

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held by Zoom on the 18th August 2021 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. Committees, Appointments and Representatives to Outside Bodies.

The Committees and Representatives to Outside Bodies were agreed.

3. Declaration of Interest.

Cllrs Cathcart, Southern, Moody, Woods and Tomsett declared an interest in the planning application for The Harrow.

4. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all present. These were proposed by Cllr Tomsett 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.

5. Matters Arising.

No matters were raised.

6. Notice of reports from external meetings.

J5 Meeting to be reported under agenda item 8b.

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

No matters were raised.

8. Highways Matters.

a. General Highway Matters.

It was reported that the Chalky Road potholes had now been filled, however the fly tipping was still there.

Cllr Woods reported that he had met with the new Highways Steward by bumping into him. He asked the Clerk to liaise with KCC regarding a formal introduction.

Action: Clerk to liaise with KCC.

Hill Green Road – it was reported that the road had been marked by KCC for repair, however the road markings had now faded. The Clerk was asked to check the progress of this work.

Action: Clerk to action.

Steps Hill Farm – potholes to be reported.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

b. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

Cllr Woods reported on a meeting that had taken place between the PC, Highways England, the Contractors, Representatives for Helen Whateley MP and KCC, to discuss the M2 J5 Work.

He stated that they had agreed to hold monthly monitoring meetings with the Parish Council, and the Clerk had booked the Village Hall for these.

He reported that the preliminary work was due to commence within the next three weeks, starting on the Ode Street side, before undertaking the main part of the work which is due to start in 2022.

He reported that the PC had raised issues around the Traffic Management Plan, and it had been impressed upon them to maintain access to the village, concerns over rat run traffic were also raised.

He confirmed that contractors and village life would be kept apart, and he had received reassurances that there would be no access from the depot at Honey Crock to Church Hill.

Cllr Cathcart spoke regarding the realignment of the Church Hill junction.

Cllr Woods stated that the Parish Council would continue to work to minimise the affects of the work on traffic in Stockbury.

9. Planning Matters:

a. Applications for consideration.

21/503063/FULL The Dreys Squirrel Woods Rumstead Lane Stockbury
Retrospective application for the change of use of land and field shelter to provide an events venue, including erection of covered seating areas to the rear and sides of the field shelter, erection of a woodcutters cabin to be used in conjunction with the events venue, and the use of mobile facilities including 2no. store rooms, 2no. marquees, 3no. toilet blocks, 1no. disabled wc, 2no. shepherds huts, 4no. shipping containers, with associated car parking and woodland walkway.

No objections.

21/504035/FULL The Harrow Inn The Street Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent
Conversion of the barn/store to a bar.

No objections but comments re sound proofing.

21/503774/FULL Cocketts Bimbury Lane Stockbury ME9 7QX
Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and "erection of 1no detached dwelling.

No objections.

21/504275/FULL Foxwood Chalky Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9
Change of use from residential to residential and B8 storage and distribution.
Existing rear hardstanding to continue to be used as parking and storage of
vans/equipment for screeding business (Retrospective).

Objections.

- ***Inappropriate development in AONB.***
- ***Excessive traffic.***
- ***Set precedent.***

***It was agreed that Cllr Southern would draft a letter of objection for
submission to MBC.***

21/504233/FULL Bimbury Lodge Bimbury Lane Stockbury Maidstone Kent
Change of use of land to a bijou glamping retreat, consisting of 4no. canvas
bell tents, 1no. shepherd hut, erection of 1no. toilet/shower block and
associated parking. Conversion of stable block, into bar, 3no. sleeping pods,
kitchen and dining area/tea room.

Objections.

- ***Overdevelopment development.***
- ***Excessive noise.***
- ***Set precedent.***

b. MBC Planning Decisions.

21/503036/FULL

Pett House Pett Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7RJ

Conversion of the garage/store to an annexe. Erection of a detached garage with storage shed. New
front gates and walls to the existing access.

Application Refused

21/503076/FULL

The Bungalow Norton Green Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7RN

Erection of single storey rear and front extensions.

Application Permitted

21/502110/FULL

Hill View House Yelsted Road Yelsted Kent ME9 7UU

Erection of single storey side extensions to existing summerhouse, ancillary to main dwelling.

Application Permitted

c. Enforcement Matters.

No matters were raised.

10. Financial Matters:

a. Statement of Accounts & Cheques for signature.

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

b. Parish Council Email Accounts.

It was agreed that this item would be deferred to allow further consideration.

11. External Reports:

a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

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 on the following:

- MBC Planning Portal.
- Mayor's Afternoon Tea Party.

12. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence report was noted by members.

13. Stockbury Bus.

Cllr Moody reported that the bus was up and running with 16 passengers to date.

The Committee had met to discuss issues, and the need to improve record keeping was being addressed.

He reported that a volunteer was needed to run the bus on a day-to-day basis.

Cllr Azad stated that she was happy to assist where possible.

This was discussed further, and it was agreed that Cllr Tomsett would cover the running of the bus for the next three months whilst the need and use of the bus was monitored.

14. Stockbury Observer.

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

15. Defibrillator.

The Parish Council approved entering into an annual maintenance agreement for the defibrillator.

Cllr Moody reported that the unit had been repaired and fitted with a new battery and pads.

16. Social Media.

Cllr Azad spoke regarding the benefits of using social media for the benefit of the parish.

She suggested that the PC could start by adding the Stockbury Observer to a Facebook Page.

This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would circulate a Social Media Policy for information to all members.

Action: Clerk to action.

17. Any Other Business:

a. Raised by Public.

A resident spoke regarding the need for there to be a liaison between the church and PC to talk about the future of the church.

Cllr Woods stated that should this be necessary then the PC and the village would be involved.

Cllr Tomsett reported that the wall to the rear of the church needed to be renovated and work was ongoing.

b. Raised by Parish Councillors.

Cllr Moody stated that the Chickenstock Festival had taken place and didn't start very well, there were issues with vehicular access, traffic management, and insufficient marshalling. He stated that the organisers were aware of the issues and had apologised.

Cllr Garten stated that he would establish the licensing details for the event and whether the Parish Council could bring this to the Licensing Committee to consider it.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the event organisers to express its concerns at the traffic issues and event marshalling.

18. Date of next Meeting – 15th September 2021.

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

Signed: _____

Dated: _____