

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 20th September 2017 at 7:30 PM.**

***Councillors present: Brown
Cathcart
Southern
Tomsett
Woods***

Also, present: Parish Clerk, Mrs S Babington, MBC Councillor Patrik Garten, and members of the press and public.

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Tomsett.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Bingham who was attending a police meeting to represent the Parish Council, and Mace and the police.

2. Declaration of Interest.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all present. These were proposed by Cllr Woods as a true record, subject to agreed alterations, this was seconded by Cllr Cathcart and agreed by all present.

The Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

5. Notice of Reports from External Meetings.

Junction 5 Roundabout Consultation – Cllr Cathcart to report under Highways.

6. Consultation on the Meeting Agenda.

a. Members of the Public.

Members of the public asked to speak regarding the A249, Flytipping and the Junction 5 Consultation.

b. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

7. Police Report.

The Police gave their apologies to the meeting.

The Chairman stated that Cllr Bingham was attending a police meeting on behalf of the Parish Council this evening.

8. Highways Matters.

a. General Highways Matters.

Cllr Cathcart informed members that he was due to attend a Joint Transportation Board meeting to speak regarding the Aerodrome Approach Road.

It was reported that flytipping was still along Honey Crock Road, however the report on the MBC website stated that it had been cleared. Cllr Woods stated that he had reported this by telephone and had been assured that it would be cleared within 48 hours. He urged residents to report all incidents of flytipping to MBC.

M2 Junction 5 Consultation – The Chairman spoke regarding a consultation event that members had attended regarding the proposed Junction 5 improvements.

He stated that they had given their views and a letter had been written and copied to Helen Whateley MP, KCC Councillor Prendergast and MBC Councillor Garten.

He stated that a meeting had taken place with Helen Whateley MP.

Cllr Cathcart stated that she had been in agreement with the PC concerns regarding the improvements and she was taking this up with the Ministry of Transport.

The Chairman urged all residents to submit their views on the consultation and it was agreed that the details would be included in the Stockbury Observer.

Cllr Cathcart spoke regarding the route for the Third Thames Crossing and stated that this had not been considered when doing the modelling for the Junction 5 improvements, there was no joined up thinking.

Cllr Southern spoke regarding her views on why the improvements would not be successful.

MBC Councillor Garten arrived at the meeting and spoke regarding the Junction 5 Improvements. He stated that he had submitted a report to the Stockbury Observer and he spoke regarding his concerns about the proposals.

He stated that there were rumours that the A249 would become a Link Road for the Third Thames Crossing but Highways England had not confirmed this.

Councillor Garten clarified that MBC were responsible for parking enforcement. He stated that he had called in parking at the Aerodrome Approach Road to the Joint Transportation Board Meeting and Cllr Cathcart was due to attend to speak on this matter on 18th October 2017.

Members spoke regarding the salt bins in the Parish and the Clerk was asked to report the following bins as damaged:

Yelsted Road/Hill Green Road

Yelsted Lane

Rumsted Lane

It was also agreed that three large salt bags would be ordered for the Parish.

Action: Clerk to progress.

b. A249 Action Group.

Cllr Cathcart stated that an A249 Action Group Meeting would be held at some point in the future.

9. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

No matters were reported.

b. Appeals and Decisions.

The decisions by MBC were noted by members.

c. War Games, Squirrel Woods.

No matters were raised.

d. Longton Woods.

No matters were raised.

e. Binbury Park.

No matters were raised.

f. MBC Local Plan.

Councillor Garten reported that the Full Council Meeting to approve the Local Plan had been postponed by MBC as Helen Whateley MP had written to the Planning Inspector to request that it was called in.

He spoke regarding his concerns about the Local Plan.

10. Financial Matters.

a. Statement of Accounts.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved by all present.

Bank Balances - September 2017

Opening Balance on Current Account	£38046.39
Add deposits	£722.00
Less Account for payment	£737.68
Closing Balance on Current Account	£38030.71

b. Cheques for Payment.

The cheques for payment were authorised by members. These were then signed by two authorised signatories. (Cathcart/Woods)

Members approved the transfer of the Orchard Fund to its own Bank Account to be managed by the Orchard Group.

c. Financial Risk Assessment.

The Clerk circulated a Financial Risk Assessment to all members for their consideration and adoption.

It was proposed by Cllr Cathcart to adopt the Risk Assessment, this was seconded by Cllr Woods and agreed by all present.

11. External Reports.

a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were reported.

b. Kent County Councillor.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her apologies to the meeting.

c. Maidstone Borough Councillor.

Councillor Garten spoke about two outside bodies, the AONB Unit which is a statutory body which is having an input into planning and strategic support to the ANOB. The other is the Mid Kent Downs

Countryside Partnership which delivers multiple projects throughout the Mid Kent Downs area and which demonstrably implement key MBC strategic priorities. Last year MBC withdrew funding for the Partnership.

Councillor Garten's attendance at the Maidstone BC Democracy meeting temporarily stopped that the AONB Unit will also be removed from their statutory body list. He will continue to lobby the Democracy Committee to keep the ANOB Unit as a supported outside body and he had the funding issue for the Partnership successfully referred to the Strategic Planning Committee who will investigate this soon.

Councillor Garten stated that he will report back about the continued progress.

