

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HOO ST WERBURGH PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Thursday 5th June 2008 at 7.30pm
at the Red Cross Hall, Stoke Road, Hoo St Werburgh.

Present: Councillors	Mr Pearce	Mrs Bamber
	Mr Singleton	Ms Simpson
	Mrs Rees	Mrs Pratt
	Mrs Counsell	Mr Flack
	Mrs Gatfield	

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

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Bloomfield, Andrews, Grewcock, Chambers and Hipsey.

2. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Singleton – Hearing Loop.
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/Gatfield) these were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Parking outside of Hoo School – Councillor Bamber reported on this item, she read out correspondence from Medway Council regarding the letting of the school field and the withdrawal of this facility in March 2008.

5. Urgent Matters

Allotments – The Chairman informed members that an issue had arisen with regards to the allotments and it was necessary to discuss this in confidence at the close of the meeting. This was agreed by all present.

6. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

He reported on the recent Rural Liaison meeting that he had attended.

He also referred to an inaccuracy in a report that he had submitted to the Village Voices where he had quoted that the Chequers Pub was being refurbished when in fact it was the Bridge Tavern. He stated that he had apologised to the owner for this error.

The Chairman reported on the current situation with regards to the lighting to the rear of the village hall.

7. Clerks Report.

The Clerks report was noted by all present.

8. i) Financial Matters.

It was resolved to accept the financial statement. (Singleton/Rees)

ii) ACRK Membership.

The Clerk explained the advantages for joining the ACRK and these were considered by all present. It was proposed by Councillor Flack and seconded by Councillor Simpson to join the ACRK for the year. This was agreed by all present.

Action: Clerk to place on next financial statement.

iii) Parish Councils Banking Arrangements.

The Clerk circulated a report on the Parish Councils current and proposed banking arrangements to all present. The report recommended that the PC switch its banking arrangements from NatWest to Coop as the NatWest was due to start charging for their services, this recommendation was agreed by all present. (Simpson/Counsell).

Action: Clerk to progress.

iv) Annual Accounts.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

9. Public Question Time.

A representative from the Allotments Association attended the meeting to speak regarding a letter of request for financial assistance. The Chairman read the letter to all present and informed all that this would be discussed under the relevant agenda at the next meeting.

He asked the Clerk to place this as an item on the next agenda.

Action: Clerk to place item on next agenda.

A resident asked from the assistance of the Parish Council regarding the poor state of the Parish Councils recreation grounds. A discussion took place regarding this matter and the problems with the grass cutting and overflowing dog bins. The Clerk was asked to fetch these problems to the attention of Medway Council.

Action: Clerk to write to MC regarding this matter.

10. Police Matters.

Councillor Gatfield reported on police matters.

11. Planning Matters.

MC/2008/0734 10 Trubridge Road, Hoo – No Objections.
Construction of a single storey extension to front.

MC/2008/0828 Land to the rear of Lingley House, Elm Ave, Chattenden – Objections.
Development of a two-storey house with integral garage.
The Parish Council raised concerns regarding back land development and setting precedence for similar development in other gardens.

MC/2008/0882 25 Killick Road, Hoo – No Objections.
Proposed single storey rear extension.

12. Hoo Partnership.

The Chairman reported on the progress of the Ballpark and the funding for floodlights.

He informed members of the situation with regards to planning permission and of a problem with the lighting detail which was due to be resolved in the near future.

He referred to the tender document for the ballpark, which needed to be signed by the PC and returned to Groundwork's to enable the project to be progressed. Members agreed the signing of these documents subject to the Clerk clarifying the procedure for dealing with the reclaim of the vat associated with the project.

Action: Clerk to liaise with all parties regarding the Vat liability.

Action: Clerk to return signed forms to Groundwork's.

13. Hearing Loop Grant (Red Cross Centre).

The Clerk reported that she had now received confirmation regarding the contact for this project and stated she would liaise with the contact in order to progress this further.

Action: Clerk to progress as agreed.

14. Christmas Lighting.

The Chairman reported on this item and asked the Clerk to seek quotations from Medway Council regarding this years Christmas Lighting.

Action: Clerk to progress and report back to the next meeting.

15. Reports from Ward Councillors.

Councillor Bamber gave her report to the meeting.

16. Urgent Items (referred from item 5.)

It was agreed that the Allotments would be discussed as a confidential item excluding the press and public.

17. Date of next meeting

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 3rd July 2008.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed to the press and public at 9:20pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....