

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council  
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 at 7:30 PM.**

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

***Also, present: Parish Clerk, Mrs S Babington, MBC Councillor Patrik Garten, and members of the press and public.***

***The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Woods.***

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Tomsett, KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast and the police.

**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 Mace as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Bingham and agreed by all present.

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

**4. Matters Arising.**

No matters were raised.

**5. Notice of Reports from External Meetings.**

Cllr Woods – Arriva Buses and Fly Tipping.

**6. Consultation on the Meeting Agenda.**

**a. Members of the Public.**

Members of the public asked to speak regarding Binbury Park.

The Chairman stated that this item would be discussed under Planning Matters.

**b. Parish Councillors.**

No matters were raised.

**7. Police Report.**

The Police gave their apologies to the meeting.

**8. Highways Matters.**

**a. General Highways Matters.**

M2 Junction 5 Consultation – Cllr Cathcart reported that Helen Whateley MP had written to Highways England regarding the design of the proposed improvements at Junction 5.

He circulated a copy of the letter to members.

He stated that the consultation feedback would be reviewed by Highways England.

Cllr Southern informed members that she had held a meeting with the Head of Cleansing at MBC and they had undertaken a tour of the parish. She stated that the meeting had been very productive and since the meeting the roads had been cleaned in the parish and there was now a good channel of communication with MBC.

Cllr Woods stated that MBC were responsible for clearing the rubbish up to one meter from the edge of the road.

He stated he was hopeful that the lanes in Stockbury would now improve.

Cllr Woods spoke regarding a letter received from Helen Whateley MP regarding HGV's on rural roads. He stated that Helen Whateley had written to the Roads Minister to make it mandatory for HGV's to carry HGV Navigation.

He stated that Mr Norman did not wish to make this legislation due to the cost. Cllr Woods stated that he was disappointed by the letter and he would take this up with Helen Whateley.

Cllr Cathcart informed members that MBC Parking Enforcement did not consider there to be a problem with parking at the Aerodrome Approach Road. This was discussed and it was agreed that this would be taken up by MBC Councillor Garten at the Joint Transportation Board Meeting.

He stated that there was a problem with HGV's parking along the road without side lights and this was now a safety issue.

Councillor Garten spoke regarding the problem with HGV's parking at the Aerodrome Approach and stated that the problem was due to there being no parking facilities for lorries, and drivers needed somewhere to park to comply with the law.

**b. Quiet Lanes Scheme.**

Cllr Woods asked if members had any views on the Quiet Lanes Scheme.

A resident in attendance at the meeting spoke regarding the Quiet Lanes Scheme and stated that this was a matter of encouragement rather than enforcement and that people needed to be educated.

Cllr Woods raised concerns about placing more signs in the Parish, but stated that he felt that the scheme could be made successful.

A discussion took place regarding this and similar schemes in the area.

It was agreed that Cllr Southern would work with the resident to cost the scheme and this would then be brought back to the Parish Council for further consideration.

It was also agreed that an article would be placed in the Stockbury Observer to inform residents of the Scheme.

**Action: Cllr Southern to progress.**

**c. A249 Action Group.**

No matters were raised.

**9. Planning Matters.**

**a. Planning Applications.**

**17/503943/FULL Yelsted Court Barn Yelsted Lane Sittingbourne Kent  
Retrospective application for raised wooden decking area with staircase leading to lower field.**

**b. Appeals and Decisions.**

The decisions by MBC were noted by members.

**17/500819/FULL**

Bungalow At Hillview Yelsted Road Yelsted Kent ME9 7UU  
Detached double garage with pitched roof and storage in the loft space.  
Application Permitted

**15/500712/FULL**

Hill Green Lodge Hill Green Road Stockbury Kent ME9 7UN  
Retrospective application for the erection of a domestic shed for storage and area used as potting shed.  
Application Permitted

**17/503777/SUB**

Cobnut Farm Pett Road Stockbury Kent ME9 7RJ  
Submission of details pursuant to condition 4: details of materials, 5: landscaping details, 7: details of lighting, 9: details of storage and disposal of manure and waste materials, and 10: ecology enhancement scheme (original application reference: 16/506717/FULL).  
Application Permitted

**15/500270/FULL**

The Coppice Stockbury Valley Stockbury Kent ME9 7QN  
Retrospective application for the change of use of open space for siting of Mobile home.  
Application Refused – details circulated

It was reported that 7 Binbury Lane and Plum Tree Bottom had been referred to Planning Enforcement.

c. War Games, Squirrel Woods.

Councillor Garten stated that he did not have any updates.  
Cllr Cathcart raised concerns that the w8 day usage was now being exceeded.  
Councillor Garten stated that he would take this up with MBC.

d. Longton Woods.

Councillor Garten updated members on this matter.

e. Binbury Park.

Cllr Cathcart stated that he understood that although no formal planning application had been submitted, Quinn's were still in discussions with MBC about their proposals.

Mr Crockett informed the meeting that an article had appeared in the local press regarding the plans.

f. MBC Local Plan.

Councillor Garten reported that the Local Plan had now been adopted by MBC and work was due to start on its review.

He stated that MBC expected to be told to have a further 7000 houses within the Borough. He stated that should this be the case then MBC would not go for dispersal, it would be more likely to think of developments such as a Garden City.

A general discussion took place regarding the Binbury Park proposals and Cllr Woods stated that the PC had made a decision to oppose development at Binbury Park.

