

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2013 In Boughton Monchelsea Village Hall pursuant to notice, commencing at 7.00pm

Present:

Cllrs S. Munford (Chairman)
 C. Bracking
 S. Evans
 I. Ellis
 J. Thompson
 J. Gershon
 W. Brown
 D. Smith
 A. Whybrow
 J. Lewis
 L. Date
 K. Williams
 P. Herrin
 W. Clarke

Parish Clerk
KCC Warden, Liz Lovatt
5 no. parishioners

1. **Apologies:**
 Apologies were received from Cllr Bray
2. **Notification of late items for inclusion on the agenda**
 The following late item was agreed :
 14.7 Additional land maintenance responsibilities for 2013/14
3. **Standing Order 61: To decide whether the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for any item.**
 No exempt items
4. **Reports from Maidstone Police / PCSO and KCC Rural Community Warden**
 PCSO Neil Denney was unable to attend the meeting and had not provided a report to the clerk in advance. Members asked the clerk to request again for the report to be provided. **CLERK**

KCC Warden, Liz Lovatt reported as follows :

- The Police had advised that there had been no reported crimes in the area in the past two weeks
- Liz advised that she had spent a lot of time during the last two months assisting vulnerable people and requested that residents report any concerns that they may have and keep an eye on neighbours, friends and family. Liz stated that she has been able to access some funding for vulnerable people to ensure that room temperatures at home are maintained

at a warm enough level. In addition she had worked with another Warden to help a mother and daughter who had been living in a stable for several weeks during very cold temperatures. Another elderly person had not had central heating or hot water for months and Liz ensured that a gas safety check was carried out and the central heating reinstated.

- Vulnerable elderly people and residents who qualify for disability living allowance are able to get a free annual gas safety check with their utility company. They may also qualify for a £130 winter warm discount from their energy supplier.
- Age UK may also be able to assist with elderly vulnerable residents
- Liz advised that Barry Boulton has stood down as Neighbourhood Watch area co-ordinator although he remains an active member. Liz requested assistance from the Parish Council in finding a replacement
- Liz explained that her electrical safety booklet has now received endorsement from all the agencies involved and is ready to print. Some additional funding is required and Liz asked whether the Parish Council may be able to assist in applying for any relevant funding

Cllr Munford advised Liz to write to all the Maidstone parishes regarding funding for the electrical safety booklet since it was intended that the booklet be sent out to all Maidstone and surrounding village residents. Cllr Munford agreed to assist Liz in approaching Maidstone Borough Council regarding other possible funding sources.

CLLR MUNFORD

5. Open Quarter:

Parishioner, Mr Barry Boulton, requested a copy of the Parish Council complaints policy. Clerk to forward.

CLERK

Mr Boulton stated that he had been in correspondence with Kent Highways for almost a year in an effort to get the drain at the bottom of Beresfords Hill cleaned out. Cllr Munford explained that the Parish Council had been doing the same and that Kent Highways had now carried out a camera survey of the drain which had revealed that it had collapsed and requires re-laying. Kent Highways had advised that this work would require a road closure to be put in place. Clerk to find out when this work will be carried out.

CLERK

Barry Boulton advised that Neighbourhood Watch remained in need of an area co-ordinator and asked for this vacancy to be publicised by the Parish Council. Cllr Munford thanked Mr Boulton for all his hard work as area co-ordinator. It was agreed that the vacancy would be publicised on the Parish Council website and noticeboards.

CLERK

A parishioner spoke regarding the pantomime that had been put on in the village hall last year, the cast of which comprised local people. The parishioner had been involved in staging that production and stated that the intention was to form a pantomime group in the village. She added that the profit from the 2011 panto ticket sales had all been donated to charity but that the cost of hiring the village hall for rehearsals and performances had been around £2000. She asked whether the Parish Council would consider giving a grant to the pantomime group towards the

cost of future hall hire. It was agreed that the panto group should provide more detailed financial information so that it could be considered again by the Parish Council at its meeting in March or May.

Cllr Lewis advised that his wife is a drama teacher and may be willing to assist with the group.

6. Declarations of Interests:

All members had completed forms prior to the meeting requesting dispensation to discuss and vote on item 11.1 precept for 2013/14. Dispensation was granted by the clerk for a period of 4 years from 8th January 2013 and forms signed accordingly. It was noted that the dispensation was required as all members were both parishioners of Boughton Monchelsea and Council tax payers. In addition, without dispensation the number of persons unable to participate in the transaction of Parish Council business on this item would be so great as to impede the transaction of the business.

