

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held by Zoom on the 17th March 2021 at 7:30 PM.**

***Councillor's present: Bingham
Cathcart
Southern
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 and reasons for absence accepted from Cllrs Mace, Tomsett, and Brown.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Cllr Cathcart declared an interest in the planning application for Binbury Park.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

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

Foxwood lights – The Clerk stated that she had sent a letter to the resident as agreed. Cllr Southern stated that there did seem to be some improvement in the lighting situation.

Appsmoor – It was reported that the property was up for sale and currently empty, but the lights had been left on. It was agreed that the selling agent should be advised of the situation.

5. Notice of reports from external meetings.

No matters were reported.

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

Fiona and Geoff Moody asked to speak regarding the Stockbury Observer.

7. Highways Matters.

a. General Highway Matters.

Chalky Lane flooding – Cllr Southern reported that KCC had erected warning signage, but action was needed, she stated that KCC was aware of the situation.

Potholes – Cllr Cathcart stated that the standard of work by the pothole contractors was disappointing. Cllr Woods stated that he had contacted KCC Highways regarding this matter and had sent photographic evidence.

Litter A249 - Cllr Garten stated that MBC was responsible for clearing litter, but the A249 was a joint operation between MBC and KCC due to road safety issues.

He stated that he would raise this matter with MBC.

Cllr Woods stated that there were two issues, the current litter problems, and the prevention of litter. He suggested that if this was not actioned by MBC or MBC then the residents of Stockbury may consider undertaking a litter pick and publicising this on social media.

b. M2 Junction 5 Improvements.

No matters were raised.

8. Planning Matters:

a. Applications for consideration.

Applications Received

18/504836/EIOUT Binbury Park Bimbury Lane Detling Maidstone Kent
Outline application (with all matters reserved apart from access) for the
Erection of up to 1,750 dwellings including affordable housing, 46,000 sq.m of
Commercial space, a hotel, a local centre, a new primary school, a park, and
ride facility...

Members discussed the planning application for Binbury Park.

Cllr Woods stated that he had attended the recent meeting of Thurnham Parish Council when they discussed the application.

He stated that Thurnham Parish Council had unanimously agreed to object to the proposals and were reiterating their previous objections. They had asked if Stockbury were to object to the proposals, would it be prepared to submit a joint letter with Detling and Thurnham PCs supporting the collective objections.

He stated that Stockbury PC had previously objected to the proposals and he asked councillors to consider their views regarding the revised proposals.

This was discussed, and it was agreed that the primary objection of Stockbury PC was the development in an AONB and the Parish Councils previous objections still stood.

MBC Councillor Garten gave his views in the proposals and the thinking of MBC.

Cllr Woods proposed that the Parish Council revise its previous objection and update it to reflect the current situation. In addition, he proposed that Stockbury PC supports the submission of a joint letter from the three PCs as suggested by Thurnham Parish Council.

This was seconded by Cllr Cathcart and agreed by all present.

Action: Cllr Woods/Clerk to revised objections for submission to MBC Planning.

Application Decisions by MBC

21/500291/FULL

Poppy View Yelsted Road Yelsted Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7UT

Annexe accommodation above the three-bay garage to be used ancillary to the main dwelling (retrospective).

Application Permitted

Cllr Southern asked if the PC could request MBC impose conditions to applications that building work was not allowed on a Sunday. This was discussed and Cllr Garten advised that the PC could

request that this condition was applied to any major application, however whether to place the condition on the application lay with the Planning Officer.

Cllr Garten reported that the planning application for Amberlea was due to be heard by the MBC Planning Committee on 25th March 2021 and he asked if a member of the PC would join the meeting to support the objections.

It was agreed that the Clerk would book a slot at the Planning Meeting for Cllr Woods to speak on behalf of the PC.

Action: Clerk to action.

b. Enforcement Matters.

No matters were raised.

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.

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 reported on the following:

- COVID testing in the Borough and stated that these were running efficiently.
- The Local Plan was progressing and the Regulation 18b Consultation was now complete.
- He would be issuing a Newsletter to all residents.

11. Correspondence Report.

The correspondence report was noted by members.

12. Stockbury Bus.

Cllr Southern suggested that a Bus Committee meeting should be arranged to discuss this at some point in the future.

This was agreed and a date was set for a Zoom meeting.

13. Stockbury Observer.

Fiona Moody spoke regarding the Stockbury Observer, she stated that the invoices had been sent out with the increased advertising rates. She asked the Clerk to inform her when payments had been received.

14. Equal Opportunities Policy Review.

The Clerk reported that a draft policy would be circulated to all members for review.

15. Any Other Business:

a. Raised by Public.

A member of the public spoke regarding the Chicken Stock Festival that was due to take place over four days in the summer. They raised concerns regarding traffic and noise. Councillor Garten stated that he would take this up with MBC.

b. Raised by Parish Councillors.

Cllr Southern informed members that the Parish Council had received a request from the Pub to use the Village Green during the daytime, whilst the pub had to operate outside. Members agreed to this request, subject to clarification that their Public Liability Insurance was in place to cover the hours of operation.

16. Date of next Meeting – 21st April 2021.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.10pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____