

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HOO ST WERBURGH PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Thursday 2nd April 2009 at 7.00pm
At the Red Cross Hall, Stoke Road, Hoo St Werburgh.**

Present: Councillors	Mr Pearce	Mrs Grewcock
	Mr Andrews	Miss Simpson
	Mrs Bamber	Mrs Chambers
	Mr Bhattal	Mr Flack
	Mrs Counsell	Mrs Pratt
	Mrs Gatfield	Mrs Rees

Also present: Mrs Babington (Clerk), Mr Carmen -Village Centre Improvements and members of the public.

Prior to the start of the meeting Mr Carmen gave members an update of the progress o the village centre improvements and he asked members to agree the colour of the bricks and paving. He stated that the work was scheduled to commence in July 09. Councillor Bamber thanked Mr Carmen for his work on the project.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Hipsey.

2. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Andrews – Planning.

Cllr Bamber – Planning.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record, subject to a minor alteration (Counsell/Chambers) these were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Councillor Chambers thanked Councillor Bamber for actioning the litterbins.

Allotment Rules – The Clerk confirmed that these had now been sent to the Allotments Association and they would be forwarded to the allotment holders during the course of the month.

Hoo Common covenant – Councillor Pearce confirmed that Councillor Rees was looking into this matter.

5. Councillor Vacancy.

It was agreed by members to defer this item until the next meeting to give further time for applicants to apply for the position.

6. Urgent Matters.

Staff review – confidential item.

7. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

He reported that the tap at the allotments had now been repaired and he asked the Clerk to send a letter of thanks to the plumber.

He informed members that new chains and locks were needed for the recreation grounds and he asked for member's approval to purchase these. This was agreed.

He spoke regarding the forthcoming meetings planned regarding Chattenden.

8. Clerks Report.

The Clerk reminded members that the circus was due to visit Pottery Road Recreation Ground from 6th to 9th April 2009.

9. Financial Matters.

It was resolved to accept the financial statement. (Grewcock/Gatfield)

10. Public Question Time.

No matters were raised.

11. Police Matters.

The Chairman informed members that the village hall had been broken into yet again and the rear fire doors had been damaged. He spoke with concerns about the lack of policing in the village.

Councillor Gatfield stated that two garages had also been vandalised and had called the police. She stated that she had also been handed a flick knife, which she had passed onto the police.

The policing issues were discussed by all present and it was agreed that a letter of concern be written to the new Rural Police Inspector Simon Alland with a copy to the Chief Superintendent.

Councillor Bamber reported on problems at the new development in Church Street and the police action taken regarding this.

Action: Clerk to write to police.

12. Planning Matters.

MC/2009/0273 45 Fourwents Road, Hoo – no objections.
Erection of a single storey rear extension with pitched roof.

MC/2009/0277 28 Church Street, Hoo – no objections.
Retrospective planning application for new vehicular sliding gate and pedestrian access gate to residential development at 28 Church Street, Hoo.

MA/2009/0322 31 Knights Road, Hoo – *Councillor Pearce informed members of this application and read out the design and access statement to all present. Following a discussion it was agreed that objections should be raised to this application.*
6 self-contained flats.

MA/2009/0324 Land to South of Pastures, Stoke Road – *Members raised concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land and it was agreed that objections should be raised to this application.*
Construction of surface water storage lagoon and associated pipe work structures, Temporary site access road and site compound/transfer site, permanent vehicle crossing and access track.

The Chairman informed members of the recent planning decisions of Medway Council.

13. Hoo Common Play Area/Pottery Rd Infants Play Area.

The Chairman reported on the progress of the infants play area in Pottery Road, he thanked Councillor Bamber for her work on this project.

He spoke regarding the new children's play area and reported that the toddler's swings had been vandalised and had therefore been taken out of commission.

Councillor Flack stated that he had received reports of dogs in the play area and he asked about the progress of the signs for this. Councillor Pearce confirmed that these were being progressed.

14. Hoo Partnership/Kingshill funding request.

Nothing to report.

15. Reports from Ward Councillors.

Councillor Bamber gave her report to the meeting.

16. Parish Council Annual Assembly.

Members were reminded that the Parish Council Annual Assembly was due to be held on 23rd April 2009.

17. Urgent Items (referred from item 6.)

No matters were raised.

18. Date of next meeting

Thursday 7th May 2009 @ 7.30pm.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed to the press and public at 9:00pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....