

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 16th August 2017 at 7:30 PM.**

***Councillors present: Bingham
Cathcart
Mace
Southern
Tomsett
Woods***

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Tomsett.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Brown 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, 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.

There were no matters arising.

5. Notice of Reports from External Meetings.

Tri Parish Meeting – Cllr Cathcart and Woods to report under AOB.

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

6. Consultation on the Meeting Agenda.

a. Members of the Public.

Members of the public asked to speak regarding the litter problem on Honey Crock Hill and the Parish Council website.

b. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

7. Police Report.

The Police gave their apologies to the meeting.

8. Highways Matters.

The problem with HGV's parking in the parish was discussed by members. Councillor Garten reported that MBC Chief Executive, Alison Broome had stated that parking was not a matter for MBC as it was a KCC responsibility. Councillor Prendergast stated that she would take this up with KCC.

Councillor Garten stated that he understood that parking was an MBC responsibility. It was agreed that Councillor Garten and Prendergast would seek a meeting with Alison Broome to discuss this further.

Cllr Cathcart stated that action needed to be taken to stop the HGV's from parking at the Aerodrome entrance road. This was noted.

Councillor Prendergast stated that she had taken up the weight restriction issues with KCC and she would report back to a future meeting.

Cllr Cathcart reported that a preliminary Tri Parish meeting had been held with representatives from Detling and Thurnham Parish Councils to discuss matters affecting all three parishes and this would now be taken forward and KCC Councillors would be invited to attend future meetings.

He reported that all three parishes were concerned about the A249 in light of the Third Thames Crossing.

He suggested that an A249 Action Group meeting was arranged at the Showground to discuss this further. This was agreed by members.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the fly tipping problem in the parish. He stated that two signs had now been erected to try to deter the fly tipping.

He reported that a trailer full of rubbish had been left on Honey Crock Hill and this had been reported to MBC and the police by a resident but no action was taken, however on the following day the trailer was removed and the rubbish left in the road. Cllr Tomsett stated that a CCTV camera in the area would have been useful.

Councillor Garten stated that he had witnessed a fly tipping incident taking place and had reported this to MBC who had taken action and issued a £400 fixed penalty notice.

He stated that such incidents should be reported to MBC on 01622 690690. It was agreed that these details would be reported in the Stockbury Observer.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the PCSO cover for the parish and it was agreed that the PC would write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to raise concerns regarding this.

Action: Clerk to action.

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.

MBC Cllr Garten reported that the planning breaches taking place on the Longton Woods site but MBC had stated that there was no environmental impact and therefore MBC Enforcement Officers had issued the owners with a warning letter.

He spoke regarding the mobile homes on the site and stated that these were subject to an appeal and therefore enforcement action had been halted until the appeal had taken place.

Members raised concerns at the lack of enforcement action taken by MBC. Cllr Garten clarified that the planning enforcement action was for the caravans, the landscaping was not subject to the planning appeal.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the illegal dumping at the site and raised concerns that the type of materials deposited there were unknown. He expressed that disappointment of the Parish Council at the lack of action taken by MBC and stated that this would set a poor precedent in the area.

e. Binbury Park.

No matters were raised.

f. MBC Local Plan.

Councillor Garten stated that the Planning Inspector would make his final conclusions to the Local Plan and the Plan would then go before MBC full Council to be adopted.

He spoke regarding the Plan and the benefits that this, he stated that he felt that Junction 8 should not be in the Plan and he was still considering his vote.

10. Financial Matters.

a. Statement of Accounts.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved by all present.

Bank Balances - August 2017

Opening Balance on Current Account	£500.00
Add deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£1193.42
Add transfers from Business Reserves Account	£1193.42
Closing Balance on Current Account	£500.00
Nat West Business Reserve Account	
Opening Balance on Business Reserve Account	£38225.05
Add deposits	£0.00
Less transfers to Current Account	£1193.42
Closing Balance on Business Reserve Account	£37031.63
Total of all Bank Accounts	£37531.63

b. Cheques for Payment.

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

Cllr Tomsett stated that the Data Protection act was changing and he reported on this.

He informed members that the transfer of funds to the new Parish Council Cooperative bank account was due to be undertaken in the next month.

11. External Reports.

a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were reported.

b. Kent County Councillor.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her report to the meeting.

She reported on the current consultation being undertaken by KCC.

She stated that it would be difficult to attend all PC meetings and therefore she would be happy to meet with representatives of the Parish Council as and when necessary to discuss PC matters.

c. Maidstone Borough Councillor.

MBC Councillor Garten gave his report to the meeting.

12. Correspondence Report.

The Correspondence Report was noted by members.

13. The Harrow.

Cllr Southern reported that the renovation of the Harrow was currently progressing well and the pub would be opened on 30th August 2017, the official handover from Shepherds Neame would take place on 23rd August.

A discussion took place regarding the email communication regarding the Harrow.

14. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

Cllr Bingham reported that the Neighbourhood Watch information was not being circulated by the police at present as the main computer system had crashed. He stated that he hoped that this would be up and running in the near future.

He stated that he had asked for a message to be sent out to the email circulation regarding the fly tipping problem in the parish.

15. Stockbury Orchard.

Cllr Tomsett reported that the weed killing had taken place at the Orchard and the fencing would be completed following the opening of the Harrow.

He confirmed that there would not be a Halloween event this year.

16. Stockbury Community Bus.

Cllr Tomsett reported that the Community Bus was progressing well. He stated that the number of residents using the bus had dropped slightly and asked members to promote it wherever possible.

17. Footpaths and Bridleways.

No matters were reported.

18. Any Other Business.

a. Members of the Public.

A resident spoke regarding the Parish Councils Website and asked whether the minutes were due to be uploaded on to the site.

Action: Clerk to email documents to the webmaster.

A resident spoke regarding the village maintenance and stated that the Village Green was looking good.

He raised concerns regarding the missing 'Stockbury' sign on the A249 coming from Junction 5. The Clerk stated that this had been reported to KCC, but she would follow this up again.

b. Parish Councillors.

Cllr Cathcart reported on the Tri Parish meeting that had been held with Councillors from Detling and Thurnham Parish Councils. He stated that the following issues were discussed:

M2 Junction 5
M20 Junction 7
Scragged Oak Road Junction
Detling Showground
Rural Lanes
Binbury Park
Squirrel and Longton Woods
White Horse Woods

He spoke regarding the meeting and asked for an item to be placed on the next agenda.

Action: Clerk to action.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the Cultural Fund and stated that this had been put aside from the funds raised from the sale of the Stockbury History Book. He stated that the criteria for accessing this fund was for a cultural project within the parish.

He suggested that the balance of the Cultural Fund could be used for a Mural for the front of the Harrow.

This was discussed and agreed by members.

19. Date of next meeting.

20th September 2017.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.45pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____