

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2006**

**A MEETING OF BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm in Grafty Green Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Mr K Alexander  
Mrs S Close  
Mr M Hitchins  
Mr R Turner  
Mrs P Anderson (Clerk)  
Cllr J Gibson

Mike & Joan Davidson  
Leah White

**APOLOGIES:** Mr S Wickens  
Cllr R Thick  
PC B Hillman

**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 21/01/06 Meeting**

**Liverton Hill** PA reported that the Operations Engineer Earl Bournier is to carry out an in depth investigation during the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> April when Liverton Hill is to be closed for BT to carry out work.

**ACTION PA**

**Drain Cover-Woodcock Lane** PA reported that the repair had finally been carried out.

**Sign Woodcock Lane** PA reported that she had been advised at the end of January, by Doug Brown from the Public Transport Department that the existing sign had been assessed and would be repaired.

**ACTION PA**

**Debris Elmstone Hole**

Dennis Gower has advised that he will look into clearing the debris as soon as possible.

**ACTION PA**

**Road Sign on Village Green**

PA reported that the arm pointing to Headcorn had now been ordered.

**ACTION PA**

**40-Mile Speed Limit Signs**

Since the last meeting PA had received an email from Peter Rosevear who had recently taken over the Highway Unit at Kent Highway Services, completely reversing what they had previously advised. Speed surveys would need to be carried out with support from the Police and because we were among a list of 30+ it could take some 3-4 years to get through the outstanding requests. However, speed surveys would be done over the coming months to identify locations that would receive the highest priority, Grafty Green being one of those. Following this a letter was written by PA and KA explaining that agreement had already been given to reduce the speed limit to 30 miles per hour in February 2005, relevant copy documents were enclosed. PA reported that a Transportation Meeting was due to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> April and that we need to lobby our Councillors to attend this meeting to fight our corner.

**ACTION PA**

**HGV's Weight Restrictions**

PA reported that when the letter was written to the Highways Dept regarding the Speed Limit change, the fact that Grafty Green has the only access from the Maidstone area to Headcorn without a Weight Restriction, was also mentioned.

**ACTION PA**

**Parish Website**

MH said that a Website training course was due to take place at the end of March, which he would like to attend, this was agreed.

**ACTION MH**

**No. 59 Bus**

Following a meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March PA had been advised by John Collins, who attended the meeting on our behalf, that with effect from 8<sup>th</sup> April, the Saturday service would continue to run with KCC funding the operation and the operators would be Nu-Venture and not Arriva. The Monday to Friday service was not affected and a slight change to the timetable had been made on Saturdays.

**ACTION PA**

**Tree Cutting**

It was agreed that KA would contact the Green Man Tree & Garden Services and ask them to go ahead with the tree trimming on the Village Green as soon as practicable.

**ACTION KA**

**Elmstone Hole Lane**

Grips had been cut but this hadn't helped as they were only at the road edge. Dennis Gower advised that it would be necessary for the farmer to dig the ditches himself to alleviate the water running on either side.

**ACTION PA**

**Potholes Woodcock Lane & Church Road**

Temporary repairs had been carried out to the larger potholes and there were a lot of smaller ones, which hadn't been touched. Dennis Gower had advised PA that all potholes were on a programme for permanent repairs but could not say when that would happen.

**ACTION PA**

**Inspection/Manhole Covers**

A temporary re-instatement of the manhole cover had been done by Mid Kent Water, PA said that she had phoned MKW several times to ascertain when a permanent repair would be carried out, but was still waiting for them to come back to her.

**ACTION PA**

**Path at the side of the Kings Head**

MH reported that he had to date only received 1 quote for the path to be repaired and a light installed, and was waiting for two others to come in. **ACTION MH**

**Map of Parish**

Bryan Hillman had asked for a map showing the Parish of Boughton Malherbe. **ACTION KA**

**LOCAL POLICING**

Bryan Hillman had not been able to attend this meeting because he was due to go into hospital. He had looked into the Boughton Oast theft and it had been shown on the Lenham crime area.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Masons Farm, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green ME17 2AP Ref MA/05/2336**

Permission refused on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2006

**Yew Tree Farm, Eastwood Road, Grafty Green ME17 2DQ Ref MA/05/1268**

Conversion of existing barn to form a residential dwelling. PC made no objections  
Permission refused on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2006

**Stream Farm, The Barn, Liverton Hill, Grafty Green ME17 2AL Ref MA/06/0109**

Amended/additional details/landscaping. PC made no objections.  
Permission refused 1<sup>st</sup> February 2006

**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.  
Application withdrawn on 26/1/06

**Chilston Park, Boughton Road, Sandway ME17 2BE Ref MA/06/0318**

Application for listed building consent for internal alterations to on-bedroom suite known as Edward Lear room to refurbish existing en-suite and bathroom facilities, plus replacement of 2 no. timber/glazed panels with frames incorporating sealed double glazed units. PC made no objections

**Cleckett Farm Bungalow, Eastwood Rd, Grafty Green ME17 2DQ Ref MA/06/0399**

Erection of a single storey rear extension. PC will make no objections

**Who'd A Thought It, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green ME17 2AR MA/06/0398**

Erection of a conservatory style restaurant. Objections will be made on the grounds that it is not in keeping and will not fit with the rest of the attractive building. The PC were not against the extension of the building, but not in that form.

