

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hoo Saint Werburgh Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall, Pottery Road, Hoo on Thursday 4th January 2018 at 7.30pm.

***Councillors present: Andrews
Chambers
Counsell
Fray
Gatfield
Pearce
Rees
Sands
Savage
Shepperd
Tildesley
Williams***

Also: Parish Clerk, Ward Councillor Roy freshwater, Police and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Tildesley.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hipsey and Perfect.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all present. It was proposed by Cllr Andrews to accept these as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Rees and agreed by all present.

The approved Minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

No matters were raised.

5. Urgent Matters.

Cllr Sands informed members of the activities taking place at Deangate Ridge Golf Course. He stated that Medway Council Contractors were undertaking coppicing of the woodland and had damaged the golf course green.

Cllr Tildesley stated that the Parish Council had received concerns regarding these activities from members of the public.

Ward Councillor Freshwater spoke regarding this matter and stated that he had raised this with Medway Council, and he had received their assurances that the golf course would be reinstated following the work.

This was discussed by Members and Cllr Sands asked for a letter to be sent to Medway Council to ascertain what their future plans were for the golf course and to raise concerns that the work had not been undertaken to a good standard.

Councillor Freshwater stated that the development of the BAE site had reduced the green spaces within the Parish and he was seeking reassurances that the lost facilities would be reinstated at Deangate.

6. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave a report to members.

He reported that he, Cllr Sands, Cllr Williams and Councillor Freshwater were due to attend a meeting to discuss development at White House Farm on 8th January 2018.

He reported that on 12th January he and Cllr Williams would also attend a meeting at Medway Council to discuss green spaces and Section 106 monies.

It was reported that motorbikes had been seen on the Pottery Road Recreation Ground and he suggested that signage may deter this.

Cllr Pearce stated that he had designed some general signs for the Recreation Grounds and he stated that he would circulate these for comment.

Members discussed whether signs were needed at the Recreation Grounds and it was agreed by a vote 7:3 in favour of signs that these would be progressed.

The PCSO present at the meeting stated that he was able to issue Section 59 notices on motorbikes and when two had been issued the bike would be confiscated. He asked for incidents with bikes to be reported to him.

7. Clerks Report.

The Clerks Report was noted and accepted by members.

8. Ward Councillors Report.

Ward Councillor Roy Freshwater gave his report to the meeting.

He raised concerns about the level of development proposed for the Peninsula and stated that this would increase the problem with vehicles in the parish. He stated that he was trying to raise this with Medway Council but they were not being helpful.

He reported on the proposals for a crossing in Main Road and stated that it was anticipated that the work would be undertaken during the February half term holidays.

Cllr Williams spoke regarding the views of a Medway Councillor regarding development in the parish and proposed that a representative was invited to attend a future PC meeting to speak regarding this matter.

It was agreed that Cllr Williams would draft a letter to Medway Council.

Action: Cllr Williams to Action.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Freshwater for his report.

9. **Police Report.**

PCSO Lee Fennel attended the meeting on behalf of the police.

He reported on incidents in the parish and informed members that he had been patrolling the parish on foot where possible.

Cllr Gatfield raised concerns about a lorry parked on the pavement at Rivenhall Way and stated that this was blocking access to the crossing point. The PCSO states that he would look into this.

Cllr Pearce stated that the road markings in the parish were preventing the Parking Wardens from issuing tickets and he felt that these should be reviewed.

It was agreed that the Medway Council Parking Warden should be invited to attend a future Parish Council Meeting.

Action: Clerk to Action.

Cllr Gatfield reported that youths had been breaking wing mirror off cars along Main Road and Bells Lane.

Members thanked the PCSO for attending the meeting.

10. **Public Question Time.**

A resident raised concerns at the work being undertaken at Deangate Golf Course, she stated that she was disappointed at the actions of the Contractors and the response received from Medway Council, she stated that she felt that this was unnecessary.

She raised concerns about the disturbance to the wildlife and the loss of the golf facilities.

She also raised concerns at the lack of information about Hoo reported in the Village Voices, she stated that she felt that more coverage of the Parish meetings should be included in the publication.

It was agreed that the Clerk would raise this with the Editor of the Village Voices.

Action: Clerk to Action.

11. **Recreation Grounds.**

Cllr Pearce stated that his work at Kingshill Recreation Ground was ongoing.

The Chairman reported that the yellow gate on the Inclusive Roundabout had been damaged.

Cllr Sands stated that he would ask the contractor to undertake repairs to this.

Action: Cllr Sands to Action.

It was reported that the dog bin at Trubridge Road was in need of repair.

Action: Clerk to Action.

The Chairman reported that the Parish Warden had been cutting the trees in the Recreation Ground and at present he had put the cuttings behind the bench, he stated that he felt that the Parish Council needed an area to store debris until it could be removed from site.

Cllr Savage suggested that wood off cuts could be offered to parishioners for their wood burners.

Cllr Pearce suggested that the Council had a Yard for its materials.

A general discussion took place regarding this matter and it was agreed that Cllr Williams would look at the costs of lockable skips.

Action: Cllr Williams to Action.

The Chairman informed members that the quotations from Tarmac had been accepted as agreed at the previous meeting.

12. Land for use as a Burial-Ground.

Cllr Rees updated members on the progress of the burial ground.

She informed members that the Woodland Trust who supplied the hedging had been delighted with the project and she had submitted an application for further trees.

She reported that the Reverend John Smith was due to raise the planting of a Wild Flower Meadow at the site with the PCC at the next meeting.

13. Planning Matters.

MC/17/4111 DELMAR, MAIN ROAD, CHATTENDEN, ROCHESTER, ME3 8LN
Construction of a single storey side/rear extension with raised lantern light.

MC/17/4325 ABBOTS VIEW, STOKE ROAD, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9BJ
Construction of a single storey rear extension to form porch.

Cllr Sands spoke regarding MC/17/4424 for the Land South of Stoke Road.

He stated that the application had been submitted for 200 dwellings on a 15 hectare site, 25% of which would be affordable.

He raised concerns that the access from the development would be onto Stoke Road.

He stated that this application had now been validated by Medway Council and therefore the Parish Council needed to submit its objections to the proposals.

Councillor Freshwater stated that Medway Council appeared to be maximising building developments in Medway and did not seem in a hurry to complete its Local Plan.

Cllr Sands stated that it was his view that the Parish Council should be fighting development in the Parish rather than seeking Section 106 monies.

Following a general discussion it was agreed that the Chairman would seek a meeting with other Parish Council Chairman in order to discuss a unified approach to fighting development on the Peninsula.

Action: Chairman/Clerk to Action.

14. Allotments.

No matters were raised.

15. Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members.

The financial statement was proposed by Cllr Rees, seconded by Cllr Pearce, and agreed by all present.

The approved cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

16. Urgent Items.

No matters were raised.

17. Date of next meeting.

1st February 2018.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting to the press and public at 8.48pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....