**10. Financial Matters.**

a. Statement of Accounts.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved by all present.

**Bank Balances - November 2017**

<b>Opening Balance on Current Account</b>	<b>£32588.37</b>
Add deposits	£0
Less Account for payment	£790.94
<b>Closing Balance on Current Account</b>	<b>£31797.43</b>

*b. Cheques for Payment.*

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

*c. 2018/2019 Budget.*

The Clerk circulated the draft budget to all members. It was agreed that this would be formally considered at the next meeting.

**11. External Reports.**

*a. Parish Councillors.*

Cllr Bingham reported on the Highways Seminar that he had attended with KCC.

He spoke regarding the Community Transport Scheme and stated that funding was available for this.

Cllr Southern reported that Councillors had held a meeting with representatives from Arriva following the problems with buses not stopping at bus stops along the A249. She stated that Arriva had confirmed that there were no plans to close bus stops on the A249.

Cllr Garten stated that KCC were due to meet with Arriva to look at future options.

Cllr Woods reported that there were currently discussions taking place between Arriva and their Unions.

Councillor Garten stated that he would report back to the next meeting.

*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 on the Parish Services Scheme and stated that this was being discussed by MBC at its forthcoming meeting.

He reported on the AONB Partnership and stated that he was still trying to raise awareness regarding its funding.

**12. Correspondence Report.**

The Correspondence Report was noted by members.

**Kent County Council Consultations**

**Draft Budget Strategy 2018/19**

You've been invited to participate in the Draft Budget Strategy 2018/19 consultation by the consultation manager, Hannah Lucey.

This consultation is open from 12 Oct 2017 at 06:00 to 3 Dec 2017 at 23:59.

As you have previously expressed an interest in receiving information on Consultations regarding General Interest and Budget, spending and finance you may be interested in the following:

Kent County Council is consulting on its draft budget strategy for 2018/19 and the associated council tax proposals.

This consultation closes on 3rd December. Please visit [www.kent.gov.uk/budget](http://www.kent.gov.uk/budget) to take part.

**KALC CRIME PREVENTION and SAFETY CONFERENCE - 7th DECEMBER 2017**

Please see the attached flyer regarding our Crime Prevention and Safety Conference being held at Ditton Community Centre on Thursday 7th December 2017. This is a full day conference with lunch included. The cost to attend is £72 inclusive of VAT per delegate to members of KALC.

There will be contributions from:

Mr Matthew Scott, Kent Police and Crime Commissioner

Assistant Chief Constable Jo Shiner, Kent Police

Mr Peter Rolington, Chairman of Kent Crimestoppers

Ms Katie Steward, Director of Environment, Planning and Enforcement, KCC

Mr Ian Thomson, Assistant Director for Community Safety, Kent Fire and Rescue

Mr Mark Rist, Chair of Kent and Medway Road Casualty Reduction Boards Delivery Group

Mr Steve Horton, KCC Road Safety Manager

Chief Inspector Richard Smeed, Kent Police Road's Policing Team Manager

To book your place on this Event, please click on the link here [CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY CONFERENCE](#)

Closing date: Monday 4th December 2017

**Stockbury PC and Old Chalk New Downs**

The Old Chalk New Downs Project has now been up and running for around 6 months, so I am writing to the councils within our project area to update you on what we might offer your members and parishioners.

To begin with, we have a Connectivity Fund, with which it is hoped to regenerate and connect our initial project sites with other pockets of chalk downland, creating a corridor for the benefit of the rare species that depend on this habitat. Our Habitat Connectivity Officer will be working to identify such sites over the four years of the project.

Volunteers within your parish may wish to avail of our training sessions, run over the four years of the project. This training ranges from Eco-systems Service workshops for parish councillors, land owners and managers, to help value our Natural Capital, through practical conservation skills training to species identification and survey skills courses. All are free of charge and open to anyone within our area. Details of some courses coming up soon are attached, but if any group members would like to be kept informed please let me know.

If you have a Heritage or History Group within your parish, we are planning a project called "Your Place in the Past" to share stories and pictures of the Kent Chalk Downland of yesteryear. Anyone who would like to contribute or get involved with this would be warmly welcomed and it would be terrific to receive contributions from your parish.

And finally, next year will see our “Walk the Chalk” walking festival take place at the start of May. We shall be promoting this widely and would like each parish to join in and to submit at least one walk, to take place between May 4th and 11th. This may be a self-guided walk, promoted through a downloadable leaflet, or Chalkland-themed guided walk led by one of your local volunteers. Any activity tying in with the festival will be heavily promoted, through our website, social media and traditional media.

If you would like to submit a walk for inclusion on our site at <http://www.oldchalknewdowns.org.uk/action>, please respond by January 15th, 2018.

**13. Tri Parish Group.**

It was agreed that a Tri Parish Group Meeting would be arranged in the near future.

**14. Stockbury Orchard.**

No matters were reported.

**15. Stockbury Community Bus.**

No matters were reported.

**16. Footpaths and Bridleways.**

No matters were reported.

**17. Any Other Business.**

*a. Members of the Public.*

A resident spoke regarding the latest edition of the Stockbury Observer and stated that this had been printed in colour. She asked if this was necessary as it would prove to be more expensive.

*b. Parish Councillors.*

Cllr Cathcart reported that the Hucking U Turn sign on the A249 was missing.

***Action: Clerk to report to KCC.***

**18. Date of next meeting.**

20<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

***There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.57pm.***

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_