**Thornden Farmhouse, Lenham Road, Headcorn, TN27 9LH**

Erection of a two-storey extension to front and to Southern end, plus new conservatory and formation of additional vehicular access. No objections will be made providing the access is approved by the Highways Department.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor of Maidstone St Georges Day celebrations  
KAPC – Parish News  
Kent Police Newsletter  
Mayor Maidstone's Charity St Georges Ball Invitation  
The Local Channel-Community Website for Boughton Malherbe  
Kent County Council Press Release re fund searching  
Kenward Trust  
Jim's Mowing  
Freighter Location list for May-July 2006  
MBC News Release of activities during April in the Borough  
MBC Forward Plan of Key Decisions 1/2/06-31/05/06  
Kent Highway Services-Introduction of new contact Laura Culkin  
Kent Highway Services – Street Lighting  
MBC Cabinet Member for environment and Transportation Minutes of Meeting 23/1/06  
MBC Forward Plan of Key Decisions  
MBC Planning Committee Minutes of Meeting of 23/02/06  
MBC Cabinet Member for Regeneration Minutes of Meeting 23/02/06  
MBC Local Development Document Advisory Group Minutes of Meeting 20/2/06  
KCC Kent & Medway Structure Plan-Further Proposed Modifications  
MBC Record of Decision on Proposals for Introducing Code for Sustainable Homes  
MBC Record of Decision on Planning Gain Supplement  
MBC Record of Decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation  
MBC Updates to Council Diary  
MBC Free Bus Passes Notices  
MBC Alteration to Electoral Registration Montgomery Judge House Far4m  
KAPC Training Dates  
Office of Kent Lieutenancy Invite to Civic Service  
MBC Celebration Service for Honorary Recorder  
Kent BTCV Survey  
MBC Forward Plan of Key Decisions 1/3/06-30/06/06  
Mid Kent Water – Hosepipe ban poster campaign  
Mid Kent Water Parish Council Magazine Article re Hosepipe ban  
Society of Local Council Clerks Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> February 06  
MBC Electoral Registration Finlayson-Stoke Jean deleted  
MBC-Memorandum Affordable Homes in Kent Poster  
MBC Maidstone Local Development Framework  
Harrietsham Parish Council – Eastern Parishes Rural Policing Forum  
Kent Police - Kent to stay as single force  
Kent Police - Table showing the 6 new boundaries after restructuring  
Kent Police – Crime Reduction Co-ordination

**FINANCE**

**Balance in Hand on 17<sup>th</sup> January '06** **£4766.87**

The following cheques were issued: - £

300256	Grafty Green Gardening Club	300.00	
257	St Nicholas Church (Grass Mowing)	500.00	SC & KA declared an interest
258	Len Valley Police Car	150.00	
259	P. Anderson	569.42	
260	Grafty Green Village Hall	<u>1500.00</u>	RT declared an interest
		<u>3019.42</u>	

**Balance in hand 21<sup>st</sup> March '06** **£1747.45**

It was agreed that to use up any outstanding monies, further cheques would be issued at the end of the month to the Gardening Club for £200 for Coach Hire and the balance would be paid to the Village Hall for further repairs etc which would be around £1000 - RT declared an interest

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Potholes Coach Road**

KA had told PA about the above prior to the meeting, which she had duly reported to Kent Highways. They had informed her that the repair was on the list for completion when complete re-surfacing would take place, but had no idea when this would be.

**ACTION PA**

**Re-surfacing programme**

PA reported that she had been in touch with Alan Ross asking when this was due to take place, but was still waiting for an answer. It was assumed that no answer would be forthcoming until the new financial year.

**ACTION PA**

**New Grafty Green Sign**

Several people had questioned why another Grafty Green sign had been erected behind the existing one. PA contacted the Highways about this, pointing out that there were more pressing things that the money could have been spent on. She had been informed that the sign had actually been a mistake; Ulcombe had contacted Highways saying that they needed a replacement finger showing Grafty Green on one of their signs and this was the result. The sign would be removed and stored.

**Greensand Ridge**

Several Planning Applications have been refused in recent months because they are within the Greensand Ridge Special Landscape Area, it was agreed that PA should find out exactly where this area was, as it seemed to have been widened and a request was to be made for a plan showing this.

**ACTION PA**

**Phone Mast**

A letter had been received from Daly International which said that alterations had been proposed to the Vodafone Mobile Phone Base Station at CS172 Dunstell Wood, Headcorn ME17 2AJ. It was agreed that the Council had no objections to this work

being carried out, although they were concerned about any possible disturbance upgrading of cabling to the mast might cause.

**Planting a Native Tree**

Following the death of Amy Beard who lived in Woodcock Lane, an email had been received by PA from her nephew Tony Spiess asking if we could suggest anywhere he could plant a tree which is local to the area, in her memory. It was discussed and agreed that there really wasn't anywhere within the village to do this. **ACTION PA**

**Blocked Footpaths**

Leah White reported that a number of footpaths are blocked because of old tyres especially at Elmstone Hole, these need removing. It was suggested that the Rights of Way Officer be contacted to help with any problems. **ACTION PA**

**Reports for Annual Parish Meeting**

It was suggested that a letter be written to the Gardening Club and any other organisation in the Parish, inviting them to present a report at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was hoped that this might make a more interesting meeting. **ACTION PA/KA**

**Meetings**

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Council Meeting plus the Annual Parish Meeting and the normal Parish Council Meeting would be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May next.

Dates for meetings after that: - 5th September  
16<sup>th</sup> January '07

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2006

Signed. . . . . Dated . . . . .

