

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held by Zoom on the 16th December 2020 at 7:30 PM.**

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

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Woods.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received and reasons for absence accepted from Cllrs Mace, Tomsett, and Brown, and KCC Shelia 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 Southern 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.

Parish Website – The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had now purchased the domain name Stockbury.org.uk and this had been assigned to the website, she hoped that this would now make the website more visible.

Printer – Cllr Southern stated that she was now progressing the order for the new printer.

Action: Cllr Southern to progress.

5. Notice of reports from external meetings.

No matters were reported.

6. Consultation on the meeting agenda by members of the public.

No matters were raised, no public present.

7. Highways Matters.

a. General Highway Matters.

It was reported that the drains were blocked at the bottom of Chalky Lane and Bimbury Lane, this was causing flooding. This was reported to KCC on 3rd October, but no action had been taken. The Clerk was asked to report this to KCC again as there was a danger the the flooding cause freeze and become a hazard.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

Cllr Woods reported on an incident in Stockbury regarding the lay-by in the A249 at Bimbury and Chalky Lane. He stated that the bollards closing the lay-by were moved during the night. Fortunately, this had been spotted and KCC had taken immediate action to reinstate these.

b. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

Cllr Woods reported that the Public Inquiry had now concluded and the outcome would be known in April 21.

Cllr Prendergast was following up the progress of the KCC application to the DfT.

8. Planning Matters:

a. Applications for consideration.

Applications Received

20/505371/FULL The Magpies Pett Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent
Erection of a garage. New dormer to front together with installation of new windows and Juliet balcony to the first floor.

Application Decisions by MBC

20/503983/FULL

11 Northdown Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7UL

Erection of a two-storey side extension together with part single storey, part two storey rear extension. Extension to the front porch.

Application Permitted

20/504454/FULL

Foxwood Chalky Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7QR

Conversion of existing garage into habitable space with external alterations. Demolition of 2no. outbuildings and erection of an outbuilding with internal swimming pool.

Application Permitted

b. Enforcement Matters.

Foxwood Lights – It was reported that MBC Planning Enforcement had now closed the case regarding the lights at Foxwood.

This was discussed, Cllr Garten stated that MBC did not have a Dark Skies Policy, and there were no regulations regarding lighting from domestic premises.

This was discussed and it was agreed that a letter from the PC should be sent to the residents of Foxwood, asking them to install a timer on their lights and face them downwards as in an AONB.

Action: Clerk/Cllr Woods to draft letter to resident.

9. Financial Matters:

a. Statement of Accounts & Cheques for signature.

The financial statement was approved by members. (Woods/Southern).

b. 2021/2022 Budget.

The draft budget reports were circulated to all members for their consideration.

The report was noted, and it was proposed by Cllr Woods to set the 2021/22 precept at £15398, this was seconded by Cllr Cathcart and agreed by all present.

Action: Precept agreed £15398.00.

10. 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.

He reported that the license granted for the event at Longton Woods was a temporary license, and therefore no decision was made by MBC as safeguards are not applicable for the granting of a temporary license.

He stated that the event was larger than anticipated and applied for.

He reported that MBC were still considering the future of the Hazlett Theatre.

He spoke regarding the Local Plan Consultation that was currently being undertaken by MBC and reminded the Parish Council that they had until 22nd December to formally respond to this.

11. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence report was noted by members.

12. Stockbury Bus.

The Chairman stated that due to the pandemic this was not currently operating.

13. Parish Council Policy Review.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council policies were due for review. It was agreed that she would circulate these to all members, and they would be reviewed at a future meeting.

Action: Clerk to progress.

14. Any Other Business:

a. Raised by Public.

No matters were raised.

b. Raised by Parish Councillors.

Cllr Southern reported that she was still progressing the grant application for broadband.

She stated that Yelsted and Chalky Lane was due to be closed to enable Open Reach to install fibre cable, she was looking into this to see if grant funding was still necessary before she continued with the grant application process.

15. Date of next Meeting – 20th January 2021.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.30pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____