

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 11TH JANUARY 2016,
7.30PM, GRAFTY GREEN VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs R. Turner (Chair); R. Galton; M. Hitchins; T. King; B. Pearce.
Mrs C. King Parish Clerk.

3 members of the Public

- 1. Anybody filming or recording this meeting to declare it – none**
- 2. Apologies – to receive and accept apologies for absence:** PCSO Boyd; Stuart Ellesmere Community Warden; MBC Cllr M. Round; Chris Wheal KFRS Volunteer; KCC Cllr J. Whittle.
- 3. Declarations:**
 - Any lobbying** - none
 - Any interest in items on the Agenda** – T. King, salary approval; Clerk salary approval.
 - Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests** - None
- 4. Approval of Minutes** – to approve the Minutes of 16th November 2015 and Extraordinary Meeting Minutes of 30th November. Both sets of Minutes were approved and signed as a correct record.
- 5. Matters Arising**
 - 'Unsuitable for HGV' Signage – discussed later
 - Planning Breach reported re Pets Field, Eastwood Road - noted
 - Transparency Grant received – all applied for was granted.
 - Litter Bin – MH to look at fittings to order. **Action Cllr Hitchins**
- 6. Public Session**
 - Hedges on Liverton Hill overgrown both sides- to report - needs doing before 1st March
 - Arriva Buses – bad driving, bus went in to ditch on corner of Woodcock Lane– accident heard.
 - Gully blocked, water gouged out the asphalt
 - Garden Centre ditches dug out but still floods

Clerk to report all points to the Highways Steward
- 7. Planning Appeal Ref APP/U2235/W/15/3136323, Woodcock Lane ME17 2AZ**
 - 7.1** Statement on behalf of BMPC presented by the Clerk

Statement from Boughton Malherbe Parish Council:
The Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Chair received a written complaint from a parishioner concerning the handling of Planning Appeal APP/U2235/W/15/3136323, Woodcock Lane ME17 2AZ, comments from which he had also posted on-line, and to whom the Clerk, as Proper Officer, and on advice from Kent Association of Local Councils, has responded. Due process has been, and will continue to be, followed by Boughton Malherbe Parish Council at all times.
End of Statement.
- 8. KCC/MBC Reports – none**

9. Local Policing/Community

9.1 Police Report

Grafty Green

Date	Location	Incident type
November		
15 th	Headcorn Road	Theft – 2 trees - Recovered
15-18th	Elmstone Road	THEFT - Lawnmower
December		
13-14th	Headcorn Road	Theft- Caravan

Incidents reported to the police including above crimes:

November

Suspicious male snooping around

December

A dead pig in a stream – on private land.

A 999 abandoned call

Illegal immigrants

9.2 Community Warden Report

Apologies, I am unable to attend tonight. I haven't been into the Village much over the last month or so – I have been fairly tied up with certain matters in Headcorn, Training and assisting the New Wardens in their areas and 2nd in charge Duties. The run-up to Christmas was incredibly manic with plenty of issues arising amid joint working with the Police and other agencies.

I have been through the village on three occasions – sadly the weather hasn't been the best during these visits, typically resulting in residents doing the right thing by keeping warm and dry in their homes – I would be doing the same!

I paid a visit to nearby Ulcombe Church where I was made to feel very welcome and delivered a reading to the congregation on the event of their Carol service. I am planning on returning to my regular attendance of the Coffee morning next month – I have missed the last three due to my 2nd in charge duties.

The Library service has also set up free IPAD lessons (with free IPAD hire) for approx 6-8 sessions. The sessions are only available to those that are housebound where they will receive weekly sessions and training at home via a visit from a Police checked volunteer. I currently have two residents in Headcorn doing this – one in her mid-70's and another in her mid-90's - both are really enjoying it and have both expressed interest in purchasing one!

If you think this may be suitable for anyone then please get in contact with me.

If there is anything I can do – please do not hesitate to get in touch. *Stuart Ellesmere*

9.3 KFRS – No Report

9.4 Speedwatch - no Speedwatch since the last meeting

10. Highway and Footway Matters

10.1 Liverton Hill – hole repaired but not hole repaired 6 months ago is now breaking up.

10.2 Ditches, gullies, pot holes –there has been a great deal of rain. Complaint re Gully between Maples and where gully run into the big drain in Woodcock Lane where a stream now runs outside. The drain is full of debris and needs cleaning out. Also noted was the poor quality of work on the road surface between Great Humphries and Three Chimneys.
Chilston Bridge roadworks – the diversion route is along the single track Park Road which is too narrow for lorries and is flooded in parts.

10.3 HGV signage

Cllr Galton read a report of the meeting he attended today with Cllr Pearce which was chaired by Cllr Whittle (KCC), and attended by Lenham Cllrs Greenwood, Nye and Scrivens concerning HGV weight restriction signs.

