

From the Minutes (taken by Cllr Galton) of a Meeting of Boughton Malherbe Parish Council held on Monday 6th March 2017 at 7.30 pm in Grafty Green Village Hall

Public session – The issue of Manholes and other defective road items were raised and discussed.

All to be discussed with KCC Roads Dept. by BMPC at a meeting on 20th March

MBC Report – Shellina Prendergast stated that the MBC Enforcement department was still very short staffed and unable to cope with complaints which must be made through the MBC Portal to ensure they are logged.

Headcorn Neighbourhood Plan has been rejected.

The Maidstone Borough Plan is unlikely to be approved until June/July.

A serious issue is the fly tipping along all roads/ verges and it is important to write to Alison Broom, copied to Helen Whately MP. A particular issue is recent tipping of laughing gas cylinders in Headcorn Road from Hillside into Eastwood Road.

Shellina agreed to write an article about this subject for the Malherbe Monthly.

A further issue was insurance for litter picking organised by parish councils because other councils had found they were not covered by insurance as discovered at Ulcombe. Our BMPC Clerk should check with our own insurers Came & co. Cllr Turner agreed to write to Alison Broom copied to Helen Whately, and speak to Peter Titchener at Ulcombe about insurance experience.

KCC Report – None. The Chairman expressed the grateful thanks of the Parish Council to Jenny Whittle for all her help and support over the last 10 years as she is retiring from her role in KCC at the end of April.

Local policing/Community

Police Report Very little reported. No Crimes since last report. Written report on record.

It was agreed that there had actually been two crimes of theft reported.

Community Warden Report Very little reported except an incident of scam mail.

Volunteers are sought to help senior citizens learn computer skills. Written report on record.

Highway and Footway matters

Liverton Hill The problems of traffic on the hill continue, disappointment was expressed at the poor response of the public to joining Shellina Prendergast last Saturday for a photoshoot.

Ditches, Gullies, Potholes All to be discussed with KCC Highways on 20th March.

The road south of the GGGC site is flooding again, action needed where a 4” drain is fed by a much larger one. KCC drain clearing team were out on 22nd February at junction with Crumps Lane but problem not resolved.

HGV Signage Installation is progressing but not yet finished.

59 Bus Cllr Collins reported no change since last report. The next bus group meeting is on 3rd July to discuss the Saturday service but no plans to change the 59 service.

Choose and approve Boughton Park road names All names suggested to date were not considered to be appropriate and there was no enthusiasm for two roads with different names.

It was agreed that the best compromised was to call the whole development Boughton Park and simply give the house/office numbers on the road name signage. e.g. BOUGHTON PARK 1 – 14.

The postal address for the first property would be 1 Boughton Park

Headcorn Road

Grafty Green

Maidstone ME 17 2AT

This means the location and post code will still be the same as for the old Garden Centre. The numbering will have to be adjusted to account for the offices which is up to Quinn. This solution was proposed by Cllr Collins for reply to the MBC letter dated 27th January 2016, seconded by Cllr King, unanimous agreement.

Clerk Applicants There have been four applications. All four will be invited to an interview in the afternoon on Wednesday 22nd March (subject to GGVH availability) between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm

Allowing for half hour interviews. When each confirms availability they would be given a time to arrive. Proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Allum, unanimous agreement

Finance

To note the balance at the Bank The account update was circulated.

The account balances were Natwest £28031 92
Santander £500.00

Income since last meeting – None

Bank Reconciliation (attached) – Seen and signed by Cllr Collins

Any cheques to sign – signed as follows: St Nicholas Church £500.00

GG Village Hall £168.00 for Hall Hire
G Rees £244.00 for V Green fence repair
CPRE £36.00 for membership

The payment to the Village Hall was calculated to be £20.00 Short. This was noted by Cllr Turner (Village Hall Treasurer) to be added to the next invoice for use of the Hall.

The payment to CPRE was in response to a recent request from CPRE for our annual subscription due before the next B M Parish Council Meeting.

Authorisation of any payments since the last meeting – payments to the following were approved:

R. Britcher £560.00 for tree lopping
R. Smith £200.00 for care of the Green
R. Tew £144.99 for Christmas Tree
C.King £63.86 for Stationery

Correspondence – Letter dated 17th March from the Pensions Regulator reminding us of BMPC

pension responsibilities and giving action required by dates: 1st May 2017

12th June 2017

2nd October 2017

An estimate in sum of £2112.00 + VAT from Duke Contractors Ltd for replacement finger post sign on Village Green. It was agreed to refer this item to an extraordinary Parish Council meeting ASAP because it was in excess of £1000.00, beyond which a competitive tendering process was required. It was Agreed Cllr Turner would check with KALC if we could take the money from The Henry Town Fund (kept separate from the precept/ services scheme account) without a tendering process.

This item to be raised at meeting on the 20th March with KCC roads to check out any problems.

Further information – Cllr Turner will ask Gavin Reece to fix the replacement litter bin outside the church. Bin currently in possession of the Clerk since purchase.

The following items are not on this agenda and need to be discussed at the proposed extraordinary meeting, as requested by Cllr Galton by circulation to all other councillors prior to this meeting:

Discussion and approval for purchase of books for councillors guidance.

Discussion and approval of limits on disclosure of surgery requests from residents and related matters.

Discussion and approval for councillors to contact Quinn on behalf of BMPC when they see Boughton Park heavy lorries passing through Grafty Green.

Additional item: Discussion and approval for Cllr Galton to write to the MBC Case Officer and Quinn about the Boughton Park external lighting, and deal with matters arising. If necessary to copy Rob Jarman, Martin Round, and Shellina Prendergast into correspondence.

Meeting to be arranged ASAP.