

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 10th October 2013 in
the parish office of Boughton Monchelsea Village Hall pursuant to notice,
commencing at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllrs I. Ellis
 S. Evans
 D. Smith
 A. Whybrow
 B. Brown
 L. Date
 C. Bracking

1. **Apologies:**
 Parish Clerk, Cllrs Herrin, Williams, Bray and Clarke
2. **Notification of late items for inclusion on the agenda :**
 No late items
3. **Standing Order 61: To decide whether the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for any item.**
 No excluded items
4. **Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda / Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests / Requests for Dispensations :**
 None
5. **Items for discussion :**
 5.1 & 5.2 Update on 5 year housing land supply position / Public consultation event for Neighbourhood Plan, proposed for weekend of 25 / 26 / 27 October :

Cllr Ellis explained where matters stood following the meeting of Maidstone Borough Council's Overview and Scrutiny committee on 26th September 2013. The committee had endorsed the methodology employed by officers in calculating the five year housing land supply (which failed to take into account any allowance for windfall sites). It was understood that officers were engaged in an interim update of housing land supply figures, taking into account planning permissions granted in the last six months. A long discussion then ensued and it was unanimously decided that:

- Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council should record its dissatisfaction with the way that the matter had been handled by MBC and its frustration at MBC's refusal to accept that it had a five year housing land supply, ignoring a method of calculation (strongly endorsed by Leading Counsel instructed by BMPC) which gave such a supply.
- It should be placed on record that informal approaches by Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council, relating to the housing land supply figure, had been brushed aside

by MBC, which had now also done this with the formal approach, resulting in green field development being brought forward prematurely, in BMPC's opinion.

- The latest figures revealed by the interim update, referred to above, should be obtained.
- Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council should record its dissatisfaction with MBC's failure to reveal an Opinion, which it had received from Counsel, in connection with housing land supply. Since it had revealed a later Opinion, Councillors assumed that the earlier Opinion may not have endorsed MBC's approach.
- Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council should vigorously pursue its original course in connection with housing land supply and the prematurity of green field development and, to this end, should contact other parishes to the south of Maidstone, including KALC, many of which had pledged support, with a view to further action being taken.
- Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council should vigorously pursue its original demand for a fair contribution from the Langley Park Development to reflect the very significant impact on the parish which this would have.
- Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council to consider all options open to it including the possibility of taking further legal advice.

6. Any other Business:

None