Clerk to check sign locations and forward to Cllr Whittle.

Action Clerk

10.4 59 Bus - no report as the next meeting is next week.

Clerk to e-mail John Collins about an Arriva bus reversing into the ditch on the corner of Church Road/Woodcock Lane.

Action Clerk

11. Councillor Reports on any External Meetings attended - none

12. Finance

12.1 To note the Balance at the Bank **£22,922.26** Nat West
500.00 Santander

12.2 Income since the last meeting **£667.16** (Transparency Grant)

12.3 Bank Reconciliation – seen and signed by Cllr Hitchins

12.4 Authorisation of any payments since 16th November 2015

C King	25	Laptop+Printer(Transp)	568.97
C King	26	Land Registry	29.94

12.5 Approval of Precept

The Finance Committee had approved the following Precept and presented it to Full Council for approval and implementation:

The current band D charge will generate a precept of £ 5,224.35 from the tax base for 2016/17. Combined with the LCTS grant of £ 198.00 the Parish will receive funding of £ 5,422.35.

This will mean an increase of £ 49.59 in total funding to the Parish but there will be no change in the parish element of the council tax for each resident.

This was proposed by Cllr Hitchins; seconded by Cllr Galton and approval was unanimous.

12.6 Approval of Budget 2016/17

The Finance Committee had approved the proposed Budget for 2016/17 and presented it to full Council for approval.

Budget 2016/17

				Budget	Actual	Due			
Estimated Balance 31st March 2016	£22,083		2016/2017 Expenditure Parish					2016/2017 Expenditure Legacy	Actual
Estimated Balance 31st March 2016 Legacy	£13,927								
Estimated Balance 31st March 2016 Parish	£8,156	Village Green Maintenance		£600	£600				
Estimated Balance 31st March 2016 Parish (incl due)	£6,856	Village Hall Hire		£500	£500				
		Christmas Tree		£100	£100				
Estimated Income 2016/2017 Parish		Litter Collection		£100	£100				
Precept + LCTS	£5,422	Churchyard Maintenance		£500	£500				
Parish Services Scheme	£993	Emergency Plan		£50	£50				
VAT Refund (2015-2016)	£187	Clerks Wages		£1,800	£1,800				
		Training Courses		£600	£600				
Total	£6,602	Auditor		£80	£80				
		Insurance		£300	£300				
		KALC Membership		£210	£210				
Estimated Income 2016/2017 Legacy		Contingency		£250	£250				
History Society	£1,500	AGM Refreshments		£50	£50				
		Chairmans Allowance		£100	£100				
Total	£1,500	CPRE Membership		£36	£36				
		30Mph Sign				£1,300			
Estimated Balance 31st March 2017	£24,909								
Estimated Balance 31st March 2017 Legacy	£15,427								
Estimated Balance 31st March 2017 Parish	£9,482								
Estimated Balance 31st March 2017 Parish (incl due)	£8,182								
		Totals		£5,276	£5,276		Total		£0
		Estimated Total Expenditure			£5,276				
		Estimated Underspend in year against budget			£0				
		Estimated Underspend in year against income			£1,326				

The Budget 2016/17 was proposed by Cllr Hitchins, seconded by Cllr Galton and approval was unanimous.

12.7 Approve Clerk's Salary increase The Finance Committee had approved a salary increase for the Parish Clerk to £1800.00/pa from 1st April 2016 to cover the increasing workload and presented it to full Council for Approval.

This was proposed by Cllr Galton; seconded by Cllr Hitchins and approval was unanimous.

13. Correspondence

E-mail:

18 Nov: from Terry Martin, KALC: "The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 requires that from 2017, smaller authorities will appoint auditors through a 'sector led body' or opt out of such arrangements and appoint auditors locally. BMPC has opted out.

19/11 Tom Marchant via Martin Round, Maidstone Local Plan – KCC response

22/11 From Martin Round, subject: Fly tipping general problems/hot spots

4/12 From MBC Planning: The programme of upgrades to planning systems has changed, following a decision to withhold one of the upgrades after testing.

14/1/16 Chairmanship conference 2016 – The conference Centre, East Malling. 26th February 2016, 9.30am

On the table:

CPRE Countryside Voice

Clerk and Councils Direct

SLCC Clerk Magazine

14. Decide Future Meeting Dates

Monday 9th May will be the AGM and the APCM. The last meeting of the year will be beginning 21st March, the Clerk to check GGVH availability.

15. Further Information

- A Litter-Pick was suggested for April – to be discussed and arranged at next meeting
- A service for the Tassles will be held next Saturday 16th January, 5pm in Ulcombe Church, should anybody wish to attend.

The Meeting closed at 8.45pm