

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Stockbury Parish Council
held in Stockbury Village Hall on the 15th January 2020 at 7:30 PM.**

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

Also, present: Parish Clerk, Mrs S Babington, KCC Cllr Prendergast, MBC Cllr Garten and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Parish Cllr Woods.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mace, and Brown and the Police.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Cllr Cathcart – Binbury Park.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all present. These were proposed by Cllr Bingham as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Southern and agreed by all present.

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

4. Matters Arising.

The Chairman reported that the plans for the Junction 5 were now available on a dedicated website for the project.

Cllr Garten reported that he had attended the MBC Full Council Meeting and asked the question regarding the Junction 5 decision being taken by members. The outcome was that the J5 Improvements were a major infrastructure project and a national improvement and therefore overrides the views of the local community.

He stated that Mr Jarman made the decision based on the fact that this was a national infrastructure project and MBC wished to see the project progress without delay.

KCC Cllr Prendergast commended Cllr Garten for taking this to a Full Council Meeting. She stated that this was a constitutional matter, and the committee system at MBC demonstrated that MBC was an officer led authority.

Cllr Garten stated that there was an option to take this to another Committee, and he would work with Cllr Woods on this matter.

Stockbury Bus – Cllr Tomsett stated that he had now taken over the control of the Stockbury Bus. He stated that he was in the process of sorting out the new insurance cover and meeting with others regarding the administration and future of the bus.

5. Notice of Reports from External Meetings.

Cllr Woods – J5 Pre-Inquiry meeting.

6. Consultation on the Meeting Agenda.

No matters were raised.

7. Highways Matters.

a. General Matters.

It was reported that there were currently numerous deep potholes on Chalky Lane. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr Prendergast and KCC regarding this matter and ask them to undertake a survey of the potholes in the parish.

Cllr Wood reported on the poor quality of the pothole repairs and stated that the holes repaired on the Monday had reopened again.

Cllr Prendergast stated that the quality of the pothole repairs was a concern and she would take this matter up with KCC Officer Sue Laporte.

Action: Clerk to report to KCC.

b. Junction 5 improvements

Cllr Woods reported on the Junction 5 Pre-Inquiry meeting he had attended, he confirmed that the Public Inquiry would now take place on 10th March 2020. He reported on the process used for the Public Inquiry.

He stated that the Parish Council intend to hold a Public Meeting on 29th January. The Inspector had made it clear that a point only needed to be raised once and the purpose of the meeting was to coordinate the Parish Councils and residents' points for the Inquiry.

Cllr Woods said that the PC would encourage residents to attend the Inquiry as individuals. He suggested that four or five speakers could represent different elements at the Inquiry. The advice from the consultant was not to argue a technical issue and to concentrate on the effects on the village.

The Chairman stated that no meeting had yet taken place with KCC.

Cllr Payne had not yet responded to the PC request for a meeting with Stockbury and therefore their intention was not known.

Cllr Prendergast stated that she understood that work was being undertaken behind the scenes to find a solution to the issues. She reassured the PC that KCC were considering the options.

The Chairman stated that he would like to speak with KCC Cllr Payne to ask KCC to work with the PC at the Public Inquiry as there would be more chance of a positive outcome.

A general discussion took place regarding the process and the arrangements for the speakers at the Public Inquiry.

8. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

19/506262/FULL Cobnut Farm Pett Road Stockbury Kent ME9 7RJ
Removal of a temporary mobile home and erection of a new agricultural workers dwelling.

b. Binbury Park

Cllr Cathcart reported that the Binbury Park site had been put forward for the Call for Sites and Highways England had registered their opposition to the proposals regarding network capacity.

c. Appeals and Decisions.

19/505261/FULL

Norton Green House Pett Road Stockbury Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7RJ

Demolition and rebuilding of existing barn to provide a residential annexe with new detached garage (previously approved under 14/500937/FULL).

Application Permitted

19/504848/FULL

Bimbury Cottage Bimbury Lane Stockbury Maidstone Kent ME14 3HX

Single storey rear extension and two storey side extension incorporating cladding at first floor (part retrospective)

Application Permitted

d. Enforcement Matters.

It was reported that Foxwood, Chalky Lane had been reported to Planning Enforcement as an additional access had been created and a large area had been tarmaced.

Yelsted Farm – new entrance created under permitted development.

9. Financial Matters.a. Statement of Accounts and cheques for payment.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved by all present. (Tomsett/Cathcart).

Bank Balances January 2020

Opening Balance on Current Account	£39286.27
Add deposits	£0.00
Less Account for payment	£896.80
Closing Balance on Current Account	£38389.47

b. 2020/2021 Budget.

The Clerk circulated the draft budget and report to members consideration.

It was proposed by Cllr Tomsett to set the 2020/2021 Precept at £15023.00, this was seconded by Cllr Cathcart and agreed by all present.

Action: 2020/2021 Precept agreed £15023.00.

10. External Reports.a. Parish Councillors.

No matters were raised.

b. Kent County Councillor.

KCC Councillor Shellina Prendergast gave her report to the meeting.

HIP – Cllr Prendergast asked for a copy of the HIP.

Action: Clerk to action.

Bull Lane, Newington – Concerns were raised regarding a sharp bend that was an ongoing issue as it is dangerous, Cllr Prendergast confirmed that she had raised this with KCC.

Cllr Prendergast spoke regarding the elections and the new Cabinet at KCC, she spoke regarding the KCC Five Year Plan and the Consultation currently taking place.

Cllr Woods raised the issue of speeding in the parish and the lack of enforcement.

c. Maidstone Borough Councillor.

MBC Councillor Garten gave his report to the meeting.

d. Police Report.

No matters were raised.

11. Correspondence Report.

The Correspondence Report was noted by members.

12. A249 Action Group and JPG.

No matters were raised.

13. Any Other Business.

a. Members of the Public.

A resident spoke regarding the J5 Pre-Inquiry meeting. He stated that there was no alternative entry or exit to the village for large vehicles other than Church Lane.

Cllr Woods stated that he would liaise with the Inspector regarding this matter.

Concerns were raised by residents regarding the poor condition of verge of a Golding Homes property in the parish.

The Clerk confirmed that she had reported this to Golding Homes and would follow this up to establish what action would be taken.

Action: Clerk to progress.

A resident asked if the Parish Council would consider installing adult exercise equipment at the recreation ground.

Cllr Tomsett stated that grants were available for outdoor gyms and he would look into this.

b. Parish Councillors.

Cllr Southern stated that she had received complaints regarding the updating of the parish website. The Clerk confirmed that she had sent the latest minutes to be uploaded.

VE Day celebrations – Cllr Southern reported that a committee had been created to decide what event would take place in the village on 8 May 2020.

14. Date of next meeting.

26th February 2020.

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

Signed: _____

Dated: _____