7. Matters outstanding from minutes (6 November) not included in agenda:

Item 7 Finger posts : Item to be deferred until next meeting

Item 14.4 Grants : Cllr Brown spoke regarding 'Grant Buddies' who may be able to advise on how best to apply for grant funding. Cllr Brown agreed to investigate this further.

CLLR BROWN

8. Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2012:

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2012 were agreed as correct. Proposed by Cllr Ellis, seconded by Cllr Bracking. Agreed by all members.

9. Clerk's report

The contents of the clerk's report were noted. Cllr Thompson queried what the insurmountable problems were with the Scouts proposed wheelchair and buggy friendly walk. Cllr Munford advised that as a small part of the proposed route was on the road then KCC would not be able to advertise it as a safe route.

Cllr Ellis asked the clerk for an update on the alleged planning breach at Boughton Service Station. The clerk noted that as stated in the report, MBC had advised that the hard standing was not as approved and the planting scheme had not been carried out. As such the owner will be required to remove the excess hardstanding and carry out the planting scheme within 28 days or submit a planning application within the same period. MBC had advised that the owner has stated an intention to submit a planning application to keep the excess hardstanding.

Cllr Ellis requested that Boughton Service Station be added to the deferred items schedule so that it could be discussed as a recurring item at subsequent Parish Council meetings.

CLERK

10. Finance Report:

Payments since last meeting (incl VAT) :

PMC Planning	Neighbourhood Plan consultancy fees	1000.00
Wrights Fencing	Fencing at Parkwood Farm ref reservoir access	1020.00
Permaroofing	Village hall flat roofing work	4000.00
South East Water	Water supply to allotments	231.70
Clerk	Stamps, agenda printing, key cutting	104.96
RIP Cleaning Services	Dog bin emptying / October	43.20
Royal British Legion	Donation	350.00
KALC	Fee for Cllr Gershon to attend finance training event	72.00
Clerk	Clerk's salary and expenses	1632.89
Permaroofing	Village hall flat roofing work	3000.00
P. Herrin	Padlock and keys for reservoir access gate	20.00
Boughton Monchelsea Scout Group	Donation towards production cost of walk leaflet	300.00
PMC Planning	Neighbourhood Plan consultancy fees	1000.00
Village Hall Committee	Hall hire	68.25
RIP Cleaning Services	Dog bin emptying / November	54.00
M. Fitzgerald	Carol booklet printing	80.00
Clerk	Stamps for posted newsletters	72.50
Clerk	Refreshments for Carols on the Green, stamps	61.71
N. Tuck	Newsletter delivery	100.00
Clerk	Refreshments etc for Carols on the Green	50.90
PMC Planning	Neighbourhood Plan consultancy fees	1000.00
Maidstone Citadel Band	Donation to Salvation Army following Carols on the Green	275.00
Maidstone Borough Council	Planning application fee ref churchyard extension (reimbursed by St Peters Church)	192.50
Permaroofing	Village hall flat roofing work	11,576.00
Black & Veatch	Consultancy fees ref Parkwood Farm reservoir (replacement cheque as original lost by B&V)	5,400.00

Receipts:

Village hall committee / Allotment leaseholders	Reimbursement of Permaroofing bills (£5733.33) Allotment rent (£278.00)	6011.33
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St Peters Church / Allotment leaseholders	Reimbursement of churchyard extension pl app fee (£192.50) Allotment rent (£48.00)	240.50
Village hall committee	Reimbursement of Permaroofting bill	2463.85

Balances as at 2nd January 2013 :

Current Account	19787.99
Business Reserve	423.77
National Savings	277.21
Total Financial Assets	20488.97

Cllr Ellis proposed that the above financial statement be accepted. Seconded by Cllr Lewis, agreed by all members.

11. Correspondence:

11.1 MBC – Precept for 2013/14 :

Cllr Ellis noted that Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council's precept was in the lower quartile of the precepts set by all the Maidstone parishes. Cllr Ellis explained that a major part of the Parish Council's income each year had come from concurrent functions funding. Two years ago, the concurrent functions grant had been £15,630 with the 2012/13 grant being £11,770. The grant for 2013/14 (new Parish Services Scheme) would be in the region of only £3,000. As a result, the Parish Council would need to raise its precept this year by significantly more than inflation.

