

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HOO ST WERBURGH PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Thursday 6th October 2011 at 7.30pm
At the Red Cross Centre, Stoke Road, Hoo St Werburgh.

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

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

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Bamber, Tildesley and Hipsey.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

Councillor Perfect raised concern and made reference to the minute regarding mess in the Main Road area following the village fair. The Chairman stated that the minutes reflected the discussions that took place at the previous meeting.

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising.

5. Urgent Matters.

Councillor Chambers – It was reported that the metal cable on the cable slide at Pottery Road was exposed.

Action: Clerk to action.

6. Police Matters.

Councillor Gatfield informed members that there had been reports of someone shooting a bow in the area. She stated that the police were aware of this matter.

It was reported that there had also been a spate of break-ins around the Bells Lane area; he stated that the police had taken action on this matter.

7. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman stated that he would cover his report under the relevant agenda items.

8. Clerks Report.

The Clerks report was noted by all present.

9. Public Question Time.

Allotment holders attended the meeting to seek clarification as to the new fence and the replacement of parts of the fence. The Chairman confirmed that the fence was only replaced where it was needed and this was the decision taken by the Parish Council.

Concerns were raised with regards to the steel posts, which were standing at an angle over the allotments.

Discussions took place regarding the allotments and the maintenance of these.

10. Financial Matters.

It was resolved to accept the financial statement. (Perfect/Bunkall)

11. To Consider Grant Requests.

No grant applications were received.

12. Allotments.

Councillor Andrews asked if he could have an allotment key. The Chairman suggested that he liaise with Councillor Perfect regarding the keys for the allotments.

Councillor Perfect spoke regarding the numbering of the allotments and the need for these to be repositioned and for a new plan to be drawn up.

13. Planning Matters.

The Chairman reported on the Core Strategy consultation and the Lodge Hill Development Brief.

He briefed members of the Parish Councils draft response to these documents.

Members discussed the need for the infrastructure to be in place before any development and had concerns regarding the access to the Lodge Hill development.

Councillor Pearce spoke with concern that there appeared to be a predetermination by Medway Council Officers concerning the Lodge Hill Development.

He read to members the proposed responses to the Medway Core Strategy Draft/Lodge Hill Development Brief and asked for their views and sought member's approval.

Proposed by Councillor Sands and seconded by Councillor Rees it was unanimously agreed on behalf of Hoo Parish Council to forward the responses to Medway Council.

Action: Councillor Pearce to progress.

14. Rural Liaison Meeting.

The Chairman gave a report on the recent Rural Liaison Meeting that he had attended. He spoke regarding the Flood and Water Management Plan and the flood risk assessments undertaken by Medway Council. He informed members that he had made them aware of the flood problems in Hoo in year 2000 and 1968.

15. The New Working Hours for Retained Fire Crew at Hoo.

Councillor Sands spoke regarding the letter received from the fire service regarding the station in Hoo. He stated that the letter did not answer the questions.

This was discussed and it was agreed that at present the PC should wait to see how the situation developed with the fire station in Hoo.

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

Councillor Pratt reported on the progress of the petition that she was collating to submit to Medway Council with Councillor Tony Watson. She stated that this would be presented to Medway Council on Saturday 15th October.

17. Hire of Kingshill Recreation Ground.

The Clerk informed members that she had been approached by a fun fair wishing to hire Kingshill Recreation Ground and she asked members for their views.

Members stated that in principal they had no objections subject to the land being dry as this area was prone to flooding in wet weather.

18. Recreation Grounds.

The Chairman reported on the play equipment safety inspections and informed members that the Clerk would seek quotations for the items in need of attention.

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

19. Queens Diamond Jubilee.

Councillor Andrews stated that he was still progressing the beacon for the Jubilee celebrations.

Councillor Perfect stated that the Hoo Village Events Committee was arranging a street party event for the Jubilee.

21. Ward Councillors Report.

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

22. Urgent Items (referred from item 5.)

No matters were raised.

23. Date of next meeting – Thursday 3rd November 2011 @ 7.30pm.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....