

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

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

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Tomsett.

1. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Cllr Woods declared an interest in planning matters.

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 Cathcart and agreed by all present.

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

4. Matters Arising.

Cllr Garten reported on the Parish Services Scheme.

5. Notice of Reports from External Meetings.

Cllr Cathcart – Quinn Estates, Binbury Park.

6. Consultation on the Meeting Agenda.

a. Members of the Public.

Members of the public asked to speak regarding the Quiet Lanes Scheme and Cold Callers
The Chairman stated that this item would be discussed under Highways Matters and AOB.

Mr Porter attended the meeting on behalf of the Harrow Committee to speak regarding an application submitted to the Parish Council for the Cultural Fund to purchase some signs for the Harrow Public House.

The Chairman confirmed that the application letter had been received and circulated to all members for consideration.

He stated that the Harrow was a long standing part of the village and the application fulfilled the criteria of the Cultural Fund. He confirmed that the originator of the Fund was supportive of the project.

It was proposed by Cllr Mace to support the grant application and award the sum of £1569.60 to the Harrow for the signage artwork on the basis that the signs remained the property of the Parish Council.

Action: Cheque to be signed under financial matters.

The Chairman spoke regarding the Cultural Fund and suggested that the Village Gates project may also meet the funding criteria of the Fund. It was agreed that the project would be looked at to see if it did qualify for Funding from the Cultural Fund.

b. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

7. Police Report.

The Police gave their apologies to the meeting.

Cllr Tomsett informed members that vans were advertising on the motorway bridges again, but this was not within Stockbury.

8. Highways Matters.

a. General Highways Matters.

Cllr Cathcart spoke regarding the problem parking at the Aerodrome Approach Road and stated that MBC Parking enforcement had been enforcing the illegal parking in the area.

Councillor Garten stated that double yellow lines were needed on both sides of the road in order to be effective. He suggested that there was a reluctance to have this item put on the Joint Transportation Board agenda and therefore it had been agreed that Cllr Cathcart would raise this as a member of the public at the JTB meeting.

KCC Councillor Prendergast stated that she supported this item being raised at the JTB meeting as officers then needed to respond to the questions.

Cllr Woods spoke regarding tyres that had been flytipped in the Parish.

b. Quiet Lanes Scheme.

Cllr Southern reported that she and a resident had looked into the Quiet Lanes Scheme and it appeared that status needed to be achieved by KCC on behalf of the Parish as it involved a Traffic Regulation Order and signage.

Councillor Prendergast stated that she would look into this and liaise with Cllr Southern.

c. A249 Action Group.

No matters were raised.

9. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

**17/506105/FULL Homestead Farm Yelsted Road Yelsted Sittingbourne
Erection of annexe to serve existing dwelling.**

Members considered this application and raised objections as they felt that the proposals would lead to the over development of the site.

Action: Clerk to submit PC objections.

b. Appeals and Decisions.

No matters were reported.

Cllr Cathcart asked the Clerk to seek an update on the enforcement action for 7 Bimbury Lane.

Action: Clerk to Action.

c. War Games, Squirrel Woods.

Councillor Garten stated that he would seek an update from MBC.

d. Longton Woods.

Councillor Garten updated members on this matter, he stated that the Appeal was due to be heard in April 2018.

Cllr Bingham stated that he had attended an MBC Planning Committee Meeting on 19th December, however the planning item had been deferred until the meeting on 4th January 2018. He asked if there was anything that could be done to prevent this from happening.

Councillor Garten stated that meetings were held every two weeks and sometimes items were deferred over to the next meeting due to time scales.

e. Binbury Park.

Cllr Cathcart stated that he would report on this matter in January 2018.

f. MBC Local Plan.

No matter were raised.

10. Financial Matters.

a. Statement of Accounts.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved by all present.

Bank Balances - December 2017

Opening Balance on Current Account	£31797.43
Add deposits	£0
Less Account for payment	£1062.10
Closing Balance on Current Account	£30735.33

b. Cheques for Payment.

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

c. 2018/2019 Budget.

The Clerk circulated the draft budget to all members. It was agreed that this would be formally considered at the next meeting.

11. External Reports.

a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

b. Kent County Councillor.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her report to the meeting.

She reported on a meeting that had been held with Arriva, she stated that this was a positive meeting and confirmed that it was a commercial service and would therefore be retained. She stated that Arriva were working with KCC regarding the repositioning of the bus stops.

She spoke regarding the subsidised bus services and stated that a consultation would take place on 18th January and run for two months.

It was agreed that an item would be placed in the Stockbury Observer to advertise this consultation.

c. Maidstone Borough Councillor.

Councillor Garten gave his report to the meeting.

He reported that there had been a change to the Constitution for the MBC Planning Referrals Committee.

12. Correspondence Report.

The Correspondence Report was noted by members.

13. Tri Parish Group.

It was agreed that a Tri Parish Group Meeting would be arranged in the near future.

14. Stockbury Orchard.

The Chairman reported on the progress of the Orchards.

15. Stockbury Community Bus.

Cllr Tomsett reported that a letter had been received from KCC regarding the Community Bus Service and the legalities of this. He stated that he had responded to the letter and was confident that the Stockbury Bus was operating in line with the Regulations.

He reported that an issue had been raised regarding the bus pass income and this matter was being dealt with by the Community Bus Coordinator.

16. Footpaths and Bridleways.

No matters were reported.

17. Any Other Business.

a. Members of the Public.

Mr Porter spoke regarding the Harrow as a Parish Asset and informed the meeting that The Harrow had recently won a national competition. He stated that an event would be organised in the new year to present the Plaque.

The Chairman congratulated the Harrow Committee on behalf of the Parish Council and thanked Mr Porter for his work on the project.

b. Parish Councillors.

Cllr Mace stated that the drain cover was still in need of repair in Pett Road.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

18. Date of next meeting.

17th January 2018.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.47pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____