It was noted that in addition to any precept set, the Parish Council would receive additional funds of £2350 to compensate for the fact that only 90% reimbursement of changes to the local tax base would be given. It was noted that this additional sum would be provided for 2013/14 only and not necessarily for subsequent years.

Cllr Ellis reported that a major item of expenditure for 2013/14 would be the cost of producing and adopting Boughton Monchelsea's Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted that a planning consultant had already been appointed and was working on this in conjunction with members.

Cllr Thompson stated that KALC had advised its members that they may want to consider precepting to allow for future decreases in income. Cllr Ellis stated that the rise he would be proposing made allowances for this. He added that recent meetings with Maidstone KALC had indicated that the vast majority of Maidstone Parish Councils would be increasing their precepts by double digit percentages.

Cllr Munford noted that KALC had advised that there would be no precept capping regime for parishes for 2013/14 but there may be in future years.

Cllr Williams asked whether the Parish Council was making efforts to reduce its recurring costs. Cllr Ellis stated that he didn't think it was appropriate to make any cuts to the services provided but that the Parish Council had been prudent in past years, for example by not increasing the level of grants to local organisations.

Cllr Ellis proposed that the Parish Council set the precept for 2013/14 at £45,000. For a band D property this represents £36.37 per year, an increase of 17% from last year's level of £31.50. Cllr Ellis's proposal was seconded by Cllr Munford and agreed by all members.

Cllr Thompson thanked Cllr Ellis for producing the detailed agenda papers for this item.

The Borough Council's precept form was signed by both Cllr Munford and the clerk. Clerk to return form to MBC. **CLERK**

11.2 Mr Cox – Correspondence regarding highway safety on Heath Road :

The clerk explained that a resident, Mr Cox, had been in correspondence with the Parish Council regarding a problem he and his neighbours were experiencing in turning safely in and out of their driveways on Heath Road. Mr Cox lives in a property between Gandys Lane and Brishing Lane which is situated on a bend in Heath Road. Mr Cox was present at the meeting and advised that it was extremely dangerous turning in and out of his property due to reduced visibility and the excess speed and thoughtless driving of some motorists. Mr Cox added that he had met with the Police who had suggested residents cut their hedges back to aid visibility but Mr Cox advised this was already being done.

Councillors discussed Mr Cox's concerns and the following actions were agreed :

- Parish Council to contact Kent Highways in an effort to get appropriate signage erected. Clerk to pursue funding from Borough Councillor, Eric Hotson if necessary **CLERK**
- Cllr Kirstie Williams mentioned a new KCC policy whereby mirrors can be erected on the highway verge (where appropriate) to assist residents in turning safely in and out of their drives. Cllr Williams stated that the policy was only introduced very recently but that residents would need to formally apply to KCC themselves for this. A safety check would then be carried out by Kent Highways and if agreed, the cost of supply and installation of the mirror would have to be borne by the resident. Clerk to obtain details of relevant contact within Kent Highways and forward to Mr Cox **CLERK**
- Parish Council to arrange meeting with Kent Highways to discuss, amongst other issues, possibility of traffic calming on Heath Road. **CLERK**

11.3 KALC – Government consultation on examining the speed limit for HGV's over 7.5T on single carriageway roads : The clerk explained that details of this consultation had been passed to the Parish Council by KALC and queried whether members considered it relevant to submit a response. Cllr Munford suggested that a small sub-group of members meet to formulate a response. Cllr Date agreed to lead this group and Cllrs Brown, Herrin and Whybrow agreed to be involved. Clerk to arrange meeting accordingly. Clerk to copy response to Mr Barry Boulton. **CLERK**

- 11.4 KCC – Middle Medway Rivers Restoration Project : Cllr Munford spoke regarding this river restoration project, involving working with the community to implement river restoration. He explained that the project would involve Loose stream and that he believed the Parish Council should get involved with this as the long term plan would be for land owned by Boughton Monchelsea Amenity Trust to link in with the Loose valley.

