

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HOO ST WERBURGH PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Thursday 8th January 2009 at 7.30pm
at the Red Cross Hall, Stoke Road, Hoo St Werburgh.**

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

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

1. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

2. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Bamber – Planning Matters.

Cllr Andrews – Planning Matters.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Councillor Bloomfield informed the meeting that he had liaised with the church PCC regarding submitting a grant application to the Parish Council.

Councillor Bamber stated that she had spoken with Medway Council regarding the additional signs along Main Road, and she informed the Chairman that they would be in contact with the Parish Council regarding the location of this.

5. Councillor Resignation.

The Chairman informed members that he had received a letter of resignation from Councillor Reeves. This was discussed and it was with great reluctance that this was accepted by all present.

Councillor Pearce paid tribute to Councillor Reeves who served as a Hoo Parish Councillor for 25 years, several years of which were as Chairman. This tribute was echoed by all councillors present.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Councillor Reeves from the Parish Council.

Action: Chairman to send letter of thanks.

6. Urgent Matters.

No matters were raised.

7. Declaration of Acceptance of Office for new Councillor.

Councillor Bhattal signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

8. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

He reported on meetings that were due to take place in the forthcoming month.

He spoke regarding the LDF and the call for sites by Medway Council for land within parishes. He referred to the land purchased by the Parish Council for use as a burial ground and suggested that the PC should write to Medway Council to ask them to designate this land as a burial ground. This was agreed by all present.

Action: Chairman to write to MC as agreed.

The Chairman spoke regarding the storage of the van. He stated that a garage had been allocated by MHS, however he was not sure whether it could be big enough to store the van and the wardens equipment. This was discussed further and it was proposed by Councillor Andrews that the PC accept the garage on offer by MHS, this was seconded and agreed by all present.

Action: Progress new garage with MHS.

9. Clerks Report.

The Clerks report was noted by all present.

10. Financial Matters.

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

11. Public Question Time.

No public comments were raised.

12. Police Matters.

Councillor Grewcock spoke regarding the problem with youths at the new development and informed members that this was currently being monitored by the police.

Councillor Pearce spoke regarding the problem with Auto Renovation vehicles obstructing the footpaths along the Old Ratcliffe Highway; he stated that Medway Council were to liaise with the police. He stated that this was a regular ongoing problem.

Councillor Gatfield stated that she had seen a knife in the Brook and this had been retrieved by the police.

13. Planning Matters.

MC/2008/1967 61 Fourwents Road, Hoo- no objections.
Single Storey rear extension.

MC/2008/2021 Land to the east and west of Bells Lane forming part of the BAE Systems Sports and Social Club.
Outline application for a residential scheme of 97 dwellings on the east of bells Lane directly linked to the upgrade and expansion of facilities at BAE Systems Club.
Members discussed this application and it was agreed that objections should be raised as with the previous application for this site as these were still relevant.

14. Parish Councillor Training.

Councillor Simpson addressed members regarding this agenda item. She spoke regarding the training courses on offer by KALC and her wish to attend these. This was discussed by members and it was agreed that the details of the courses should be forwarded to Councillor Simpson as and when received.

15. Infants Play Area.

Councillor Pearce asked for member's suggestions as to when action they wished to take regarding the old infants play area at Pottery Road.

Councillor Rees suggested that a small working party should be set up to take this forward as a project and to examine the various options open to the PC.
Councillor Bamber stated that she would liaise with MC to ascertain details of contractors to approach for advice and quotations.

Councillor Chambers and Gatfield stated that they would be willing to take this matter on as a project. This was agreed by all present.

Councillor Pearce spoke regarding the new play area, he stated that at present there was drainage problems in the site. He stated that this was due to be addressed by Medway Council in the near future.

It was agreed that this play area was in need of signs to prevent dogs from being taken into the fenced area.

Action: Councillor Pearce to progress.

The proposed play area at Chattenden was discussed and Councillor Pearce informed members that the transfer of the Section 106 money associated with this site was still being looked onto by Medway Council.

16. Hoo Partnership.

The Chairman stated that there were no matters to report.

17. Reports from Ward Councillors.

Councillor Bamber gave her report to the meeting.

Councillor Chambers asked Councillor Bamber whether the litterbin outside of the library was due to be progressed.

Councillor Bamber stated that the bus stops in the parish also needed litterbins.

A discussion took place regarding the use of the car park in the village; Councillor Flack stated that in his opinion this would be used more if the entrance were widened.

18. Urgent Items (referred from item 6.)

No matters were raised.

19. Date of next meeting

Thursday 5th February 2009.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed to the press and public at 9:10pm.

***Signed.....
Chairman***

Dated.....