

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HOO ST WERBURGH PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Thursday 3rd November 2011 at 7.30pm
At the Red Cross Centre, Stoke Road, Hoo St Werburgh.

Present: Councillors Mr Andrews
 Mrs Bamber
 Mr Bhattal
 Mr Bunkall
 Mrs Chambers
 Mrs Counsell
 Mr Flack
 Mrs Gatfield
 Mrs Hipsey
 Mr Pearce
 Mrs Perfect
 Mrs Pratt
 Mrs Rees
 Mr Sands
 Mr Tildesley

Also present: Mrs Babington (Clerk) and members of the public.

1. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record (Andrews/Gatfield) these were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Medway Core Strategy/Lodge Hill Development Brief – Councillor Pearce confirmed that he had submitted a response on behalf of the Parish Council to Medway Council.

Councillor Pratt informed members that she had presented the petition for the crossing at Main Road to Ward Councillor Tony Watson and he had presented this to Medway Council on her behalf.

5. Urgent Matters.

Grain Airport –Councillor Pearce approved this as an urgent item for discussion.

6. Chairman's Report.

Councillor Bamber gave a report on the recent Rural Liaison meeting that she had attended. She reported on the discussions that took place regarding the Lodge Hill Development and Halling Fire Station.

The Chairman spoke regarding the Lodgehill Development and the public transport proposals.

7. Clerks Report.

The Clerks report was noted by all present.

1. KALC AGM 12th November 2011 Ditton Community Centre - Councillors Pratt and Rees to attend.

Action: Clerk to progress.

2. Circus visit - Monday 2nd to Wednesday 4th April 2012 – It was agreed to hire the recreation ground to the circus subject to dry weather. A deposit of £200 was approved by members.

Action: Clerk to liaise with circus regarding the deposit and conditions of hire.

8. **Police Matters.**

Councillor Gatfield gave a report on police matters

She reported that there had been a number of incidents of horse thefts in the area and the police were investigating this.

Councillor Chambers reported on a scam being operated whereby calls were being made to people seeking their bank details.

Councillor Gatfield spoke regarding problems with parking on grass verges.

The Chairman reported on a problem with vehicles parking near to the Old Stables at the top of Bells Lane, he stated that he had been in contact with Medway Council regarding this matter.

9. **Public Question Time.**

No matters were raised.

10. **Financial Matters.**

It was resolved to accept the financial statement. (Counsell/Andrews)

11. **2012/2013 Budget.**

The Chairman referred to the draft budget 2012/2013 circulated to all members by the Clerk.

He reported on this with the recommended precept of £38513 for 2012/2013; after a short debate a recommendation to accept was proposed by Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Tildesley and agreed by all present.

The 2012/2013 precept for Hoo St Werburgh Parish Council was therefore set at £38513.

12. **Allotments.**

Councillor Perfect reported that the allotments had been broken into again.

She spoke regarding the need for the allotments to be renumbered following a mix up with allotment plots by a new plot holder.

It was agreed that the Clerk would sort out the problem and the PC would consider having the plots renumbered in the New Year.

Members agreed that a £5 deposit would now be payable for the release of the allotment key to new plot holders, this would be returned when they returned the key at the end of their tenancy.

13. **Land for use as a Burial Ground.**

Councillor Andrews stated that he and Councillor Perfect were due to meet to discuss this before the next PC meeting.

14. **Planning Matters.**

MC/11/2484 Peppercorn, Elm Ave, Chattenden – No objections.

Construction of timber garage with tiled roof to match house. With amended proposal on work to tree only TPO tree involved and authorised by Principal Tree Officer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.35pm for refreshments.

The meeting reconvened at 8.50pm.

15. Crossing, Junction of Main Road and Church Street – Update.

Councillor Pratt reported on the progress of the petition that was presented to Medway Council by Councillor Tony Watson on her behalf.

She stated that she was awaiting a response from Medway Council

16. Recreation Grounds.

The Chairman informed members that quotations were currently being sought for the maintenance of the play equipment following the safety inspection.

He informed members that he had pursued the Section 106 money for Pottery Road and this currently amounted to £19,000.

Councillor Perfect suggested that moving the gates to the infants play area nearer to the village hall might be more convenient to the users of this. Members discussed this and agreed that the gates would not be moved as they were moved a number of years ago for safety reasons into their current position.

Hoo Common Play Area – The Chairman stated that this matter was still in the hands of Medway Council.

17. Queens Diamond Jubilee.

Councillor Andrews stated that he was still progressing the beacon for the Jubilee celebrations. He suggested that a better location could possibly be found for the siting of the beacon perhaps Kingshill recreation ground. He stated that he would seek the costings for a new post for the beacon and report back to the next meeting.

Action: Councillor Andrews to progress.

18. Ward Councillors Report.

A report from Ward Councillor Tony Watson was noted by all present.

19. Urgent Items (referred from item 5.)

The Chairman spoke regarding the Grain Airport proposals and a report on this was circulated to all members.

A discussion took place regarding these proposals and the concerns with regards to these.

It was noted that both Medway Council and Kent County Council has shown opposition to the proposals.

It was agreed that the PC would keep an eye on the situation.

20. Date of next meeting – Thursday 1st December 2011 @ 7.30pm.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

*Signed.....
Chairman*

Dated.....