

The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 19th of July 2023 at 7:30PM.

Councillors present: Azad
Cathcart
Moody
Southern
Sumner
Woods

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Southern.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Tomsett, MBC Councillor Garten 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 Cathcart 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.

Highways – Cllr Moody to report under agenda item.

Meeting with Hartlip Parish Council – Cllr Moody reported that he had met with the PC regarding the Stockbury Bus, and they had agreed to promote this in their parish.

6. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised.

7. Highways Matters.

a. General Highway Matters.

It was reported that South Street Road closed from Friday for pothole repairs.

b. Highways Improvement Plan.

Cllr Moody reported that he was currently working on the next HIP submission.

c. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

Members reported on the progress of the J5 work and the recent meeting with National Highways and the Contractors, Graham.

8. Planning Matters:

a. Applications for consideration.

23/502979/TPOA - Springfield The Street Stockbury Kent ME9 7UD

TPO application to dismantle one Ash tree in sections to the height of the surrounding hedge (Approximately 2m from ground level).

Objections, to reduce by 2m would be excessive, tree is a feature in the village.

b. Appeals and Decisions.

23/502200/LAWPRO

Pelistry Hill Green Road Stockbury Kent ME9 7UP

Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed use of the land for siting 1no. mobile home for use incidental to the main dwelling.

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. Enforcement Matters.

No matters were raised.

d. Other Planning Matters.

Diversion of Public Footpath KH93 & KH95 and Restricted Byway KH93C at

(Public Footpaths KH93 (part) & KH95 (part) and Restricted Byway KH93C (part) Stockbury)

Public Path Diversion and Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2023

Post code – ME9 7RY

9. Financial Matters:

a. Statement of Accounts & Cheques for signature.

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

Internet Banking – it was proposed by Cllr Southern to sign up for internet banking, this was seconded by Cllr Moody and agreed by all present.

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 apologies to the meeting.

11. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence report was noted by members.

Parish Charter Review

The current Parish Charter was agreed in September 2015, since then there have been a number of operational changes in terms of Officers and Councillors which are not reflected in the current document.

This was highlighted at the Quarterly Parish Liaison in December 2022, and it was felt that this was an opportune time to revisit the document with involvement from our Parish Councils.

We have put together a very short survey to gather your thoughts on this, seeking your views on:

- What you would like changed
- What you would like included in the Parish Charter
- How you would like to be involved

The results to the survey will then be collated and we will share this information with you at the end of August to help inform our next steps in the development of the Charter.

Attached is a copy of the survey questions for easy review, however responses should be submitted using the link below.

Survey closes: 23 August

Kent Community Warden Service Review Public Consultation

We have launched a consultation on proposed changes to the Community Warden service. The consultation runs from 12 July to 3 October.

As set out in the 2023/24 budget, to help meet the financial challenge KCC is facing, the Community Warden service has been asked to reduce its annual budget by £1 million by 2024/25. Setting this year's budget was the most challenging it has ever been, due to increasing demands on KCC services and the cost of providing them.

To achieve this level of saving we are proposing to redesign the service, ensuring that there is core Community Warden presence across the county, with teams covering two district authority areas. This would retain the community-based way the service currently works but use data and information to identify need and where best to place wardens so they can have the most impact.

Please view the proposals in full and let us know your views by visiting kent.gov.uk/communitywardenreview and completing the online questionnaire.

12. Stockbury Bus.

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

He reported that there was an increase in passenger numbers this month and three private hires.

He stated that the response from KCC regarding the school bus was noted, and he would follow this up with the lead parent.

13. Stockbury Orchard.

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

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.

No matters were raised.

16. Date of next Meeting.

Members agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 13th September 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 8.53pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____