12. Correspondence Report.

The Correspondence Report was noted by members.

1. Kent County Council Consultations - Rights of Way Improvement Plan

You've been invited to participate in the Rights of Way Improvement Plan consultation by the consultation manager, Hannah Lucey.

This consultation is open from 10 Aug 2017 at 00:00 to 17 Sep 2017 at 23:59.

As you have previously expressed an interest in receiving information on Consultations regarding Environment and Countryside, Public Rights of Way, or General Interest you may be interested in the following.

Kent County Council's Public Rights of Way and Access Service is reviewing its Rights of Way Improvement Plan which will be consulted on in late 2017/early 2018. We've commissioned Lake Market Research to conduct a research study and would like you to have your say on the service and help shape the plan.

This survey closes on 17th September, visit www.kent.gov.uk/rightsofwayimprovementplan to find out more and take part.

KCC's Engagement and Consultation Team

2. FREE EVENT - INVITATION TO LOW CARBON BRITAIN 2017

Members of KALC have been invited to a (free) Low Carbon Britain 2017 Event, being held on Wednesday 8th November in the centre of Westminster at the prestigious One Great George Street venue.

Low Carbon Britain 2017 Developing a Smart, Resilient, Digital Society is a unique conference that will address Great Britain's current carbon reduction position and allow us to hear from those leading and driving the policies and proposals. One of the main focuses of the conference is to discuss how public sector along with cities, towns, villages, and schools can reduce their carbon emissions, save money, and improve air quality.

Register for funded (free) places by following this link REGISTER or visit the event site and register there - Low Carbon Britain Event 2017

3. Kent County Council Consultations - Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2017-2023

You've been invited to participate in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2017-2023 consultation by the consultation manager, Hannah Lucey.

This consultation is open from 16 Aug 2017 at 12:00 to 8 Oct 2017 at 23:59.

As you have previously expressed an interest in receiving information on Consultations regarding Environment and countryside and General Interest you may be interested in the following:

Kent County Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority for Kent and we are seeking your views on our draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. It sets out how local flood risks will be managed in the county by the authorities involved.

This consultation closes on 8th October. Visit www.kent.gov.uk/localfloodrisk to find out more.

4. Invitation to Mayor of Maidstone's Charity Auction Dinner - 25 November

The Mayor and Mayoress of Maidstone, Cllr Malcolm Greer, and Mrs Brenda Greer, are pleased to invite you to their Charity Auction Dinner on Saturday, 25 November at the Mercure Maidstone Great Danes Hotel. Please find attached the invitation along with a reply slip.

Auctioneer Clive Emson will be overseeing proceedings and auction lots include: Hot Air Balloon Flights, Framed photo of Bobby Moore and Pele signed by Pele, Tour of the Bentley Factory, A Mercedes for the Weekend, Tickets for London Zoo, A Weekend aboard the 'Marianna' at Farleigh, Family Ticket for Leeds Castle, Invicta Gents Watch, Jewellery gift set, Cricket Memorabilia and many more.

5. Kent Highways Parish Seminar 2017

KCC Highways, Transportation & Waste invites you to attend this year's Parish Seminar for Maidstone, Gravesham, and Tonbridge & Malling.

The Seminar will take place between 09:00 and 13:00 on 23rd October at Oakwood House, Oakwood Rd, Maidstone ME16 8AE.

There is plenty of parking on site, and refreshments will be provided on arrival and during the mid-morning break.

A range of topics will be discussed, including:

- Community buses
- Drainage
- Road safety
- Street works
- KALC
- Soft landscaping
- Updates from Cabinet Member and Director

Please reply to this email (MidKentHighways@kent.gov.uk) confirming the names of a maximum of two delegates from your Parish or Town Council by no later than 15th September. We would also be grateful to know if any of your delegates have any access requirements.

There are limited places available, so please be sure to book yours as soon as possible to meet with various Highway representatives and have an opportunity to ask them your questions.

A copy of the presentation will be published on the KALC website in November if you are unable to attend.

It was agreed that Cllr Cathcart would attend the Highways Seminar.

13. The Harrow.

Cllr Southern reported that The Harrow was now open and progressing well. She stated that a Tenant was now in post and was working on a new menu.

The Chairman stated that the community project had been a success and he thanked the Coordinating Group for their work on the project.

Cllr Southern informed members that a Shareholders Meeting would take place on 28th September 2017.

14. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

No matters were reported.

15. Stockbury Orchard.

Cllr Tomsett reported on the progress of the Orchard. He confirmed that there would not be a Halloween event this year.

16. Stockbury Community Bus.

Fiona Moody attended the meeting to give a report on the Community Bus. She stated that the number of users had dropped recently and there was a need to inject some enthusiasm into the Stockbury Bus. She reported on the successful trip to Hastings.

17. Footpaths and Bridleways.

It was reported that the footpath at Green Lane, KH653 was impassable.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

18. Any Other Business.

a. Members of the Public.

A resident spoke regarding the dog training facilities in Yelsted Lane and stated that an application had been submitted to MBC.

Cllr Brown stated that she felt that there had been a noticeable decrease in the noise from the site.

b. Parish Councillors.

Cllr Southern suggested that an article was placed in the Stockbury Observer to encourage use of the Stockbury Bus.

19. Date of next meeting.

18th October 2017.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.55pm.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____