

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 17th August 2010
In the Committee Room of Boughton Monchelsea Village Hall
pursuant to notice, commencing at 7.00pm

Present:

Cllrs S. Evans
 M. Bray
 S. Munford
 S. Witherington
 C. Bracking
 D. Smith
 P. Herrin

Mrs L. Windless (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllr Clarke (holiday), Cllr Thompson (holiday), Cllr Date (illness) and Cllr Williams (holiday).

2. Notification of late items for inclusion on the agenda :

It was agreed that the following late agenda item should be included :
6.2 Local needs affordable housing

3. Standing Order 61: To decide whether the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for any item.

No exempt items.

3. Open Quarter :

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

5. Declaration of Interests (and reminder to Members to review their entries in the Register of Interests) :

Cllr Bracking declared an interest in item 6.1 as an allotment holder and founder member of the proposed allotment society.

6. Items for discussion :

6.1 Haste Hill Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Society – proposed constitution and rules :

The proposed constitution of the Society was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Herrin. Agreed by all Councillors.

Cllr Munford advised that the farmer at Parkwood Farm had offered to donate some water tanks to the Parish Council free of charge. Cllr Munford advised that the tanks are 1m x 1m x 1m and that the Parish Council can have as many as they require. Cllr Bracking to view tanks and arrange free delivery to the allotments with the farmer.

CLLR BRACKING

The proposed £3000 grant to the Society was discussed but it was felt that this sum was disproportionate to the number of people within the parish who would benefit from it. It was agreed that a grant of £2000 should be made to the Haste Hill Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Society. Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Bray. Agreed by all Councillors. It was noted that this grant would be used for the following :

Supply and erection of 'Society' shed
Toilet shed and connection to sewer
Connection of water tanks to water supply
Allotment notice board

- 6.2 Local needs affordable housing : Cllr Munford advised that Tessa O'Sullivan from Action with Communities in Rural Kent had received no response from the landowner's agent regarding site 1. He advised that the owner of site 4 has expressed an interest however. It was agreed that Tessa O'Sullivan should be instructed to approach the landowner of site 1 directly in an effort to obtain a response. Clerk to advise Tessa of landowners direct contact details. It was agreed that initial negotiations with the landowner of site 4 should continue whilst waiting for a response on site 1.

CLERK

It was agreed that the Parish Council should proceed with English Rural Housing Association as the chosen housing provider. Proposed by Cllr Munford, seconded by Cllr Smith. Agreed by all Councillors. It was noted that the Parish Council had approached five different housing associations as follows before coming to this decision : English Rural Housing Association, Maidstone Housing Trust, Moat, Orbit and Southern Housing Group.

7. Any other Business:

- 7.1 Cllr Munford spoke regarding the very sad passing of Cllr Gillian Powell. It was agreed that a sympathy card and flowers, if appropriate should be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 7.2 Cllr Herrin stated that work on the flood alleviation scheme was progressing and that he would be reporting further at the Parish Council meeting in September.
- 7.3 Cllr Witherington advised that the new Parish Council website was under construction. He asked Councillors to view the 'work in progress' site and forward any comments on it to him as soon as possible.
- 7.4 Cllr Witherington stated that the broadband scheme was progressing and that following receipt of supplier's proposals, further advice was being sought from KCC's Lyndon Gurr.
- 7.5 The clerk asked Cllr Bracking whether he would be updating the allotment lease agreement prior to rents being collected in October. Cllr Bracking advised that minor updating was required and that he would forward the new agreement to the clerk by mid September so that it can be sent out with the rent reminder letters.

CLLR MUNFORD

ALL COUNCILLORS

CLLR BRACKING

Meeting closed 7.45pm