

The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 16th February 2022 at 7:30 PM.

Councillor's present: Azad
Cathcart
Moody
Summer
Tomsett
Woods

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Woods.

1. **Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Southern and KCC Councillor Prendergast.

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 Cathcart as a true record, subject to an agreed amendment, and were seconded by Cllr Moody and agreed by all present.

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

4. **Matters Arising.**

Salt Bins – The Clerk confirmed that she would follow this up with KCC.

Chickenstock Festival – The Clerk confirmed that representatives from the Chickenstock Festival would be attending the March Parish Council meeting.

5. **Notice of reports from external meetings.**

Cllr Tomsett – Stockbury Orchard.

Cllr Woods – Highways.

6. **Public Comments and Observations.**

No matters were raised.

7. **Local Needs Housing.**

Cllr Moody spoke regarding the local needs housing in Stockbury and confirmed that the three people who had approached the PC had now been placed on the MBC housing list, this had taken five and a half months.

The process of applying to be on the MBC housing list was discussed and concerns were raised regarding the complicated system.

Cllr Garten stated that many people were overwhelmed with the process, and he offered to assist residents with this process. Cllr Azad stated that she would assist Cllr Garten, and write an article for the Stockbury Observer to let people know of the offer of help.

Cllr Garten stated that he would also arrange a meeting with Maidstone Borough Council Housing to discuss the current system.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the current vacancy in Bull Lane and stated that he had tried to contact Riverside regarding this to establish their times scales for letting the property, however, to date he had not managed to speak with the housing officer.

A general discussion took place regarding the future numbers for social housing in the parish, and it was agreed that the Parish Council would look to arranging a Local Needs Housing Assessment to establish the need within the parish.

Action: Cllr Tomsett to progress.

8. Highways Matters.

a. General Highway Matters.

Cllr Moody reported that an HGV had caused damage to the Village Green. He stated that it had been recorded on CCTV and he had tried to contact the police regarding this.

He reported that damage had been caused to the finger post, the mile marker, and the chains on the Green.

It was agreed that the damage to the finger post and mile marker should be reported to Kent Highways, and the Parish Council would seek a quotation for the reinstatement of the chains.

Action: Cllr Tomsett and Clerk to progress.

b. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

Cllr Woods reported on the recent meeting with National Highways, and the weekend closure of the northbound carriageway of the A249.

Cllr Moody stated that he had noticed contractors vehicles parking on verges, and not in their compound, and this was causing an issue. He stated that he would liaise with the Project Manager regarding this matter.

Cllr Woods informed members that a meeting was due to take place on the 4th of March with KCC and the MP to update the parish council on the over bridge.

9. Planning Matters:

a. Applications for consideration.

No application were received.

b. MBC Planning Decisions and Appeals.

21/506609/FULL

Nettlestead House Bull Lane Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7UB

Demolition of existing garage. Erection of a new garage and summerhouse (Resubmission of 21/503459/FULL).

Application Permitted

21/506609/FULL

Demolition of existing garage. Erection of a new garage and summerhouse (Resubmission of 21/503459/FULL).

Application Permitted

21/506309/FULL

Serenity South Street Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7RB

Conversion of existing garage to one bedroom annexe.

Application Permitted

21/506277/SUB

Hill View House Yelsted Road Yelsted Kent ME9 7UU

Submission of details pursuant to condition 5 (biodiversity enhancement scheme) of application

21/502110/FULL.

Application Permitted

c. Enforcement Matters.

Cllr Garten reported that there had been a reduction in numbers of the MBC Enforcement Team as some of the officers had left and gone to other authorities.

10. Financial Matters:

Statement of Accounts & Cheques for signature.

The financial statement was approved by members. (Cathcart/Tomsett).

11. External Reports:

a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were reported.

b. KCC Councillor.

KCC Councillor Prendergast gave her apologies to the meeting.

c. MBC Councillor.

MBC Councillor Garten gave his report to the meeting as follows:

- Bimbury Park planning application and the possibility of this going before the Planning Committee in the near future.
- Garden Waste – issues regarding this had been discussed at Full Council.
- Local Plan Review – this was due to come back to committee as Regulation 19 during this year.
- Boundary Review undertaken by MBC with proposals to reduce members from 55 to 48, he stated that the consultation for this was still running until the beginning of April.

12. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence report was noted by members.

13. Stockbury Bus.

Cllr Moody reported that the bus.

He reported that he had attended a meeting with KCC Highways to see if funding for a dash cam was possible and was currently awaiting their response.

It was noted that this item would be on the agenda for April for a full review of the bus

Action: Clerk to include agenda item for April PC meeting

14. Stockbury Observer.

Cllr Moody updated members on the progress of the Stockbury Observer.

15. Any Other Business:

a. Raised by Public.

No matters were raised.

b. Raised by Parish Councillors.

Cllr Tomsett reported on the Stockbury Orchard.

He informed members that he had held a meeting with Pippa Palmer, and funding was available for new tree planting at the Orchard. He stated that the Management Plan was due to be updated to 2025.

He reported the number of trees in the Orchard did need to be taken down as they are dangerous, and the new trees would be planted at some point during 2022.

The Orchard was discussed by members, and it was agreed that it should be placed on the agenda as a regular item to enable the parish council to be updated on the progress on a regular basis.

Action: Clerk to action.

16. Date of next Meeting – 16th March 2022.

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

Signed: _____

Dated: _____