

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 17th JANUARY 2006

A MEETING OF BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON Tuesday 17th January at 7.30pm in Grafty Green Village Hall

PRESENT: Mr K Alexander
Mrs S Close
Mr M Hitchins
Mr S Wickens
Mrs P Anderson (Clerk)

PC B Hillman
PC Harding (Special)

APOLOGIES: Mr R Turner
Cllr R Thick
Cllr J Gibson
Sir Sandy Bruce-Lockhart

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING from 20/09/05 Meeting

Liverton Hill It was reported that an investigation by the Operations Engineer had been carried out and as we know a natural spring causes the water to run down the hill. He commented that one spring had already been piped, but this one, which is in the middle of the road, needs further investigation to see where it can be piped to.

ACTION PA

Drain Cover-Woodcock Lane PA reported that she had now made contact with a Susan Fletcher who is solely responsible for all Highway matters and most things would be dealt with her direct. Dennis Gower was going to check the drain cover once again to make sure it was the responsibility of the Highways Dept and not Southern Water. PA said that Dennis was definitely already aware of the problem and she had requested a definitive date for repair.

ACTION PA

Sign Woodcock Lane

PA said she had been informed that the sign in Woodcock Lane, which had been knocked down by a bus and needed re-cementing in, was the responsibility of Public Transport Dept at MBC and they would let her know when the repair would be carried out.

ACTION PA

40 Mile Speed Limit Signs A letter had been received from Kent Highway Services saying that a consultant was currently drawing up a Traffic Regulation Order which would cover around thirty different speed limit alterations in and around Maidstone, and it was much more cost effective to publish multiple Orders in the Press which would take place in this financial year, followed by a statutory consultation period. Providing there were no fundamental objections it was anticipated that the earliest date for implementation of the new speed limit signs would be April/May 2006. **ACTION PA**

Dog Signs

Two metal dog signs had now been received and put in place.

Parish Website

MH was still trying to arrange a meeting with Tony King to discuss the website, once this has been completed it would be possible for the Minutes to be published on the Internet.
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ACTION MH

HGV's Weight Restrictions

SW highlighted his concern that there are no weight restrictions on HGV's, which travel through Liverton Hill and Grafty Green to Headcorn, because of this, more and more vehicles are using this route. There are restrictions at Chegworth, Leeds and Willington Street so why shouldn't there be restrictions here? PA said she had mentioned to Kent Highways, whilst talking to them about the new speed limit signs, that a lot of HGV's rumbled through the village at speed, they said that we should wait and see what happens once the speed limit signs have been replaced.

ACTION PA

No. 59 Bus

A working group had been set up and a meeting was held on 7th November attended by John Collins on behalf of the Parish Council. The Saturday service would continue until the end of March, but because of falling patronage the future was uncertain. It was suggested that Parish Councils should be more pro-active in promoting local transport. A promotional fare of £2.50 for Saturday travel through December had been made available, which had since been extended until 21st January '06. Due to road works at Ulcombe Hill there were 3 Saturdays at the end of November/beginning December when the bus didn't run and no information had been posted except for on the Arriva website. The service resumed to normal with effect from 10th December. The next meeting would be held on 23rd January 06
ACTION PA

MATTERS ARISING from 09/01/06 Meeting

Debris Elmstone Hole

A form would be completed by RT our County Lengthsman to request for the debris to be cleared at Elmstone Hole following the tree cutting.
ACTION RT

Road Sign on Village Green

PA had informed the contact about the missing arm pointing to Headcorn and was awaiting a response.
ACTION PA

310

Tree Cutting

Planning permission was not required to trim the trees on the Village Green. KA was still in the process of obtaining an additional estimate for trimming, and once this was received he would go ahead with getting the trees cut. **ACTION KA**

LOCAL POLICING

Bryan asked for a map of the Parish, KA said he would provide one for him.
Bryan reported that in the last 4 months there had been 3 crimes: -

- 2 Stolen Vehicles
- 1 Motor Vehicle interference

KA wondered why the theft at Boughton Oast was not part of Bryan's report, Bryan said it was probably because it comes under Sandway and will query this and try to sort out the boundaries with Peter Knight. **ACTION BH**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Hazel Wood, Sandway ME17 2BH Ref MA/05/1857

Erection of a detached Garage. Email sent saying Parish Council had no objections.
Permission granted 4/11/05

Great Humphreys Farm, Coldbridge Lane, Grafty Green ME17 2AX Ref MA/05/1268

Additional details and reasons for extending. Emails sent stating that no comment could be made because of interest confliction.

