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**BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL**

**[www.boughtonmalherbe-pc.gov.uk](http://www.boughtonmalherbe-pc.gov.uk)**

**Minutes of the Full Meeting of the Parish Council held on  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

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**Present:**

Cllrs N. Eastwood (Chairman), L Hook, C Tomlinson, G Thompson, S Peter

**In Attendance:**

Mrs M. Norris (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 pm.

**26/01/01 Apologies & Declarations of Interest**

- a) No record of apologies.
- b) No changes were declared to the Register of Interests.
- c) No declarations of pecuniary or other interests were made regarding any agenda items.
- d) No requests for dispensation were received.
- e) No declarations of lobbying were made.

**26/01/02 Public Session**

One member of the public was in attendance and raised safety concerns regarding Wents Junction. This issue has been raised previously with Ulcombe Parish Council. The Chairman of Boughton Malherbe Parish Council advised that he would write to Ulcombe Parish Council to offer support in highlighting the junction's safety concerns.

**26/01/03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November were approved as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**26/01/04 County & Borough Councillor Reports**

No reports were received from the County Councillor or Borough Councillor.

## **26/01/05 Matters Arising / Updates from Previous Resolutions**

- The Christmas Carols Around the Tree event was well attended by local residents and the Parish Council extended its thanks to everyone who assisted with and attended the event, helping to make it a success.
- The Clerk had reissued a copy of the proposed 2026/27 budget to members for review prior to the January meeting.

## **26/01/06 Planning**

**a)** The PC considered the following applications:

25/505058/LBC – Listed Building Consent for the erection of a single storey rear conservatory including a glass link. Liberton Cottage, Headcorn Road ME17 2AN

KCC/MA/0135/2025 Land at Chapel Farm, Lenham Heath Road – Proposed development of a new sand quarry.

Resolution – No comments were made.

**b)** No planning appeals had been received By MBC for consideration.

**c)** No planning decisions had been received by MBC.

## **26/01/07 Finance**

### **Bank Balances (as at 5 January 2026)**

Lloyds Community Account (1062)	£4406.33
Lloyds Instant Online (4862)	£12,448.24
Cambridge & Counties	£51,094.72
Nationwide	£14,973.40

### **Schedule of Payments for Approval- January**

Invoice Date	Amount	Payee	
December 2025	£100.43	Amesis	Litter Picking Services
Nov/Dec	£885.12	M Norris	Salaries
December 2025	£700.00	Nu- Venture Coaches	59 Bus Service

#### **Resolution:**

The schedule of payments for January and the bank reconciliation had been circulated to members

prior to the meeting. Payments were authorised accordingly. The PC was advised that the Chair had been in contact with Nationwide to facilitate closing the account.

### **26/01/08 Parish Council Budget 2026/27**

Councillors discussed the draft budget and it was agreed to set the precept for £7,923.00

### **26/01/09 Correspondence**

a) Nationwide Exit Form - The Chairman confirmed that he had been in contact with the Nationwide Building Society regarding the closure of the account and the matter was in hand.

### **26/01/10 Amesis Contract**

The litter-picking services contract had been received from Amesis and circulated to members prior to the meeting. Members noted and agreed the proposed price increase to £16.08 per hour, effective from 1 May 2026. At this stage, the Parish Council decided to defer signing the service contract, and the Clerk will write to Amesis to advise.

### **26/01/11 Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople Plan – Regulation 18C**

Maidstone Borough Council has launched a consultation on its draft Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Plan, seeking views on proposed policies, sites, and potential alternative site suggestions. The consultation is open from 27 November 2025 to 11 January 2026 and can be viewed at <https://maidstone.oc2.uk>. Boughton Malherbe Parish Council will hold a meeting on Friday 9 January at 6.00pm St Nicholas Church to discuss and agree the feedback it wishes to submit before the consultation closes.

### **26/01/12 A report on external meetings attended by Councillors**

KALC- The planned Maidstone KALC meeting for November was cancelled, and no meeting was held in December. KALC has issued a draft submission response to the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Plan for comment, which was circulated to all councillors.

Heathlands Garden Settlement - Two public events for the Heathlands consultation were held in November at the Dog & Bear Hotel, Lenham. The public consultation closed on 15 December. Cllr Eastwood had no further details on the outcomes at this stage and will report back at a future meeting.

### **26/01/13 Matters for Information**

It was brought to the attention of the Parish Council that, although a defibrillator is available at W Courts Funeral Directors, there is currently no defibrillator near the Who'd A Thought It pub to the south-east of the village. The PC Council agreed to explore the possibility of siting a defibrillator in this area.

Defibrillator training sessions, hosted by Kent Fire Service, are still being organised. Cllr Peter will seek to book a Saturday session for residents. Confirmed dates and venue will be advertised via the *Malherbe Monthly* and the village Facebook page.

**26/01/14 59 Bus Service**

Following news that the Parish Council was not awarded KCC grant funding for the 2026/27 bus service, a joint meeting has been arranged between Boughton Malherbe, Ulcombe and Kingswood Parish Councils and Nu Venture, the service operator, to discuss funding arrangements for the next financial year.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at **8.16 pm**.

DRAFT