

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hoo Saint Werburgh Parish Council
Held in the Red Cross Hall, Stoke Road, Hoo on Thursday 3rd December 2015 at 7.30pm.

***Councillors present: Andrews
Chambers
Counsell
Hipsey
L Pearce
M Pearce
Perfect
Pratt
Rees
Sands
Shepperd
Singleton
Tildesley
Williams***

Also: Parish Clerk and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor L Pearce.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received Cllr Gatfield.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all present. It was proposed by Cllr Andrews to accept these as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr Tildesley and agreed by all present.

The approved Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Village Signage – The Chairman stated that he had been in contact with Medway Council and they had agreed to place some marker signs on the existing posts in the Village Centre.

Signage for Fitness Equipment – Cllr Pearce circulated a draft sign to members, this was approved and it was agreed that he would progress the signage for the fitness equipment.

Action: Cllr Pearce to progress.

5. Urgent Matters.

No urgent matters were raised.

6. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

He reported that the broken bench in the Village Centre had now been replaced and the toilets were still out of use due to vandalism.

7. Clerks Report.

The Clerks Report was noted and accepted by members.

8. Police Report.

Cllr Chambers gave a report to members in the absence of Cllr Gatfield.

It was reported that there had been a spate of thefts in the village and these had been reported to the police.

Cllr Tildesley reported that the police had attended an incident in Main Road.

Cllr Perfect reported that there had also been a spate of young youths throwing bricks at properties in Main Road and this had been reported to the police.

The Chairman stated that he would ask Cllr Gatfield to liaise with the police regarding this matter.

Cllr Tildesley reported on the Rural Liaison meeting he had attended and the cutbacks to policing on the Peninsula.

9. Public Question Time.

A resident attended the meeting to speak regarding the problem with nuisance bikes in the Parish and asked if the CCTV cameras in the Village Centre were still operating.

The Chairman stated that he would contact Medway Council to establish the current situation regarding the CCTV camera systems in the Village Centre

Action: Chairman to progress.

10. Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members.

The Financial Statement was then proposed by Cllr Tildesley, seconded by Cllr Pratt and agreed by all present.

The approved cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

11. 2015/16 Budget.

The Clerk circulated the draft budget to all members. This was discussed and it was agreed that it would be placed on the next agenda for formal consideration. The Clerk reminded members that the precept needed to be approved by January 2016.

12. Grant Applications.

No applications were received or considered.

13. Land for use as a Burial-Ground.

Cllr Rees stated that this matter was still progressing.

14. Churchyard Pathway.

Cllr Rees stated that this matter was still progressing.

15. Planning Matters.

The Chairman informed members that the planning application for Land North of the A228 for 131 dwellings had been approved by Medway Council. He stated that the Parish Council was disappointed in this decision as this would set a precedent and open other areas within the Peninsula up for development. He stated that the Parish Council had raised concerns regarding the access and egress onto the roundabout on the A228.

MC/15/3788 51 TRUBRIDGE ROAD, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9EN

Construction of a single storey front extension.

No Objections.

MC/15/3106 BUTTERCROCK WHARF, VICARAGE LANE, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER

Part retrospective application for construction of a B1 Employment building together with part use of an existing building for Use within Class B2 of the Use Classes Order and associated development including access, car parking, hard surfacing, boundary treatment, drainage and landscaping.

No Objections.

MC/15/4146 RIVER VIEW COTTAGE, STOKE ROAD, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9NR

Construction of a two storey side and rear extension and single storey front extension.

No Objections.

MC/15/4109 Land at Kingsnorth Industrial Estate, Gamma Road, ME3 9ND

Construction of a standing reserve power plant comprising 14 gas reciprocating engine generators with an office and storage building, security and acoustic fencing, other ancillary structures and associated works.

No Objections.

16. Allotments.

Cllr Perfect reported that on the recent allotment inspection.

17. Parish Surgeries.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council was currently in contact with Medway Council regarding permission for the use of the library to hold parish surgeries and was awaiting their response.

18. Village Signage.

The Chairman stated that he had been in contact with Medway Council to ascertain what signage they could assist with for the Village Centre and they had agreed that the Parish Council could finance additional signage to place with the existing signs.

Action: Chairman to progress.

19. Provision of All Inclusive Disabled.

Cllr Sands reported that a grant application has now been submitted to the Tesco Community Fund.

20. Village Hall.

Cllr Rees reported on the progress of the Village Hall Lease.

She suggested that the Parish Council and the Village Hall complete the Lease and then consider the parking and fencing issues as an amendment to this.

This was agreed by all present.

21. Venue for future Parish Council Meetings.

Cllr Pearce stated that this item has been placed on the agenda by Cllr Sands and opened up the meeting for debate.

Cllr Sands suggested that the Parish Council should support the Village Hall by holding its Parish Council meetings there rather than at the Red Cross Hall. Cllr Perfect supported this suggestion.

Cllr Tildesley stated that he felt that the Red Cross Hall was a perfect venue for the Parish Council meetings as this was central to the village.

Cllr Andrews stated that the Parish Council used to use the Village Hall many years ago and had moved to the Red Cross Hall for these reasons.

Cllr Michael Pearce stated that he felt the Village Hall was a more central location for parish meetings and supported the use of this.

A general discussion took place and it was suggested by Cllr Singleton that the Parish Council use the Village Hall for a trial period.

This was discussed further and it was agreed that the PC would make enquiries with the Village Hall Management Committee to establish the availability and cost of the Village Hall.

Action: PC to establish availability and cost of the Village Hall.

Cllr Chambers stated that the lights to the rear of the Hall when not working at present. The Chairman stated that the lights were on a timer clock in the Village Hall. Cllr Chambers stated that she would liaise with the Village Hall Management Committee regarding this matter.

22. Recreation Grounds.

Kingshill Recreation Ground refurbishment – Cllr Williams reported that an inspection at Kingshill Recreation Ground had taken place and the play equipment was in a good condition, but needed

painting. It was agreed that the Committee considering improvements to the Recreation Ground would seek quotations for this work.

Action: Committee to progress.

23. Ward Councillors Report.

No matters were reported.

24. Urgent Items.

No matters were raised.

25. Date of next meeting.

7th January 2016.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....