

**The Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 16th May 2018 at 7:30 PM.**

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

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Woods.

1. To elect a Chairman.

It was proposed by Cllr Cathcart to elect Cllr Woods as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Southern and agreed by all present.

Cllr Woods accepted this role and took the Chair.

2. To receive the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Woods signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Tomsett and KCC Councillor Prendergast.

4. To elect a Vice Chairman.

It was proposed by Cllr Bingham to elect Cllr Southern as Vice Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed by all present.

Cllr Southern accepted this role.

5. To agree the appointment of Committees, Representatives to Outside bodies and other external appointments.

The following appointment were agreed by members.

Planning

Cllr. Mace

Cllr. Southern & Brown

Cllr. Woods

Cllr. Cathcart

Finance

Parish Clerk

Representatives for Outside Bodies

Footpaths - Cllr Brown.

Village Hall - Cllr Bingham.

Stockbury Church - Cllr Mace.

Police Liaison - Cllr Tomsett & Cathcart.

Tree Warden - Mr N Pearson.

A249 Action Group - Cllr Cathcart, Tomsett and Woods.

Highways/Parish Roads - Cllr Brown & Mace.

KALC - Cllr Woods.
ACRK - All Councillors.
Kent Downs - Cllr Cathcart
MBC Liaison (Forums etc.) - Cllr Woods.
Tri Parish Meetings - Cllr Cathcart , Tomsett and Brown.
Village Website - Cllr Woods & Brown.
Stockbury Observer - Cllr Woods & Brown.
Village Green and Village Sign - Cllr Tomsett & Bingham.
Broadband - Cllr Tomsett & Southern.
Village Housing - Cllr Tomsett & Brown.
Tourism & Publicity - Cllr Woods & Brown.
Community Bus - Cllr Tomsett & Mrs Moody.
Cherry Orchard - Cllr Tomsett .
Village Playing Fields - Cllr Bingham.
Village Clubs and Associations - Cllr Bingham.
Grants - Cllr Southern.
Environmental Matters - Cllr Mace.
Village Sponsorship - Cllr Tomsett
AONB & SSI - Cllr Southern & Brown.
Nature Reserves - Cllr Southern & Brown.
Parish Plan - All Councillors.
Gypsy Sites - Cllr Mace & Woods.
JPG - Cllr Cathcart & Woods.
MP, KCC & MBC - Cllrs Cllr Tomsett and Parish Clerk.

Parish Areas & Hamlets

Stockbury Village - Cllr Bingham.
Stockbury Valley - Cllr Tomsett.
Church Farm Ind Estate - Cllr Tomsett.
Cowstead - Cllr Bingham.
South Street - Cllr Southern.
Beaux Aires - Cllr Southern.
Hill Green - Cllr Woods & Brown.
Plum Tree - Cllr Woods & Brown.
Queen Down Warren - Cllr Woods & Brown.
Yelsted - Cllr Woods.
Bimbury Lane - Cllr Cathcart.
Detling Aerodrome Ind Estate - Cllr Cathcart.
Kent County Showground - Cllr Cathcart.
Pett Lane - Cllr Mace
Norton Green - Cllr Mace
South Green - Cllr Mace & Bingham.
Hazel Street - Cllr Mace
Three Squirrels PH - Cllr Tomsett

Appointment of:-

Internal Auditor – Martin Thomas & Co
Bankers – Natwest & Coop
External Auditors – Little John

6. Declaration of Interest.

No interests were declared.

7. 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, this was seconded by Cllr Mace and agreed by all present.

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

8. Matters Arising.

The Clerk was asked to contact MBC and ask them to sweep Pett Lane, Pett Road and South Green Lane.

Action: Clerk to action.

9. Notice of Reports from External Meetings.

No matter were raised.

10. Consultation on the Meeting Agenda.

a. Members of the Public.

A resident asked to speak under Highways Matters.

b. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

11. Police Report.

The Police gave their apologies to the meeting.

Cllr Garten informed members that a new PCSO had been appointed for Stockbury. He stated that he would forward the details on to members.

Members asked the Clerk to forward the meeting dates onto him and invite him to attend a future meeting.

Action: Clerk to action.

12. Highways Matters.

a. General Highways Matters.

Cllr Southern reported that the drains were blocked at the bottom of Chalky Road.

Action: Clerk to action.

A resident stated that Steps Hill Road was still closed and she asked what was happening and what the future was for the Road.

The Clerk was asked to contact KCC to find out what the issue was and if the road would be reopened.

A resident asked about the speed along the A249 as there had been a recent fatality, she asked whether the Parish Council could have any influence over this.

Cllr Cathcart reported that Helen Whateley was due to arrange a date for the A249 Action Group meeting and this would be a matter for discussion at this meeting.

Junction 5 Consultation- The Chairman stated that there had been no update since the Consultation. Cllr Cathcart stated that he would liaise with Highways England to ascertain the details.

Councillor Garten spoke regarding the A249 bus stop and stated that this appeared to have been put on hold.

b. Quiet Lanes Scheme.

Cllr Southern stated that KCC Officer Sue Laport had confirmed that the signs could be erected and KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast had stated that she would finance these.

She suggested that when the signs were erected that a letter should be sent to local businesses to inform them of the signage.

c. Speeding in the Parish.

Cllr Woods circulated a paper to all members for consideration. He stated that this outlined his thoughts on speeding in the Parish.

He stated that the way people drive through the Parish was dangerous. He suggested that the PC could undertake an initiative to try to address the issue and seek residents support in taking action.

He asked if the PC wished to address the issue and undertake a project throughout the year and he asked members thoughts.