Cllr Munford stated that a presentation on the project would be held by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership on 19th February at Hadlow village hall and Cllr Bracking agreed to attend on behalf of the Parish Council. **CLLR BRACKING**

Cllr Munford stated that he had represented the Parish Council at meetings of the Loose Valley conservation area society and asked for a successor to take over this role. Cllr Bracking agreed to take over. Cllr Munford to forward any relevant information to Cllr Bracking. **CLLR MUNFORD**

- 11.5 Jacobs / KCC – Church Street improvements : The clerk advised that the proposed improvement scheme had included a road build out at the south end of Church Street to the south of the village hall car park entrance. The proposal had been forwarded to the Police for comment but the Police had responded unfavourably to the build out location due to the risk of traffic backing up on Heath Road. The clerk advised that locating the build out further north along Church Street would negate the benefits and cause parking problems for local residents.

It was noted that the £7,500 grant money awarded by Cllr Hotson for this project would need to be spent by the end of March 2013 and therefore it was agreed that Cllr Munford, Cllr Williams and the clerk should meet to discuss this further and agree a revised scheme proposal. **CLLR MUNFORD / CLLR WILLIAMS / CLERK**

12. **Planning Report:**

The following applications had been considered by the Planning and Licensing Committee:

		MBC notified
MA/12/1934	Travis Perkins Ltd, Bircholt Road, Maidstone Applicant : Travis Perkins Ltd Construction of a new open fronted covered storage building DECISION : No objection / comment	12/12/12
MA/12/1989	New Line Learning Academy, Boughton Lane, Maidstone Applicant : Future Schools Trust Outline application for the erection of a primary school with access to be determined at this stage with appearance, landscaping, layout and scale reserved for subsequent approval DECISION : No objection to this application regarding access however the Parish Council is concerned at the cumulative traffic effect that would result from new educational facilities at this location and would expect this to be carefully considered and provided for in any future	12/12/12

MA/12/1994	<p>detailed planning application</p> <p>New Line Learning Academy, Boughton Lane, Maidstone</p> <p>Applicant : Future Schools Trust</p> <p>Outline application for the erection of a new studio school with access to be determined at this stage with appearance, landscaping, layout and scale reserved for subsequent approval</p> <p>DECISION : No objection to this application regarding access however the Parish Council is concerned at the cumulative traffic effect that would result from new educational facilities at this location and would expect this to be carefully considered and provided for in any future detailed planning application</p>	12/12/12
MA/12/1984	<p>Heathcot, Heath Road, Boughton Monchelsea</p> <p>Applicant : Mr Morris</p> <p>Loft extension with ground and first floor rear extensions and front rooflights</p> <p>DECISION : No objection / comment</p>	12/12/12
MA/12/2099	<p>18 Haste Hill Close, Boughton Monchelsea</p> <p>Applicant : Ms Clarkson-Short</p> <p>Single storey rear extension and single storey front extension to the garage</p> <p>DECISION : No objection / comment</p>	12/12/12
MA/12/1977	<p>Land at Church Street, The Green, Boughton Monchelsea</p> <p>Applicant : Openreach</p> <p>An application for the prior approval of the local planning authority for the installation of an equipment cabinet</p> <p>DECISION : Not yet decided</p>	--
MA/12/2077	<p>The Orchards, Snowey Track, Off Park Lane, Boughton Monchelsea</p> <p>Applicant : Mr & Mrs Love & Butler</p> <p>Variation of condition 3 of permission MA/11/0744 (The change of use of the site to a residential caravan site for 4 gypsy families involving the siting of 4 mobile homes, 4 touring caravans, the erection of 4 brick-built amenity blocks with associated parking areas) to allow the siting of two additional mobile homes on plot 2 and two additional mobile homes on plot 3</p> <p>DECISION : Not yet decided</p>	--
MA/12/1924	<p>Land rear of Le Portal, East of East Barn, Heath Road, Boughton Monchelsea</p> <p>Applicant : Mrs Wilson</p> <p>Outline application for the erection of 1 no dwelling and detached garage including creation of vehicle access and associated works</p> <p>DECISION : Not yet decided</p>	--
MA/12/2239	<p>Wierton Grange, Back Lane, Boughton Monchelsea</p> <p>Applicant : Dr and Dr Thom</p> <p>An application for listed building consent for internal</p>	--

alterations to layout
DECISION : Not yet decided
 MA/12/1882 Keepers Cottage, Peens Lane, Boughton Monchelsea --
 Applicant : Mrs Waugh
 Erection of a detached garage
DECISION : Not yet decided

The following applications have been APPROVED by MBC :

