



## **BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL**

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Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024, Grafty Green Village Hall 7.30pm

Meeting Ref: 002/2024

Attendees: Cllr Eastwood (Chairman) Cllr Hook, Cllr Tomlinson, Cllr Thompson  
Cllr Trzebinski (Maidstone Borough Cllr) Marie Norris (Clerk)

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr Martin Round

### **2. Declarations**

No lobbying was declared. There were no declarations of interest made to items on the agenda. There were no changes to the register of pecuniary interests

### **3. Approval of the previous Minutes**

The Chairman approved the APCM dated 13th May and accepted that the minutes were a true and accurate record and were signed accordingly.

### **4. Public Session**

11 residents attended the meeting. The following items were brought to the attention of BMPC

- The Malherbe Monthly paper edition had not been received for June/July (Boughton Park area).
- There was still a vacant post on the parish council.

The Chairman agreed to contact the Editor of the Malherbe Monthly regarding the newsletter.

The co-option process had been followed and the notice had been displayed for the required timeframe. The PC were now able to co-opt to the position and anyone interested in joining the PC should contact any member of the PC or clerk for further details, an advert will also be displayed in the Malherbe Monthly and on the pc website. Any interested applicants could then be considered at the next meeting (September).

### **5. External Reports**

- KCC -No report received

MBC

- Waste Collection- Cllr Trzebinski reported that Suez, the new waste contractor, is improving however there are still problems within rural areas with properties being missed off routes. The vehicles also have some issues

whereby the food waste collection is filling up quicker on the new smaller vehicle whilst the back of the lorry is only half full, but the alarm in the cab means that the vehicles then have to return to the depot for the food waste to be emptied before returning to the round. This would then cause a knock-on delay. Cllr Trzebinski requested that if any residents are still having issues with collections to email him directly with their full address and postcode.

- Due to the local election being called and a number of councillors new to the role, it has been a quiet period at Maidstone Borough Council. The expectation was that the coalition would announce their plan for the next 4 years.

No other items were raised with Cllr Trzebinski

#### **6. Review and Adopt (NALC) Finance Regulations**

The NALC updated regulations had been circulated to members prior to the meeting for their consideration.

#### **7. Approval of payments in accordance with the budget**

A list of payments were circulated prior to the meeting. Members of the PC agreed that all payments should be made. BMPC **resolved** to make the outstanding 23/24 payment for Churchyard maintenance along with the 24/25 payment.

#### **8. Amesis Agreement**

BMPC authorised the clerk to submit the original draft contract to Amesis for approval. It was agreed that any negotiations would need to be brought back to the Parish Council for consideration or approval. **Action: Clerk**

#### **9. Create and Establish a Working Group for Boughton Malherbe Emergency Plan**

Cllr Hook was appointed as Chairman for the working group. Cllr Hook was keen to call upon members of the community who wished to be involved in setting up an Emergency plan and those with relevant skills sets would be particularly welcome (Emergency service / first aiders). More information about the working group will be made available both online and in the Malherbe monthly but residents who would be willing to be involved were asked to contact the clerk in the first instance.

**Action: Clerk to promote within the village.**

#### **10. Appoint KALC representatives**

BMPC have the right to appoint two representatives to attend KALC meetings. There are normally 4 meetings a year. The chairman called for volunteers Cllr Hook and Cllr Tomlinson volunteered. **Action Clerk to advise KALC of the BMPC reps.**

#### **11. Review and Amend the Highway Improvement Plan**

The current Highways Improvement plan had been issued to all members prior to the meeting for consideration. The PC authorised the clerk to make the changes suggested to the HIP plan and return them to KCC Highways. If, as a result of the changes, a meeting is required with the KCC steward, the clerk will advise members accordingly. A resident questioned if there were any financial outlay required by the PC if the red markings on the road were removed due to resurfacing. The chairman advised that it was the understanding of the PC that if the markings were to fade and erode due to wear and tear and we want it replaced, then Boughton Malherbe PC

would need to fund this if however, the markings were removed by either a utility company working on the road or Kent Highways resurfacing the road, then the markings would be replaced at no cost to the parish. A resident asked if a speed survey had been conducted in the parish. The chairman confirmed that previously KCC had completed one. Their finding concluded that there was not a speeding issue on the roads that had been monitored.

Action Clerk to amend HIP and return updated version to the KCC Steward

#### **12. Arrangements for Community Litter Pick**

It was agreed that Councillors will agree a date for the Community Litter Pick. Cllrs will then advise the clerk who will begin to advertise the event.

(Secretary's Note – Following the meeting, the 11<sup>th</sup> August has been confirmed as the date for the litter pick) The Chairman confirmed that Health and safety procedures for the event were being considered and would be in place for the event. Action: Clerk & Councillors to advertise litter pick.

#### **13. Arrangements for potential Prescription Collection Service.**

There was a discussion on the above item that had originated as an idea from a local residents' concerns about vulnerable members of the community and how the parish council and local residents could assist them with collection of items of shopping, prescriptions, doctors visits etc. The PC were in full support of this initiative although it was felt that further consideration into how it could look and be run would be required and in particular, someone in a coordinator role would be needed. Action: All Cllrs to consider further, Cllr Hook to promote amongst members of the Grafty Green Coffee Morning.

#### **14. Bio Diversity Net Gain Training**

The training was not attended, no report received.

#### **15. Matters Arising**

Cllr Tomlinson provided an update regarding the incident where a man driving a car had approached local woman whilst they were out walking and running. A number plate for the car had been provided to the local beat officer, who will look into this matter further. The message that the police are keen to get out is that if you feel uncomfortable or threatened or witness anything out of the ordinary, do report it. A safety message has been put on the local Facebook page.

The clerk raised the issue about the placement of the new rubbish bin which was procured predominately for the disposal of waste collected during litter pick. The PC agreed to consider this outside of the meeting.

#### **16. Exclude the Public**

No matters for discussion.

There being no other matters the chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 8:07pm.

Signature:

Date:

DRAFT