

**Minutes of a Meeting of Boughton Malherbe Parish Council  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014 in Grafty Green Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs R. Turner (Chair); R. Galton; M. Hitchins; T. King; B. Pearce.

Clerk C. King

6 members of the public

**1. Apologies**

PCSO John Boyd; Stuart Ellesmere; J. Whittle.

**2. Declaration of Lobbying - none**

I. Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests - none

II. Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda - none

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014.**

Having been previously circulated, the Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> May were approved and signed.

**4. Matters Arising - None**

**5. Public Session**

1) Potholes - Coldbridge Lane, previously missed out 3 months ago,- 50m before 3 Chimneys from Grafty Green; and three or four others

2) Lenham Road - the repairs sinking

3)Footpaths - Hopper farm to Eastwood Road - no footpath sign (KH327) opposite Werburgh House. Footpath KH327 - very overgrown through orchard.

Three Chimneys towards Park Farm, second meadow, footpath fenced and made into a corridor, but stile accessing is demolished so path inaccessible (no. KH486 on the latest f/p map @Boughton Malherbe print.)

4) The gully outside The Homestead barn is blocked. Since the resurfacing water doesn't run towards the blocked gully anyway causing big puddles.

5) Before the road was rebuilt from the Pig and Whistle to Headcorn, there used to be white lines,. These have not been reinstated and in some places, particularly Crumps Corner, cars drift to the wrong side of the road causing very dangerous situation.

**Action CK**

6) Liverton Hill resurfacing at Ivy house where spring runs - the road surfaced with water running, surface now eroding and stones come up. The weekend rain caused more stones to come down as verges weren't cleared. Gullies have been tarmaced over!! 2 days after resurfacing, someone came up hill and skidded into Ivy House wall on loose gravel.

**Action CK**

**6. Local Policing**

**6.1** Police Report - none as PCSO on holiday. Crime figures available on 101 in absence of PCSO in future.

**6.2** Speedwatch Report - Three Speedwatches have been done in the last few weeks. 60% of those booked were over 40mph and one lorry at 54mph. All were reported to Speedwatch Control. More help is required.

**7. KFRS**

Chris Wheal gave a brief report: - the leak associated with Crumps Lane/ Grafty Garden Centre - now waiting for the water company to sort. The leak has been present for at least 3 months.

Fires are down 70% over last 10 years; are of concern is over 65's - 4 times more likely to be involved in fire related incident. An article will be published in Malherbe Monthly.

A Parish hydrant check will soon be carried out to clear weeds and ensure visibility

## **8. AED update**

Chris Wheal reported that the defibrillator is up and running, and registered with SECamb.

## **9. Highway and Footway Matters**

### **9.1 Liverton Hill**

Cllr Pearce gave an update on the leaks at the bottom of Liverton Hill which appear to be fixed after 3 attempts, in addition to works and road markings.

### **9.2 Pot holes//Kent Potholes**

There is large pot hole 50 yards beyond Three Chimneys towards Egerton.

The blue single-file sign on Liverton not done.

Cllr Turner read an e-mail from JPC e-mail about the money KCC has for pothole repair and how much it has spent.

**9.3 Ditches and Gullies** - Church Road is badly slipping; KCC engineers have inspected it.

**9.4 Grit bag** in Church Road - the Clerk has ordered one.

### **9.5 HGV Weight Restrictions**

Headcorn Road is now the only north-south route from the A20 between Willington Street and Charing. It is single track in places, namely Sandway (Lenham Parish) and Liverton Street (Lenham Parish) Liverton Hill (Lenham Parish), and goes past Platts Heath Primary School (Lenham Parish). Cllr Pearce gave an update: 7.5 ton restrictions signs at Harrietsham have been agreed by Harrietsham Parish Council, exact locations to be decided; a sign at beginning of Headcorn Road from Kings Road Headcorn, exact place to be decided, has been agreed by Headcorn Parish Council. Cllrs Pearce and Turner attended the August Lenham Parish Council Meeting to put forward the case for a sign by Lenham Square. Lorries regularly deliver to businesses in Lenham and delivery lorries would not be affected. However, lorries needing to avoid a restricted route have to have, by law, direct access away from that route without turning or reversing, so Lenham Square was considered, by Cllrs Pearce and Turner, to be a suitable location. A response is awaited from Lenham Parish Council.

## **10. Resources and Environment Matters**

### **10.1 Emergency Plan**

Cllr Galton gave an update about the emergency Plan - it has been approved and permission given for publication. He distributed copies to Councillors for comment and when comments have been received/incorporated, it will be published. Once the plan issued, it's up to the Parish Council to review it on regular basis although there will be no need to resubmit it. Cllr Galton agreed to undertake responsibility for updates. Cllr Turner and the other Councillors thanked Cllr Galton for all his hard work.

### **10.2 Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr King said there has been limited progress and recommends watching other parishes in the short term. The MBC Local plan is not yet available. Some parishes are experiencing difficulties at various stages. Boughton Malherbe does not appear in the Local Plan but that doesn't mean the Parish Council can be complacent; it is important to do one, so continue slowly.

### **10.3 Bus Service 59**

John Collins gave an update on the 59 bus. The last meeting of the East Of Maidstone Rural Transport Group was on 14th July 2014 and all is well at the moment. Arriva has introduced an App which allows the user to check the exact location of any bus in any area to see where it is. The next meeting of the East of Maidstone Rural Transport Group is 1st November 2014. Cllr Turner thanked John Collins.

## **11. Matters of Report**

**11.1 County and Borough Councillors' Reports** - none

### **11.2 The Chairman's Report**

Over last quarter, Cllr Turner has attended several meetings:

- In May was the Police Forum Meeting, at which it was stated that rural crime is up whilst crime in towns is down.
- 28th May was the KALC AGM, where Geraldine Brown was re-elected as Chairman and the Local Plan was the main topic of discussion.
- 29th May was a meeting Donna Roxon and Jenny Whittle and others to discuss Parish traffic issues.
- The defibrillator training in May was very good and well attended.
- There was a JPG meeting where the draft Local Plan was discussed.
- Early July - a meeting with Sharon Davies of Action with Communities in Rural Kent.

### **12. Councillor Reports on any External Meetings attended**

Cllr King reported that he and Cllr Galton had attended an MBC Planning Session part 1 which was very good and attempted to clarify and explain the complexities of the planning process. Both considered they had gained a great deal from this session.

### **13. Correspondence**

Countryside Voice  
Clerk and Council Direct  
Public Rights of Way Map  
Kent Minerals and waste Local Plan

### **14. Finance**

**14.1** Income since the last meeting - £996.50

**14.2** Authorisation of any payments - none

**14.3** Resolve that any cheques be signed:

000419	KALC membership	£200.42
000420	John Collins, internal audit	£80.00
000421	R Smith. Care of Green	£159.37

**14.4** To note the balance at the bank - £26,283.26

**14.5** To approve change of banks and signatories - approved

**14.6** Cllr Hitchins gave a brief report from the Finance Committee - there has been no meeting lately. The next meeting will be late October or early November to discuss the budget.

### **15. Further Information**

Cllr Galton gave an update on progress and costs associated with the Parish History Book:

The History Society has available funds of £2,200 which includes two grants from Allen Grove £500 and KCC £500, and would be looking to the Parish Council to provide, temporarily, £5,500. (As with the first book, all households will receive a free copy.) This was agreed in principle - similar was done with the first book, however, as this was not on the Agenda it could not be voted on. It will be on the Agenda for formal agreement at the next meeting.

### **16. Date of next meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**Meeting closed 9.10pm**