

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

Councillors present: *Bingham
Cathcart
Southern
Tomsett
Woods*

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Tomsett.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Brown and Mace, and the police.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Cllr Tomsett declared an interest in the Binbury Park proposals.

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, this was seconded by Cllr Mace and agreed by all present.

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

4. Matters Arising.

Vans parked on bridge – The Chairman confirmed that PCSOs Waring and Rowley had been asked to monitor the situation.

5. Notice of Reports from External Meetings.

No matters were raised.

6. Consultation on the Meeting Agenda.

a. Members of the Public.

Members of the public asked to speak on the rubbish on the A249 and the Orchard.

This was agreed by the Chairman.

b. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

7. Police Report.

The Police gave their apologies to the meeting.

8. Highways Matters.

Cllr Cathcart spoke regarding double yellow lines at the Aerodrome Approach Road, he asked MBC Councillor Garten if he had progressed this further. Councillor Garten stated that this matter needed to be referred to KCC.

He asked if the parking had improved in the area, Cllr Cathcart stated that this had worsened. Councillor Garten stated that he would raise concerns with MBC.

Concerns were raised regarding the number of HGV's that were parking on the verges along the A249.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the recent snowy weather and stated that he had rescued two cars on Honey Crock Hill. He stated that he did have road closed signs and would put these out if it snowed again.

9. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

16/508524/FULL

Hazel Street Cottage Hazel Street Stockbury Kent

Change of use of existing annex to a separate 2-bedroom dwelling.

Cllr Woods stated that there was no planning reason to object to this application.

A discussion took place regarding this application and it was agreed that no objections would be raised.

Action: No Objections.

b. Appeals and Decisions.

Cobnut Woods – Councillor Garten reported that he had attended the MBC Planning Committee meeting to support the PC objections to this planning application, but unfortunately, they had approved this.

He stated that a three-year temporary permit had been granted for the mobile home and this was dependant on the chicken farm running as a viable business.

Cllr Woods spoke regarding the condition attached to the planning application and questioned whether MBC would enforce this, as they did not appear to have a system in place to monitor such conditions.

Councillor Garten stated that he would take this up with MBC.

c. War Games, Squirrel Woods.

No matters were discussed.

d. Binbury Park.

It was reported that Quinn Estates were expected to submit a formal planning application towards the end of December, however no application had been submitted to MBC.

10. Financial Matters.

a. Statement of Accounts.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved by all present.

Bank Balances - January 2017

Nat West Current Account

Opening Balance on Current Account £500.00

Add deposits £0.00

Less Account for payment £798.33

Add transfers from Business Reserves Account £798.33

Closing Balance on Current Account £500.00

Nat West Business Reserve Account

Opening Balance on Business Reserve Account £31425.46

Add deposits	£0.00
Less transfers to Current Account	£798.33
Closing Balance on Business Reserve Account	£30,627.13
Total of all Bank Accounts	£31,127.13

b. Cheques for Payment.

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

c. 2017/2018 Budget.

The draft budget was circulated to all members for consideration.

It was proposed by Cllr Cathcart to set a precept of £14020 for 2017/2018, this was seconded by Cllr Woods and agreed by all present.

Action: 2017/18 Precept agreed at £14020.

11. External Reports.

a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

b. Kent County Councillor.

KCC Councillor Jenny Whittle gave her apologies to the meeting.

c. Maidstone Borough Councillor.

MBC Councillor Garten gave his report to the meeting.

He reported on the Local Plan and the Planning Inspectors Interim Report.

12. Correspondence Report.

The Correspondence Report was noted and approved by members.

Beacons of Light

Please find attached a letter from the Pageantmaster regarding the above event being organised to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I. 1000 Beacons of Light will be lit at 7pm on the 11th November 2018 and will represent "the light of hope".

Detailed co-ordination of this begins in April 2017, when a special "Guide to Taking Part" will be published, similar to that produce for HM The Queen's Birthday Beacons in April 2016. You will need to confirm your involvement to the Pageantmaster as soon as possible to ensure that you are included in the Guide when it is published.

Cllr Tomsett stated that he would look into this with a view of the Parish taking part in this event.

13. Stockbury Observer.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the Stockbury Observer and stated that the new Editor, Fiona Moody had now taken over the publication.

He stated that the Parish Council had an allocation in their funds for a laptop and asked if one was needed for the Observer. The Editor stated that she already had the computer equipment to enable her to produce the publication and therefore a laptop was not needed.

The advertising charges for the Observer were discussed and the Chairman confirmed that these were as follows:

Half Page - £85.00

Quarter Page - £55.00

Eighth Page - £41.00

He asked Fiona Moody if she could look at the current advertisers and liaise with the Clerk regarding sending out invoices for this year's advertising.

The Chairman recorded the thanks of the Parish Council to the previous Stockbury Observer Editor for his work on the publication.

14. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

Cllr Bingham reported that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

15. Stockbury Orchard.

Cllr Tomsett reported on the progress of the Orchard, he stated that Pippa Palmer who assisted with the orchard had been ill and therefore some work had not been progressed as yet.

He reported that new trees were needed for the Orchard and stated that funds were available for the purchase of these.

He reported that the portable toilets would be removed for the Orchard soon.

Mr Moody passed over a cheque for £49 from the firework event to the Clerk for the Orchard fund, Cllr Tomsett passed over a cheque for £50 for firework sponsorship for banking.

16. Stockbury Bus.

Mrs Moody gave a report on the progress of the Stockbury Bus.

17. Footpaths and Bridleways.

Green Lane Footpath – it was reported that this footpath was over grown.

The Chairman stated that Cllr Brown had raised this with KCC.

18. Parish Plan.

The Chairman reported that this matter was ongoing.

19. Any Other Business.

a. Members of the Public.

A resident spoke regarding the MBC Planning Department and asked if they met their legal obligations.

Councillor Garten spoke regarding the problems of the Planning Department.

A resident reported that the main road sign for Stockbury from the Stockbury Roundabout was missing.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

Concerns were raised regarding the amount of litter along the A249. This was discussed and Councillor Garten stated that he would raise this with MBC.

b. Parish Councillors.

CLlr Tomsett asked members to agree to move the date of the April Parish Council meeting from 19th April to 26th April 2017. This was approved.

Action: Clerk to issue revised meeting dates.

20. Date of next meeting.

15th February 2017.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.41PM.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____