Cllr Cathcart stated that this matter could be raised with the PCSO.

Councillor Garten spoke regarding the possibility of the PC purchasing a speed camera. This was discussed by members and it was agreed that little could be done with the data that was collected from a speed camera.

Following a further discussion it was agreed that this matter would be out on hold for the time being.

13. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

Cherry Tree Farm

Cllr Woods stated that the Borough Council had put a Stop Order on the site and now an application had been submitted, he asked members views.

Councillor Garten stated that the Enforcement Officer was surprised that an application had been submitted and he suggested that the PC object to the application.

Cllr Southern spoke regarding the objections she had received from members of the public on the grounds of AONB encroachment and creeping development.

Cllr Cathcart referred to the refusal notice for the Wheatsheaf and suggested that the reasons for this refusal also applied to the application for Cherry Tree Farm. It was therefore agreed that the PC should object to this application on the same grounds as the Wheatsheaf refusal.

Action: Clerk to action.

18/501626/FULL/GRPA

Yelsted Farm Yelsted Road Yelsted Sittingbourne Kent

Demolition of existing storage buildings and siting of a mobile home within the residential curtilage of the main dwelling (retrospective).

Concerns were raised regarding this application and the overdevelopment of the site. It was agreed that objections should be

raised to this application on the same grounds as that for the application for Cherry Trees.

18/502374/MOD106 Land East of South Street Road Stockbury Kent ME9 7UH

Modification of Planning Obligation to Clause 8 of Schedule 1 and Clause 2.13(a) of Section 106 Agreement dated 3 August 2012 made between (1) Maidstone Borough Council and (2) English Rural Housing Association Limited. The agreement relates to planning application MA/11/2001.

b. Appeals and Decisions.

18/501152/FULL

Guildstead Cottage Yelsted Lane Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7UT

Erection of a single storey extension.

Application Permitted

c. War Games, Squirrel Woods.

Councillor Garten informed members that the sign for Apocalypse War Games was approved on 20th October 2017.

Cllr Cathcart questioned how this could be approved when the business didn't have any planning permission.

Councillor Garten stated that the approval was for the frame of the sign and not the advertisement.

He stated that a new Planning application had been submitted for the War Game activities, however this was currently invalid. He stated that he had now asked MBC to assist the applicant with the application to enable this to be validated and progress through the planning process.

Cllr Cathcart spoke regarding the advertising consent and stated that there was an embargo on advertising in Stockbury valley and other applications had been refused. He stated that this application should never have been approved.

d. Longton Woods.

It was reported that the Appeal for Longton Woods had been heard and the outcome was due in 4 to 5 weeks.

e. Binbury Park.

No matters were reported.

f. MBC Local Plan.

Cllr Garten stated that the 2021 Local Plan Work Shop was due to be held by MBC

14. Financial Matters.

a. Statement of Accounts.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved by all present.

Bank Balances May 2018

Opening Balance on Current Account	£42231.92
Add deposits	£0
Less Account for payment	£2402.89
Closing Balance on Current Account	£39829.03

b. Cheques for Payment.

The cheques for payment were authorised by members. These were then signed by two authorised signatories. (Cathcart/Woods)

c. 2018/19 Accounts and Annual Return.

The Accounts and Annual Return were circulated to all members.

The Council considered and approved the Statement of Internal Control for the year ending 31 March 2018. (Proposed by Cllr Mace, seconded by Cllr Cathcart and agreed by all present.)
The Chairman and Clerk signed the Statement on behalf of the Council.

The Council considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement for 2017/18. (Proposed by Cllr Mace, seconded by Cllr Cathcart and agreed by all present.) The Chairman and Clerk signed the Statement on behalf of the Council.

The Council considered and approved the Accounting Statements and supporting documents as provided by the Responsible Financial Officer who had prior to the meeting signed Section 2 of the Annual Return for 2017/.18. (Proposed by Cllr Mace, seconded by Cllr Cathcart and agreed by all present.)

The Chairman signed the Statement on behalf of the Council.

15. External Reports.

a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

b. Kent County Councillor.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her apologies to the meeting.

c. Maidstone Borough Councillor.

Councillor Garten gave his report to the meeting.

He reported that plans by KCC for a school on the KIMS site were not being progressed.
He spoke regarding the progress of then site.

He reported on the MBC elections and stated that the Conservatives had made three seats. A full Council meeting was due to be held at MBC to determine the Council Leadership.

He reported on the responsibilities of MBC and the role of Swan Master within the Borough.

16. Correspondence Report.

The Correspondence Report was noted by members.

17. Tri Parish Group/A249 Action Group and JPG.

Cllr Cathcart reported that he had written to Helen Whateley MP regarding an A249 Action Group Meeting.

18. Stockbury Orchard.

Cllr Brown reported on the progress of the Orchard.

19. Stockbury Community Bus.

No matters were raised.

20. Policy Review and General Data Protection Regulations.

The Clerk circulated General Data Protections Polices and Information to members for consideration.

It was agreed by members that the Data Protection Forms and Policies should be adopted by the Parish Council, and that the Clerk should be appointed the Data Protection Officer for the PC. This was proposed by Cllr Cathcart, seconded by Cllr Mace and agreed by all present.

21. Footpaths and Bridleways.

No matters were raised.

22. Any Other Business.

a. Members of the Public.

No matters were raised.

b. Parish Councillors.

Cllr Brown spoke regarding a footpath that crossed a field and she stated that the fence had been cut to allow dogs to access the path, she asked the PC for advice as the fence was on private property. Cllr Woods spoke regarding this matter.

23. Date of next meeting.

20th June 2018.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.05pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____