MA/12/1409 The Oast, Brishing Lane, Boughton Monchelsea
 Conversion of Oast House from one dwelling to two dwellings
 MA/12/1493 Wierton Cottage, Wierton Hill, Boughton Monchelsea
 Garden shed
 MA/12/1610 57 Church Street, Boughton Monchelsea
 Erection of a two storey rear extension
 MA/12/1807 Travis Perkins, Bircholt Road, Maidstone
 Erection of a new covered storage building
 MA/12/1934 Travis Perkins, Bircholt Road, Maidstone
 Construction of a new open fronted covered storage building
 MA/12/2014 Boughton Mount Oast, Boughton Lane, Boughton Monchelsea
 Application for a non-material amendment following a grant of planning permission MA/11/1372 (Creation of new window openings to first floor roundels, installation of roof lights to roundel roofs, replacement of rear ground floor window with French doors)

The following applications had been REFUSED by MBC:

None

The following application(s) have been notified as WITHDRAWN

MA/12/1904 Land at Langley Park, Sutton Road, Maidstone
 Screening opinion for proposed mixed use development incorporating 600 residential dwellings, local centre (incorporating shops and public house), two-form entry primary school and community hall together with open space, nature conservation area / parkland

The following APPEALS have been notified:

None

The following APPEAL DECISION(S) have been notified :

None

The following APPEALS have been notified as WITHDRAWN:

None

13. Representatives' Reports:

13.1 KALC: Cllr Ellis had nothing further to add

13.2 Allotments : Cllr Bracking confirmed that the HSE had written to the Parish Council advising that their investigation case relating to the allotment hut electrical supply had now been closed. The letter expressed thanks to the Parish Council for its co-operation and prompt provision of information requested during the course of the investigation. Cllr Bracking thanked those members who had been involved in the case.

Since most recent new plot holders were from surrounding parishes, it was agreed that several vacant plots / half plots should be held back for Boughton Monchelsea parishioners.

Cllr Bracking stated that notices would soon be posted up at the allotments advising plot holders that insurance for their personal possessions was their own responsibility

13.3 Village Hall & Recreation Ground : Cllr Bray was not present at the meeting. Cllr Whybrow agreed to act as the Parish Council's village hall and recreation ground representative in conjunction with Cllr Bray.

13.4 Neighbourhood Watch: Covered in item 5 above. Cllr Williams had nothing further to report.

13.5 PACT : Cllr Date advised that the minutes from the last PACT meeting were available on the Parish Council's website.

13.6 Bus group : Cllr Munford advised that the next bus group meeting would be taking place in January. He added that the bus company had agreed that the last bus could be diverted along Heath Road. Cllr Munford questioned whether the time of the last bus (5.25pm) was late enough for workers and stated that he would be asking the bus company to adjust this to a slightly later time.

Cllr Thompson requested that her contact details be removed in relation to the bus group as she had relinquished her role as rep quite some time ago but was still receiving correspondence. Cllr Bracking to action.

CLLR BRACKING

14. Items for Discussion:

14.1 Parkwood Farm reservoir update including flood operation team for next two months :

Cllr Herrin advised that there was a fault with the sluice gate which the contractor was rectifying. He stated that during the recent heavy rain the sluice gate had been closed but the flow of water continued. As a temporary measure some ditches had been dug by Cllrs Herrin and Munford to allow water to run into the flood plain rather than down into the Quarries. It was noted that this action prevented a lot of

water reaching the Quarries. Cllr Munford added that Kent Highways had carried out some emergency drain cleaning which had also helped the situation.

The following members agreed to act as sluice gate operators for the next two month period : Cllrs Munford, Herrin, Smith (day cover), Cllr Williams (night cover)

Cllr Bracking expressed concern that during the recent heavy rain and flooding, residents of the Quarries had not been kept informed of what was happening by the Parish Council. It was noted that the priority had been to act to prevent the flooding rather than spend time contacting residents. It was noted however that it was important to keep parishioners informed and this could be improved on in the future if a similar situation were to arise.

A resident expressed concern at the debris going into the swallow hole in the Maltings and explained that she felt this increased the potential for flooding. It was agreed that the Parish Council would look into this. **CLERK / CLLR MUNFORD**

- 14.2 North Ward update : Cllr Williams advised that herself and Cllrs Date and Lewis had met recently for a meeting of the new north ward sub-group and would try to meet on a bi-monthly basis in advance of each Parish Council meeting. For 2013, the group had agreed the following actions :

- Aim to obtain reduced speed limit for Brishing Lane
- Work on partnerships between local primary schools

Cllr Munford stated that, following negotiations between Cllr Williams and Borough Councillor Moriarty, there would now be a footpath link between the Woodlands housing development and the Bicknor Road play area.

