

The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held by Zoom on the 21st October 2020 at 7:30 PM.

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

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

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Woods.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Mace, and Brown, 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 Woods 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.

4. Matters Arising.

Parish Website – The Clerk reported that the new PC website was now up and running, however there was an issue with the domain name, as the current one could not be transferred to the new website. Therefore, a new domain name had to be purchased and at present this was not immediately visible when searched. She stated that she had now followed this up with the website provider, and the original domain name of Stockbury.org.uk, was due to be released for sale in September. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council would await the release of Stockbury.org.uk and purchase when available. In the meantime, the Clerk would seek assistance to try to resolve the current issues.

Action: Clerk to progress.

Hyde Housing Section 106 Agreement – The Clerk confirmed that the legal Section 106 Agreement would be transferred over with the housing.

Grant for Printer – Cllr Southern reported that the grant application submitted to KCC for the Printer for the Stockbury Observer had been approved and the funds had now been paid into the PC account. She asked for PC approval to progress with the purchase of the printer. This was approved.

Action: Cllr Southern to progress.

Members discussed the arrangement for the storage of the printer at the village hall. Cllr Bingham stated that a cupboard would be installed in the hall to house the printer at no cost to the PC.

The Clerk confirmed that the PC insurance would cover the printer.

5. Notice of reports from external meetings.

Cllr Southern spoke regarding the grants that were available from KCC to top up broadband in rural areas, she stated that applying for the grant was a complicated process, but she felt that it may be worth progressing. Applications needed to be submitted before 31st March 2021.

Cllr Southern stated that she would look into this and consult with her neighbours to ascertain their interest. Residents would need to commit to the service prior to the grant application being submitted, and if the broadband were needed in different areas, they would be subject to separate grant applications.

MBC Cllr Garten spoke regarding broadband in rural areas, and asked Cllr Souther to forward the grant details onto him.

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

No matters were raised, no public present.

7. Highways Matters.

a. General Highway Matters.

Cllr Southern stated that the drains in Chalky Road were blocked, she stated that she had reported these to Kent Highways, and would chase this up with them.

b. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

Cllr Woods reported that the Public Inquiry was due to take place in mid November.

This was discussed by members and it was agreed to look at the statements to see whether any areas could be challenged.

MBC Cllr Garten spoke on this matter, he stated that he had submitted his reports in support of Stockbury Parish Council.

8. Planning Matters:

a. Applications for consideration.

Applications Received

20/504063/FULL Guildstead Lodge Yelsted Lane Sittingbourne Kent
Erection of a single storey with roof-space side extension.
No objections.

20/504273/FULL Plot Opposite 1 Harrow Court Stockbury Kent ME9 7UQ
Erection of a 2-bedroom detached bungalow.
No objections.

20/504352/FULL Cocketts Bimbury Lane Stockbury ME9 7QX
Demolition of existing house and associated outbuildings and erection of 1no.
new detached five-bedroom house with detached double garage with gym,
extended driveway, and enhanced landscaping.

It was agreed that concerns should be brought to the attention of the planning officer as it was felt that this application was inconsistent with the AONB and out of character with the surrounding area and other properties in the parish.

Comments to MBC.

20/504454/FULL Foxwood Chalky Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent
Conversion of existing garage into habitable space with external alterations.
Demolition of 2no. outbuildings and erection of an outbuilding with internal
swimming pool.
No objections.

Application Decisions by MBC

20/503657/FULL
1 Church Farm Cottages Church Lane Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7RD
Demolition of single storey side extension & erection of two storey side extension (Resubmission of
20/501387/FULL)
Application Permitted

20/503322/FULL
Three Greens Chalky Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7QR
Erection of infill extensions to front with creation of a first floor to provide additional living
accommodation. Demolition of existing lean to 3 bay garage and erection of new three bay garage
with office and above, including dormers.
Application Permitted

20/502862/FULL
1 Appsmoor Farm South Street Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7QS
Change of use for the keeping of horses. Erection of a block of stables and all-weather riding
surface.
Application Permitted

20/503413/FULL
Cherry Trees the Street Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7UD
Single storey side/rear extension to garage
Application Permitted

20/502783/FULL
Land Adjacent to Five Kilns Stockbury Valley Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7QN
Retrospective application for creation of new access to land adjacent Five Kilns Stockbury Valley
following full planning approval ref: 19/500476/FULL.
Application Permitted

b. Enforcement Matters.
No matters were reported.

9. Financial Matters:

a. Statement of Accounts & Cheques for signature.
The financial statement was approved by members. (Cathcart/Southern).

10. External Reports:

a. Parish Councillors.
Members agreed that a meeting should be arranged to discuss the advertising costs for the
Stockbury Observer.

Cllr Southern stated that she hoped that it may be possible to have the Observer published in November 2020.

b. KCC Councillor.

KCC Councillor Prendergast gave her apologies to the meeting.

The Clerk reported that she had asked for members to note the KCC Budget Consultation being undertaken by KCC at present.

c. MBC Councillor.

MBC Councillor Garten gave his report to the meeting. He referred to his circulated report.

He reported on the Local Plan review and issues relating to this.

He stated that Bimbury Park was not part of the Local Plan listed sites.

He spoke regarding the political issues at MBC regarding capital purchases as the Borough Council was now purchasing properties as a capital investment.

11. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence report was noted by members.

12. Stockbury Bus.

Cllr Southern reported that a survey had been undertaken regarding the Stockbury Bus to ascertain usage options.

She stated that Cllr Tomsett was of the opinion that the bus should not be used at present, but there was a consensus that it could be used if proper precautions were put in place. She stated that she felt that a meeting was needed to discuss the bus, as people were asking about it, she asked members for their views.

Cllr Woods stated that the issue was that at present there was no one to run it and this could not be progressed until someone was found to organise the running of it.

Cllr Southern stated that she would circulate the questionnaire to all members before the next meeting to enable members to form a view.

Action: Cllr Southern to action.

13. Parish Council Policy Review.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council policies were due for review. It was agreed that she would circulate these to all members, and they would be reviewed at a future meeting.

Action: Clerk to progress.

14. Any Other Business:

a. Raised by Public.

No matters were raised.

b. Raised by Parish Councillors.

Cllr Bingham spoke regarding a request received from the WI to use the Village Green at Christmas for a nativity display, he stated that he had no objections to this request.

This was discussed by members and it was agreed subject to it being in coordination with the Community Pub.

The Clerk confirmed that she had ordered a poppy wreath for the PC and this had been posted to Cllr Woods. Cllr Woods confirmed that he had received this.

15. Date of next Meeting – 18th November 2020.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.45pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____