

The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 25th January 2022 at 7:30 PM.

Councillor's present: *Azad*
Cathcart
Moody
Southern
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 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, these 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.

Fly tipping – It was reported that the fly tipping on land adjacent to Chalky Lane had now been removed.

5. Notice of reports from external meetings.

M2 J5 to be discussed under Highway Matters.

6. Public Comments and Observations.

No matters were raised.

7. Social Media.

Members discussed the pros and cons of having a Parish Council Facebook page.

A model Social Media Policy was circulated to all members as a guide outlining the requirements should the PC decide to progress this.

Cllr Azad spoke regarding the benefits of having social media and her reasons for supporting a PC Facebook Page. She stated that a Facebook page would be to enable the PC to communicate with people of different ages in the village and give the PC the opportunity to reach out to residents if necessary.

Members discussed this and noted that not all villagers had internet access and would be able to access social media, whereby the Stockbury Observer was delivered to all residents.

Cllr Woods stated that a Facebook page would need to be updated on a regular basis and this would require someone to constantly monitor and update the pages.

The Clerk confirmed that should the PC agree to social media then a Policy was needed to cover this, she stated that members would not be able to respond to Facebook posts with their personal views as it would be a PC account and would therefore have to reflect the views of the PC.

This was discussed further, and it was agreed that at the present time the PC would not progress a Facebook page, and in the first instance it would enhance the website and encourage residents to subscribe to the email notifications.

It was agreed that the PC would periodically revisit the subject of social media to review its decision.

8. Highways Matters.

a. General Highway Matters.

Cllr Woods reported that there had been a large number of road closure notices for Stockbury. There had been an error with one of these and it had been corrected by KCC.

Members discussed an email received from a resident outlining his recent discussions with KCC, this was noted by members.

The Clerk was asked to contact KCC and request all salt-bins in the parish were refilled.

Action: Clerk to progress.

b. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

Members discussed the M2 J5 works and the road closures in the parish.

Cllr Woods stated that these would be discussed with National Highways at the next liaison meeting.

He reported that there had been an error with the cancellation of the road works on A249 last weekend and National Highways had failed to inform local businesses and residents of this. He stated that he had spoken with the Project Manager who had acknowledged that there had been a communication failure, and he has reiterated that need for better communication whilst the project was being undertaken.

9. Planning Matters:

a. Applications for consideration.

21/506610/LBC Nettlestead House Bull Lane Stockbury Sittingbourne
Consent for demolition of existing garage. Erection of a new garage and summerhouse.

21/506609/full Nettlestead House Bull Lane Stockbury Sittingbourne
Listed Building Consent for demolition of existing garage. Erection of a new garage and summerhouse.

21/506304/FULL Land Off Bull Lane Stockbury Kent ME9 7UB
Formation of a new maintenance access.

b. MBC Planning Decisions and Appeals.

21/505701/FULL
Court Farm Yelsted Lane Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7UT
Conversion of detached dwelling into 2no. semi-detached dwellings (revised scheme to 20/502289/FULL).
Application Permitted

- c. Enforcement Matters.
No matters were reported.

10. Financial Matters:

Statement of Accounts & Cheques for signature.

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

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:

He discussed Social Housing and the issues regarding applicants getting onto the housing list. He stated that people were overwhelmed by the process, and he asked how he and the Parish Council could help residents with the application process.

Cllr Moody stated that it takes on average six months to get on the housing list and he suggested going back to MBC to bring the issues to their attention.

This was agreed and he stated that he would take with matter further with MBC and arrange a meeting to discuss this.

This was discussed by members, and it was agreed that this would be the main agenda item for the February PC meeting.

Action: Clerk to place item on February agenda.

Cllr Tomsett stated that there would soon be a vacancy at Bull Lane, he suggested that the PC should advertise the vacancy in accordance with the S106 Agreement. Members agreed that he should liaise with Riverside to establish their timescales before placing notices around the parish.

12. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence report was noted by members.

Correspondence from Chickenstock Festival organisers offering to attend a PC meeting to update members on the next event.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would invite them to attend the March PC meeting.

Action: Clerk to action.

13. Stockbury Bus.

Cllr Moody reported that the bus.

14. Stockbury Observer.

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

15. Any Other Business:

a. Raised by Public.

A resident spoke regarding the missing chains from around the Village Green and asked when the PC would have these replaced.

Cllr Tomsett stated that he would progress this.

Action: Cllr Tomsett to action.

A resident stated that a group of residents were organising an event in the summer to raise funds for a warming cabinet for the Harrow, she asked permission to have chairs and tables on the Village Green. She confirmed that the date was still to be confirmed.

The PC approved this request.

b. Raised by Parish Councillors.

The Chairman asked to Clerk to place Jubilee Celebrations on the next agenda.

Action: Clerk to action.

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

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.25pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____