- 14.3 Emergency Plan and Rural Firewatch : Cllr Brown advised that he had now got a template from KCC so would now be able to move forward in producing an emergency plan for the parish. **CLLR BROWN**

Cllr Brown stated that he was waiting for information from Kent Fire & Rescue and that it may be appropriate to include some of this in the Parish Council newsletters or website. **CLLR BROWN**

Cllr Brown noted that he had obtained a map showing the location of all 44 fire hydrants within the parish and asked for volunteers to assist in visiting each location to ensure all the hydrants are visible and accessible. Cllrs Thompson, Whybrow, Lewis, Date, Munford, Williams, Herrin, Gershon, Evans, Clarke and Smith agreed to assist with this. Cllr Brown to co-ordinate. **CLLR BROWN**

- 14.4 Neighbourhood Plan – Project Report : Cllr Smith noted that the Parish Council's planning consultant had produced a project report detailing the six steps involved in producing and adopting a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. Cllr Ellis proposed that the project report be accepted, seconded by Cllr Clarke and agreed by all members.

14.5 Guidance on remedies for justified complaints : Cllr Gershon had produced the draft and noted that it was based on MBC's guidance document. Cllr Gershon proposed that the draft document be accepted by the Parish Council. Seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed by all members. Clerk to forward copy of document to resident, Barry Boulton, as requested. **CLERK**

14.6 Listing application for features in Boughton Mount garden : Cllr Gershon advised that English Heritage were currently considering the listing application made by the Parish Council although the process could take approximately six months. Cllr Munford thanked Cllr Gershon for his hard work in preparing and submitting this application.

14.7 Additional land maintenance responsibilities for 2013/14 : Cllr Ellis proposed that the Parish Council take over the following land maintenance responsibilities from Boughton Monchelsea Amenity Trust :

- Walk Meadow (13.5 acres)
- Quarry Wood (5 acres)
- Brishing Quarry (4 acres)
- Furfield Quarry (15 acres)
- Village green (0.5 acres)

In addition, Cllr Ellis proposed that the Parish Council take over part responsibility for land maintenance to the recreation ground off Church Street. It was noted that Boughton Monchelsea primary school were currently paying for grass cutting to this area with the Parish Council paying for maintenance to the field edges.

Both of the above proposals were seconded by Cllr Clarke and agreed by all members. Clerk to inform MBC accordingly. **CLERK**

15. Deferred items schedule :

Boughton Service Station to be added to the deferred items schedule as detailed in item 9 above. **CLERK**

Wierton Place, planning application MA/11/1511 – It was noted that MBC were waiting for a viability assessment on the enabling development and had not yet determined the application, despite it being submitted over one and a half years ago.

Furfield Quarry, methane monitoring – Cllr Ellis requested that the clerk arrange a further meeting with MBC to take this forward. **CLERK**

Brishing Lane, speed limit – It was noted that this was now being progressed by the north ward sub-group.

16. Any Other Business :

16.1 Cllr Munford asked whether members were happy to continue with the new Parish Council meeting start time of 7pm rather than 7.30pm. All members were in agreement to this.

- 16.2 Cllr Munford thanked those members who had assisted with the carols on the green event, erecting and taking down the Christmas tree on the Green. Particular thanks were expressed by Cllr Smith to Cllr Herrin and Cllr Munford who had worked to prevent flooding in the Quarries during the recent heavy rainfall.

The clerk advised that flowers had been given to Mrs Stroud for kindly making the soup again for 'Carols on the Green'. A bottle of wine had also been given to Mr Mick Woodhams for kindly erecting the lighting again for the event.

