

The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council  
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 at 7:30PM.

Councillors present: Azad  
Cathcart  
Moody  
Southern  
Tomsett  
Woods

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Southern.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Sumner, 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 Moody as a true record, these were seconded by Cllr Woods 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 rising.

5. Notice of reports from external meetings.

No matters were reported.

6. Public Comments and Observations.

Residents attended the meeting to raise concerns about antisocial behaviour in the village. They reported that there were two groups causing issues in the village with catapults, electric scooters, and air-rifles.

They confirmed that these matters had been reported to the police, the incident regarding air-rifles had been reported at the time it occurred.

This was discussed by members, and it was agreed that the PC would liaise with the Police, and the Ward Councillor would take this up with MBC/Ward Cluster Meeting.

It was agreed that the PC would invite the PC to attend the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk and Cllr to action.**

**7. Highways Matters.**

a. General Highway Matters.

Members agreed to undertake a survey of salt bins in the parish to see which needed to be replenished for winter.

The Clerk was asked to order the 1 tonne salt bags for the parish.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

Cllr Moody reported that the potholes were due to be filled in September. The water leak in South Green Lane had been reported to KCC.

b. Highways Improvement Plan.

Cllr Moody reported that he was currently work in progress.

c. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

Cllr Moody reported on the road closures due to take place over the next month. He stated that he had been assured that all residents had received a letter regarding these.

There were ongoing meetings with National Highways and Graham to keep updated on the closures. He reported that there was an overlap in dates which was being discussed with National Highways.

It was reported that there was a meeting arranged in October with the Head of Graham, KCC, MBC Councillor, KCC Councillor, National Highways, Helen Whateley MP and the Parish Council to discuss the impact the works were having on Stockbury residents.

A general discussion took place regarding the businesses in the parish and ways in which these could be promoted. It was agreed that councillors would investigate signage for village businesses.

**8. Planning Matters:**

a. Applications Received

23/503870/FULL Land North of Wildwinds Norton Green Farm Pett Road  
Stationing of residential mobile home for rural worker with access and residential garden (Re-submission of Previous Scheme Ref: 23/500541/FULL).

It was agreed that members would consider this application and any comments would be submitted to the Clerk by email and ratified at the next PC meeting.

b. Application Decisions by MBC

22/505188/FULL

Cam Hill South Lees Lane South Green Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7RY

Change of use of land from agricultural land to residential to facilitate the installation of a proposed swimming pool and erection of an outbuilding pool house.

Application Permitted

23/503161/AGRIC

Hill Green Farm Hill Green Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7UP

Prior notification for erection of 2no. Hay and machinery stores. For its prior approval to: - Siting, design and external appearance.

Prior Approval Granted

23/503105/SUB

Hill Green Farmhouse Hill Green Road Stockbury Kent ME9 7UP

Submission of details pursuant to conditions 3 (Rainwater and External Pipework Details) and 8 (Additional Works Schedule) of application 22/504882/LBC.

Application Permitted

23/502161/SUB

Hill Green Farmhouse Hill Green Road Stockbury Kent ME9 7UP

Submission of details to discharge conditions 2 and 8 - Roofing Materials, subject to 22/504882/LBC

Application Permitted

c. Appeals

No matters to report.

d. Other Planning Matters

Maidstone Local Plan Review – Main Modifications Consultation following Examination.

The Local Plan Review will provide the planning framework for development in the borough until 2038. The policies within the plan will be used to assess planning applications and guide future development in the borough.

Following the examination in public of the Local Plan Review, which was held by Planning Inspector David Spencer, Maidstone Borough Council is publishing his proposed Main Modifications, for consultation.

Consultation on Main Modifications

The consultation will only be on the Inspector's proposed Main Modifications to the Local Plan Review and will take place alongside consultations on the associated Sustainability Appraisal Addendum and Habitats Regulations Assessment Addendum.

Additional Information

Alongside the consultation on the schedule of Main Modifications, the Council is publishing additional supporting evidence, for information.

Changes to the Policies Map along with minor modifications to provide factual updates and correct spelling error are also being published, for information. Any comments received on the policies map will be forwarded to the Planning Inspector for their consideration alongside the comments received on the main modifications schedule.

