be held on 9th March to consider budgets for 2010/11.

The Clerk reported that MBC had advised total Concurrent Functions grant for 2010/11 would be £4451.00. It was also agreed that the Precept amount should remain the same as last year being £1400, the form was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk and would be returned to MBC as required. **ACTION PA**

Quality Parish & Town Council Scheme

Nothing to report.

ACTION PA

Grafty Green History Society

RG reported that by the time John Collins goes on holiday at the end of February the draft will be 80-90% complete, at this point publishers etc will be contacted to ascertain approximate costs for a possible 12 chapters. RG is to try and estimate costs in time for the next Parish Council Meeting. The proposed completion date is Xmas 2010.

ACTION RG

ANY OTHER INFORMATION ITEMS/ARISING

Jenny Whittle asked if we had enough salt bins, it was suggested that we could do with one more, Councillors are to think about where it should be sited.

Councillors had attended the Training on the Code of Conduct recently and agreed that they had found it very interesting and useful.

Date of the Next Meeting

30th March 2010

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed. Dated