

**The Minutes of the meeting of Hoo Parish Council  
held on 5th February 2015 in the Red Cross Hall, Stoke Road, at 7:30 PM.**

***Councillors present: Andrews  
Bhattal  
Chambers  
Counsell  
Flack  
Hipsey  
L Pearce  
M Pearce  
Pratt  
Rees  
Sands  
Tildesley***

***Also present: Parish Clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington, Ward Councillor Tony Watson and members of the press and public.***

***The meeting was chaired by Councillor Lionel Pearce.***

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Gatfield, Bamber, and Perfect (attending a meeting representing the PC).

**2. Declaration of Interests.**

CLlr Pratt - Village Hall.

CLlr M Pearce – Flanders Farm/Street Farm planning application.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting.**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all members. These were proposed by CLlr Counsell as a true record, seconded by CLlr Chambers and agreed by all present.

The Minutes when signed and dated by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes.**

Mayors Invitation - The Chairman informed the meeting that the Mayor of Medway was unable to attend the parish council meeting.

**5. Urgent Matters.**

No matters were raised.

**6. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

Seawall – He reported that Medway Council was due to install a gate at the Seawall on 19 February and this would be followed by the installation of a kissing gate.

He reported that the KALC was running a planning conference at Lenham Community Centre on 27 March 2015.

Fly tipping at Hoo Common – The Chairman reported that the perimeter fence has been broken at Hoo Common due to fly tippers.

This was discussed and it was agreed that a sturdier fence should be put in place. Approval was given for the Chairman to progress the repairs.

***Action: Chairman to progress.***

Flooding at the bottom of the Old Ratcliffe Highway – The Chairman stated that he had been in contact with Medway Council regarding the problem with flooding at the bottom of the Old Ratcliffe Highway. He stated that the gullies had collapsed in this area and were due to be repaired by Highways (MC).

**7. Clerks Report.**

The Clerks Report was noted and accepted by members.

**8. Police Report.**

Cllr Chambers raised concerns regarding parking around Hoo School and the Village Hall. She stated that the PCSO had been in attendance and was monitoring this problem.

**9. Public Question Time.**

A resident attending the meeting spoke regarding the minutes dated 4th July 2014 concerning the footpath to the War Memorial and she asked whether this had been progressed.

Cllr Rees stated that the Church Warden had prepared a specification for this work and she was now in the process of seeking quotations.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council would consider funding the footpath and could be undertaken in the near future.

It was agreed that this item should be placed on the next agenda.

***Action: Cllr Rees to progress.***

**10. Financial Statement.**

Financial Statement was circulated to all members. It was proposed by Cllr Andrews to accept this and authorise the cheques, this was seconded by Cllr Chambers and agreed by members present.

The cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

**11. Grant Applications.**

No grant applications were considered.

**12. Village Hall Lease.**

Cllr Rees stated that this matter was still being progressed by the Parish Council's solicitor.

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

Cllr Rees reported that the Easement across the land to the south of the burial-ground has not been granted on the grounds of health and safety and therefore the new access options were now being explored.

She stated that this would have implications on the planning consent which would therefore need to be amended.

***Action: Cllr Rees to progress.***

**14. Planning Matters.**

The Chairman reported that an application had been submitted for the property to the side of the old Post Office in Main Road. This was discussed by members and concerns were raised regarding the access to the site.

It was agreed that the Chairman would submit the Parish Council's objections on the grounds of access and the narrow road.

***Action: Chairman to progress.***

**MC/15/0098 – Street Farm, Hoo – Outline application for 50 dwellings.**

The Chairman spoke regarding this application and stated that the implications of this were similar to that for the application for Land West of Hoo, although it was perhaps a Brownfield site.

He suggested that the Parish Council should make a response to Medway Council with regards to sewage, health facilities and over intensification of the site.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would object to this application.

***Action: Chairman to submit an objection to Medway Council.***

He raised concerns that the planning statement for the application stated that there were no problems with the two surgeries in the parish accepting new patients.

This was discussed and it was agreed that Parish Council would write to the two surgeries to ascertain the current situation.

***Action: Clerk to progress.***

**15. Highways Matters.**

The Chairman informed members that following concerns raised at the last meeting, Medway Council had been contacted regarding speeding along Bells Lane and Stoke Road.

He confirmed that to date no response had been received, however this has been promised for the next month and therefore he asked the Clerk to keep this item on the next agenda.

**16. Allotments.**

No matters were raised.

**17. Village Signage and Information Boards.**

Cllr Michael Pearce stated that he was progressing this matter and would report back to a future meeting.

**18. Provision of Disabled and Adult Fitness Equipment.**

Disabled Play Equipment – Cllr Sands reported that he was currently liaising with the manufacturers regarding the installation of this equipment. He stated that this should be completed by April 2015. The Chairman thanked Cllr Sands for his work.

Adult Fitness Equipment – Cllr Chambers reported that there had been a problem with regards to the swing which needed to be relocated on health and safety grounds. She stated that this work would be undertaken in the near future.

Cllr Tildesley stated that as agreed at the last meeting he had sought quotations for new surfacing around the fitness equipment area. He reported on the quotations and it was proposed by Cllr Andrews to accept the quotation for £5645.00, this was seconded by Cllr Chambers and agreed by all present.

***Action: Clerk to liaise with contractor.***

Cllr Tildesley spoke regarding an inspection undertaken by Maria Cooke and a recommendation to have signage site. Cllr Pearce confirmed that according to MC there was no legislation regarding signage and therefore it was agreed not to progress at this time.

***The Parish Council meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm to allow for refreshments.***

***The meeting was reconvened at 8:40pm.***

**19. Recreation Grounds.**

Cllr Tildesley reported that he had received a quotation for the repair to the zip wire seat in Pottery Road at a cost of £611. This was approved by members.

***Action: Clerk to liaise with Safeplay regarding the repair.***

**20. Ward Councillors Report.**

Councillor Watson spoke regarding the planning application for Street Farm and the objections submitted for this.

Members discuss this and other planning applications affecting the parish.

**21. Urgent Items.**

No matters were raised.

**22. Date of next meeting.**

5th March 2015.

*There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm.*

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....