How to Comment

The consultations on the Main Modifications to the Local Plan Review, the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum and Habitats Regulations Assessment Addendum will run for a period of six weeks from 5pm on Friday 29 September 2023 until 5pm on Monday 13th November 2023.

All consultation documents can be viewed and downloaded from the Council's website at: <https://localplan.maidstone.gov.uk/home/local-plan-review-examination> The consultation documents will also be available for inspection at the following locations:

- Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ by appointment. Please contact the Strategic Planning Team, by email at: [ldf@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@maidstone.gov.uk) or by phone 01622 602000.

- All libraries in Maidstone Borough area during normal opening hours

Making representations: We encourage the use of the online Consultation Portal <https://maidstone.objective.co.uk/kse/> to make a representation during the consultation period set out above. Guidance is available on the portal that will assist you.

#### What happens next?

Following the consultation, the council will submit all duly made comments to the Planning Inspector who will then consider them. All responses will also be made publicly available on the Council's website.

Meeting with Developer – Members considered an offer from developer, Esquire to meet with the PC to discuss the 25 windfall sites for Stockbury in the Local Plan.

This was discussed and it was agreed that at present the PC did not feel that there was a need for a meeting.

**Action: Clerk to respond to Esquire.**

Cllr Garten spoke regarding the Forayes planning application and the comments submitted by the PC. He stated that he had been in contact with the business and had suggested a community meeting to enable the business to communicate with residents.

He confirmed that he had called in the application to the MBC Planning committee for determination.

## 9. Financial Matters:

### a. Statement of Accounts & Cheques for signature.

The financial statement was presented to members and approved. (Tomsett/Southern).

### b. PC Website - charges.

Announcement from Hugo Fox - We have made some improvements, including the introduction of a member's area, providing you with additional functionality to engage with your audience.

As part of this update, we have restructured our pricing plans to align with the features and services we offer. Our website service has been available free of charge until now, but due to increasing costs we have transitioned to a paid subscription model.

Existing HugoFox users who are on our free service, will continue to benefit from this until the 4th of October 2023. Users will need to select a paid package before this date to continue using our service.

The basic subscription is £9.99 per month but this will exclude the Planning tracker, please see attached information.

Members are asked to consider how they wish to proceed.

It was agreed that the PC would subscribe to the basic subscription for the PC website.

**Action: Clerk to progress.**

## 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 MBC were working on a high-level Town Centre Strategy.

**11. Correspondence Report.**

The correspondence report was noted by members.

Community Governance Review (Parishes) - Stage 2 Consultation

Community Governance Review Stage 2 Consultation, specific proposals, is now live until the beginning of August.

The consultation contains proposals for Boughton Monchelsea (and Langley), Boxley, Chart Sutton, Coxheath/East Farleigh, Downswood, Otham, Thurnham, and Tovil. There are also significant proposals for Barming and Loose.

The consultation is available on the Council's consultation portal.

<https://letstalkmaidstone.uk.engagementhq.com/community-governance-review>

We welcome all views on the proposals, and will be supporting the consultation with leaflet drops for Barming, Loose and the proposals neighbouring Grove Green.

Surveys close: 6 August 2023.

What happens next

The results of stage 2 of the review will be reviewed by the Democracy and General Purposes Committee on 13 September 2023.

Full Council will consider whether to adopt any of the outcomes of the review on 27 September 2023.

**12. Stockbury Bus.**

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

**13. Stockbury Orchard.**

It was reported that the work on the Orchard was being undertaken in accordance with the grant funding.

Cllr Tomsett spoke regarding the financial arrangements for the Orchard.

It was reported that a litter bin was needed outside of the Orchard. The Clerk stated that this had been requested from MBC and she would follow this up.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

**14. Stockbury Observer.**

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

It was agreed that this would not be published in January 2024.

Members minuted their thanks to Fiona Moody for her ongoing work and support for the Stockbury Observer.

**15. Any Other Business:**

a. Raised by Public.

Concerns were raised regarding the amount of dog mess in the playing field. The resident was advised that this was a Village Hall Management Committee responsibility and any request for a dog bin should be made to them.

b. Raised by Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

**16. Date of next Meeting.**

Members agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 18th October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.10pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_