Stream Farm, The Barn, Liverton Hill, Grafty Green ME17 2AL Ref MA./05/2006

Change of use of existing two-storey barn to a residence, which will be ancillary to the existing farmhouse, including building/engineering works. No objections made.

Hazel Wood, Sandway, ME17 2BH Ref MA/05/1857

Permission granted

Orchard Cottage Farm, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green ME17 2AU Ref MA/05/0167

Retrospective application for the change of use from agriculture to the provision of a driveway and turning area and associated hardstanding using existing gatepoint.
Appeal allowed.

Bell House, Sandway ME17 2BD Ref MA/05/2131

Full Planning permission for erection of a rear conservatory. No objections made.
Refused 20/12/05

Judge Farm, Woodcock Lane, Boughton Malherbe Ref MA/02/0598

Permission granted for Conversion of existing stables to 2 units of tourism.

Chilston Park, Boughton Road, Sandway ME17 2BE Ref MA/05/2343

Listed building consent to replace 2 no. timber glazed panels with new frames incorporating sealed double glazed units to the east elevation of Hussey Hall block and for internal alterations to an existing bedroom suite known as the Edward Lear room.
No objections made.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been written to Keith Jones of 2 Jubilee Cottages asking him to get his tenants to put their dustbins out on either the day of collection or the night before, because they are unsightly and cause an unpleasant smell in the summer as well as attract vermin etc.

KAPC Annual Report
 Kent Police Newsletters October & November
 Kent Police Authority – Restructuring of Police Forces
 Speed Watch literature from Kent Police College
 Consultation Document – South East Plan: Employment, housing and infrastructure in Kent
 Standards of Conduct in English Local Government: The Future
 Bulletin English Rural Housing Association
 MBC - Statement of Community Involvement for Planning, Submission Draft
 Kent Parish Councils News
 MBC – Autumn Youth Activities 2005
 Freight Locations and dates
 MBC – A Country Mile: Blueprint for Safety & Sustainability on Maidstone Borough's Rural Road Network
 KCC – Mid Kent Division Office Liaison Officer Contact
 KAPC – Parish News
 MBC Forward Plan of Key Decisions
 MBC Annual Rural Conference invite 3rd December 2005
 KAPC Minutes of a meeting held on 19th December 2005
 MBC Register of Electors 2005/2006
 Consumer Direct
 KCC Kent Early Years and Childcare
 Kent Police Authority Council Tax & Policing Plan
 Kent Fire & Rescue Service

FINANCE

Balance in Hand on 20 th September			2849.59
Less Cheques issued:	Four Jays	96.35	
	R. Smith	100.00	
	R. Hulme	50.00	(246.35)
Plus Receipts:	MBC		<u>2163.63</u>
	Balance in Hand 20/9/05		<u>£4766.87</u>

A letter had been received from MBC requesting any bids for additional resources for any projects for 2006/2007, to be submitted by 16th January, we were granted an extension until after this meeting, but it was agreed that no additional resources were required.

312

A Local Government Precept Requirement Form for completion was also received and it was agreed that the Precept should be increased by £200 to £1200, for the increased costs for the Clerk's charges for the year.

Discussions took place about the financial requirements for this financial year and it was agreed that £1500 would be given to the Village Hall (MH declared an interest), which would cover the costs of the new curtains, crockery and the painting of the toilets. KA asked the meeting if they were still happy to pay approximately £150 for the local Police Car. It was agreed that £500 would be given to the Church (KA and SC declared an interest), and that £300 would be given to the Gardening Club.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Path at the side of the Kings Head

Several of the people in the village had complained about the state of the path along the side of the pub, it was agreed that repairs should be carried out and a light installed, once a couple of estimates had been obtained. The Grants who are the neighbours would be informed.

ACTION MH

Elmstone Hole Lane

Water is running on either side of the lane, it then runs along and joins up with the water which is already running down Liverton Hill making things worse than they already are.

ACTION PA

Woodcock Lane

It was reported that several large potholes have developed in Woodcock Lane

ACTION PA

Inspection/Manhole Covers

SW reported that at the top of Liverton Street next to the weather boarded house the Manhole covers are raised and cause a danger to vehicles.

ACTION PA

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 21st March 2006

Signed..... Dated