

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
17th November 2009**

**A MEETING OF BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON
Tuesday 17th November 2009 at 7.30pm 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 Gibson

3 Members of the Public

APOLOGIES: Cllr Richard Thick
Cllr Jenny Whittle

TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Jenny Whittle 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 25th August 2009 were **AGREED** and signed as a true record subject to ratification of the balance bought forward of £1807.74 in the Finance Section.

LOCAL POLICING

Unfortunately, no one from the Police was present at the meeting and apologies had not been received. The crime figures would be obtained and inserted into the Minutes after the meeting.

As advised after the meeting by Siobhan de Burca per email dated 23/11/09, there were no reported crimes, there was however, 1 accident on Liverton Hill on 27th October.

Speedwatch

Since the last meeting an advert had been placed in the Parish magazine asking for volunteers, PA reported that 9 people had volunteered. Siobhan had asked her to find out what locations the volunteers thought best for carrying out Speedwatch, which she had done and had emailed with the suggestions, it has now been passed to a PC Jarvis who is responsible for Speedwatch and the training; she is waiting to hear from him.

MATTERS ARISING from Minutes of 25th August 2009

40-30 Mile Speed Limit Changes

Still no sign of the Police Speed Check Area signs from Kent Highways or the 30 signs which were to be painted on the road surface, PA would chase Michael Heath again.

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 Saturday Service was still going alright; the contract would be coming to the end of its 4 year term in March'10, and was currently out for tender. The next meeting was due to be held in February when the results would be known, the Saturday service should continue whoever wins the contract. There are no changes to the Mon-Fri services, although there was some concern that not many people are using the bus this side of Kingswood, that having been said, more school children were using it. John is to put something in the Parish Magazine, to try and encourage Parishioners to make more use of the bus.

ACTION PA

Potholes

The clerk reported that several of the potholes in Woodcock Lane had been repaired, looks as though the large potholes have been done but not the smaller ones. At the moment KCC have a policy to repair the large dangerous holes.

ACTION PA

Petsfield

The Clerk informed the meeting that a new Planning Application had been received from MBC attaching the results of an ecological survey carried out in August, this seemed odd, as stated in our last Minutes, the ecological survey could not be carried out until next year (June). PA had passed the application to Ron Galton who reported that he had tried to contact the Kent Wildlife Trust for clarification but no one had got back to him. He also reported that he had noted one of the questions asked was 'were there any trees and hedges' had been ticked as No. More mobile homes have appeared and a large shed has been erected, PA had queried this with Peter Hockney who had said that as this was not part of the planning application, it would have to be removed; one of the Councillors asked why could it not be done now? It was agreed that a letter would have to be written once further facts had been established.

ACTION RG/PA

Liverton Hill

Michael Heath had informed PA that it would take some time for a larger yellow sign warning drivers that the road narrows to a single lane to be installed because of the cost and prioritisation. PA has applied to Jenny Whittle for funding. Since the last meeting

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there had been one accident where the police had been called and one accident which had not involved the police. **ACTION PA**

Village Telephone Box

At long last this has been cleaned and the glass repaired. Has now become a coin less telephone box, cards have to be purchased from the Post Office.

Gully & Carriageway just below Stream Farm

PA reported that the gullies have been emptied and cleansed and passed to the Inspector to deal with subsidence. **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

Ongoing. **ACTION RG**

Drains Woodcock Lane

PA reported that this has now been resolved.

PUBLIC SESSION

A member of the public asked what was happening with the land at Elmstone Hole Farm, and was told that as far as we were aware it was still up for sale with the planning permission to erect a dwelling.

A further question was asked about the situation with the Pheasant farm on the land south east of Elmstone Farm. It was stated that permission had been granted for the change of use to a game farm and the erection of game rearing pens for the next 3 years and that this would only happen for a few months in the year.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Petsfield, Eastwood, Road, Boughton Malherbe – MA/09/1891

Change of use from grazing to residential for Gypsy family and stationing of two mobile homes, one touring caravan, hard standing and associated works

Stream Farm, Liverton Hill, Maidstone ME17 2AN – MA/09/1500

Erection of a summer house.

This application was dated 1st October 2009 and PA apologised that the Councillors had not seen it before, because she had overlooked it. Even though the date had passed for comments to be made (30th October) the Members had no objections.

CORRESPONDENCE

KIG – Funding request

KALC – Chairmanship Training Day

KALC – Minutes of AGM 5th August 2009-11-20

Steve Shaw – More Powers for Parish & Town Councils

MBC – Gypsy & Traveller Pitch Project Scoping Report

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MBC – Gypsy & Traveller Development Plan Document – request for information about potential sites. Replied that we were already flooded with sites particularly Headcorn.

MBC – Reports re Gypsy & Traveller Pitch allocations.

KCC – Information re Mobile Libraries now to have 1 Member of Staff only.

KCC – Local Fora

KALC – Notice of 62nd AGM

MBC – Maternity Services

MBC – Forward Plan of Key Decisions 1/11/09-28/2/10

MBC – Gambling Act 2005 Draft Statement of Licensing Principles Jan 2010-July 2012

FINANCE

Balance in Hand on 12th May '09 **£3144.89**

The following cheques have been issued:-

300322	R. Smith	104.99	
323	KALC	14.66	
323	Audit Commission	<u>161.00</u>	
			<u>280.65</u>
			2864.24
Plus:	VAT refund	152.36	
	Concurrent Receipt	<u>2220.00</u>	
			2372.36
	Closing Balance 17th November '09		<u>£ 5236.60</u>

Robert asked if there were any Community Projects that might require funding from the Parish Council, Mike Hitchins suggested that he should draft something for the Parish Magazine to this effect **AGREED.** **ACTION MH**

Quality Parish & Town Council Scheme

Nothing to report.

ACTION PA

Grafty Green History Society

RG reported that everything was on track, the research almost finished and the design for the front cover almost agreed. The estimated publishing date is Xmas 2010.

Several chapters had been drafted and the end result will probably be 9-10 chapters with photos and maps. Currently confirming with those who had provided information that they are happy for the information to be published. RG was asked whether the amount of £500 given by the PC had been spent, it had not. He was also asked if a budget had been prepared RG replied that this was currently being calculated.

ANY OTHER INFORMATION ITEMS/ARISING

RG & PA had attended the Training on the Code of Conduct and so had the Chairman at a separate time, it was agreed that this training had been very interesting and useful and had been a reminder to them all of the rules under which they operate. It was advised by the Chairman that the rest of the Members should attend such a Training Session as soon as the clerk is advised of future dates. PA reported that she had

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received notification that there would in future be clusters of areas for training courses and that ours would be with East Sutton, Headcorn, Sutton Valence and Ulcombe

ACTION PA

Bottles & Rubbish

It was reported by one of the Members that a large amount of bottles had been dumped in the entrance to the church yard and that a great deal of rubbish had been left just past Lewsome Lane. PA was asked to report this to KCC.

ACTION PA

Complaints Procedure

A copy of the complaints procedure having already been circulated was approved and adopted.

Date of the Next Meeting

19th January 2010

30th March 2010

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed..... Dated