Cllr Munford requested that the clerk send a letter of thanks to local resident, Mr Stevens who had assisted in clearing drains recently in The Quarries. **CLERK**

- 16.3 Cllr Date reported that Speedwatch had operated six times in November and that six motorists were noted exceeding the speed limit. He expressed disappointment that despite the Parish Council's recent poster campaign, no new Speedwatch volunteers had been recruited. Cllr Date stated that he would be contacting both the WI and the Friendship Circle in the hope of finding some new recruits. **CLLR DATE**

Cllr Date advised that the potential Speedwatch site in Marlpit had been rejected by the Police as unsuitable but that two other sites in Green Lane and in Heath Road near the village gateway had recently been approved. Another possible site in Brishing Lane near the stream was currently being investigated. The next Speedwatch dates would be in February.

- 16.4 Cllr Evans advised that an area of verge on the west side of Church Hill next to one of the traveller sites has recently been surfaced with hardcore. Cllr Evans added that the land was highway verge and should be inspected by Kent Highways and attended to as necessary. Clerk to report to highway steward. **CLERK**

- 16.5 Cllr Gershon reported that a new format for the Parish Council website was currently being developed and that training would be provided free of charge by the web developer. Cllr Gershon to e-mail suggested dates for this training for all interested members and the clerk to respond to. **CLLR GERSHON**

- 16.6 Cllr Gershon noted that VFast, the company who had carried out the broadband contract some time ago, were considering installing further repeater stations. He added that one repeater had been installed at one end of the Quarries with another planned for the other end. Cllr Gershon advised that parishioners were still benefiting from free installation when moving to VFast as their broadband provider.

- 16.7 It was noted that during the recent heavy rain, Cllrs Herrin and Munford had also dug out drainage channels on Brishing Lane, next to the stream, to minimise flooding to the road. Thanks were expressed to both for this.

- 16.8 Cllr Bracking spoke regarding the dangerous nature of the road junction at Brishing Lane / Heath Road / Green Lane. Cllr Williams advised that plans were in place to try to obtain funding for junction improvements at this location.

17. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th March 2013 at 7pm in the village hall.
There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.35pm.

MINUTE 15 (Parish Council meeting 8 January 2013)

SCHEDULE OF DEFERRED ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS:

BMPC DATE :	ITEM:	ACTION:	POSITION AS OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8 January 2013
11.3.03	Wierton Place	Victorian Greenhouses – conservation	MBC set up liaison group with owner's agent & architect. Considering enabling development. Meeting requested with MBC's Conservation Officer. Clerk to complain to CE MBC about lack of action and commitment to preserve these listed buildings (4.7.06). Response discussed mtg 5.9.06. Update report received from MBC (6.3.07). Clerk to write to MBC requesting that this is added to the enforcement action report. (7/7/09). E-mail sent to MBC (Denise Roy) on 22/8 requesting that this case is added to the report and requesting information on its status (1/9/09). Requested update on this case 4/4/11 however planning application MA/11/0511 received 14/4/11 incorporating proposal to convert greenhouse into houses. MA/11/1511 remains undecided by MBC (5/7/11, 6/9/11, 1/11/11, 10/1/12, 7/3/12, 3/7/12, 4/9/12, 6/11/12, 8/1/13)
16.1.07	Furfield Quarry	Methane monitoring	Update reports obtained & passed to Cllr Fuller / meeting of Custodian Trustees. Need to write to planning authority asking whether methane is being monitored (4.3.08, 6.5.08, 15.7.08). Up to date report received. Ensure reports requested annually (2.9.08). Clerk to request latest report (6/7/11, 6/9/11). Latest report requested. Page & Wells to set up meeting with relevant parties to discuss (1/11/11). Meeting took place 9/12/11. Next meeting due December 2012. Clerk to request financial information from MBC (3/7/12). Correspondence received 23/7/12. Cllr Ellis to arrange further meeting with relevant parties (4/9/12, 6/11/12). Clerk to arrange further meeting (8/1/13)
7/3/12	Brishing Lane	Speed limit	It was noted at the PC meeting on 7/3/12 that a 20mph zone pilot scheme was currently in operation in Maidstone but that this pilot would be ongoing for the next 18 months. It was therefore agreed to put this item on the deferred items schedule to be reviewed again from September 2013.
8/1/13	Boughton Service Station	Planning breach	It was noted at the PC meeting on 8/1/13 that MBC had advised on 3/12/12 that the hard standing was not as approved in MA/10/0430 and the planting scheme had not been carried out. As such the owner would be required to remove the excess hardstanding and carry out the planting scheme within 28 days or submit a planning application within the same period (i.e. by 31/12/12). MBC had advised that the owner has stated an intention to submit a planning application to keep the excess hardstanding.