

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hoo Saint Werburgh Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall, Pottery Road, Hoo on Thursday 6th July 2017 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present: Andrews
Chambers
Counsell
Gatfield
Hipsey
Rees
Pearce
Perfect
Sands
Shepperd
Tildesley

Also: Parish Clerk. PCSO Chris Price and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Tildesley.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Williams, Savage, Sands (arrived late to the meeting), Pratt and Ward Councillor Roy Freshwater.

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, subject to an agreed alteration, this was seconded by Cllr Pearce 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.

No urgent matters were raised.

6. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave a report to members.

He stated that an email had been received thanking the Warden for his work at the Recreation Grounds.

7. Clerks Report.

The Clerks Report was noted and accepted by members.

Members spoke regarding the correspondence from Medway Council regarding the Stoke Road Public Conveniences stating that they had funding to keep these open for the next two years, however they could not guarantee that it would continue after this period.

Members agreed that this item should be deferred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for further discussion and investigation.

Action: Deferred to Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting.

8. Ward Councillors Report.

Ward Councillor Roy Freshwater gave his apologies to the meeting.

9. Police Report.

Cllr Gatfield reported that there was a youth on a motorbike riding whilst standing on the seat and there was also a problem with youths riding push bikes on the roads dangerously.

She reported that there had been a spate of fires being started in the parish and Cllr Perfect stated that she had also witnessed this problem.

The Chairman stated that there had been a spate of fires at Kingshill Recreation Ground and the Warden was monitoring the situation.

The Chairman introduced PCSO Chris Price to the meeting. He stated that the parish was suffering from an increase in antisocial behaviour at present and the Recreation Grounds were being targeted.

PCSO Price spoke regarding his role as PCSO for the Peninsula covering Cooling to Grain and stated that this may also be extended to cover Medway City Estate. He informed members that he was the only PCSO covering this area and budget cuts were to blame for this.

Members asked what police cover there was for the Peninsula on the PCSO's days off. PCSO Price stated that there was no cover on these days.

The Chairman spoke regarding the recent problems at Pottery Road Recreation Ground and expressed his disappointment that the police did not follow this matter up despite him reporting it.

PCSO Price stated that he was aware of the problems in Hoo but resources did not allow for routine patrols to take place, he confirmed that if an emergency call was made then it would get an immediate response from the police.

He stated that it was important that residents reported incidents to the police on 101 as they allocated their resources according to need. He stated that he would do his best to support the local community.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Price for tending the meeting.

10. Public Question Time.

A resident stated that he had attended the meeting last month to raise concerns regarding the felling of trees at the Arethusa Sports Ground and reported that an application for a Screening Report had now been submitted to Medway Council for housing. He asked if the Parish Council were going to make representations to this application.

He stated that there was also information being circulated regarding the development of land at Chattenden and he raised concerns about the lack of infrastructure in the area.

Cllr Sands stated that there was concern about these sites and the Parish Council would make its representations to the formal planning application when it was submitted to Medway Council.

The Chairman explained the role of the Parish Council as a Statutory Consultee to applications within the parish.

11. Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members.

It was agreed that the following additional cheques would be raised for payment:

Councillor Pearce reimbursement of costs - £57.24

The financial statement was then proposed by Cllr Hipsey, seconded by Cllr Perfect, and agreed by all present.

The approved cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

The Chairman informed members that a request for a financial contribution had been received from the Woman's Institute for £250 toward the upkeep of the Parish Defibrillator. The details were circulated to members for their consideration. The Clerk confirmed that a grant application had been completed in line with the PC Policy for grants.

Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Perfect to make a donation of £250, this was seconded by Cllr Hipsey and agreed by all present.

Cllrs Shepperd and Chambers declared an interest in this matter as they were members of the WI.

It was agreed that a cheque for the donation would be raised as an additional cheque to be signed at the meeting.

Action: Cheque for £250 to be raised as agreed.

12. Village Welcome Signage.

Cllr Pearce circulated a written proposal to all members regarding welcome signage and planters for the access to the village. He asked members approval to seek a grant for this project.

This was proposed by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Rees, and agreed by all present.

13. Village Sign.

The Chairman informed members that a quotation to clean and repair the Village Sign had been received for £186.00.

It was proposed by Cllr Chambers to accept this quotation, this was seconded by Cllr Garfield and agreed by all present.

Action: Clerk to accept quotation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.35pm for refreshments.

The meeting was reconvened at 8.40pm

14. Recreation Grounds.

Kingshill Recreation Ground.

Cllr Pearce informed members that he had installed the wooden tree stakes at Kingshill Recreation Ground, however these had been vandalised. He stated that he would reinstall these in the near future. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Warden would assist Cllr Pearce if needed. It was agreed that new tree stakes would be ordered.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Pearce to action.

He reported that he had installed the dog bag dispenser and it was being used, he stated that he would monitor this during the trial period and report back to the next meeting.

Cllr Pearce stated that the signs placed on the access road at Pottery Road Recreation Ground had been a success and he suggested that similar signage should be placed in the access road at Kingshill Recreation Ground.

This was discussed and agreed by members.

It was further agreed that additional signage for the recreation grounds would be purchased to warn members of the public that the recreation grounds were not gritted during icy weather.

Action: Cllr Pearce and Clerk to progress.

Cllr Pearce spoke regarding the wire mesh at Kingshill that needed to be removed. He stated that he would action this if members were in agreement.

This was approved.

Action: Cllr Pearce to action.

The Chairman informed members that whilst walking Kingshill Recreation Ground he had seen a young child riding a quad bike, he stated that he had spoken to the parent to advise that this was not allowed at the Recreation Ground.

Pottery Road Recreation Ground

The Chairman informed members that there had been a further spate of vandalism at Pottery Road Recreation Ground. He stated that the benches had been graffitied. He confirmed that this had been reported to the police.

He reported that there was a problem with fly tipping at the ground that he was dealing with.

He reported that the bench that had been removed from the Recreation Ground had not been installed at Kingshill Recreation Ground as it was not in a good condition. He stated that he was in the process of refurbishing this.

Hoo Common

The Chairman reported on Hoo Common.

Horse Trough

Cllr Pearce reported that the wild flower seeds planted in the Horse Trough were now growing. He spoke about the plaques for the Horse Trough and stated that the cost of these were £87 for two plaques.

The wording for these was agreed by members and authority was given by Cllr Pearce to progress this.

Action: Cllr Pearce to progress.

15. Parish Website.

The Clerk reported that she had circulated the link for members to view the new website before it was progressed further.

This was discussed and it was agreed that this should now be progressed further, it was agreed that Cllr Pearce would assist the Clerk with the maintenance of the website.

Action: Cllr Pearce and Clerk to action.

16. Land for use as a Burial-Ground.

Cllr Rees informed members that the spraying of the land had taken place and the weeds were now dying. She stated that a further spay would take place in September 2017.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Rees for her work on this project.

17. Planning Matters.

MC/17/1955	CRISTALLO, 232 MAIN ROAD, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9HG Construction of a single storey rear extension (demolition of existing conservatory)
MC/17/2000	41 SEARCHLIGHT HEIGHTS, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 8NF Construction of a part two part single storey side extension with balcony above single storey element
MC/17/2068	220 MAIN ROAD, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9HG Construction of a single storey rear extension with continuation of pitched roof over existing single storey rear projection - demolition of conservatory
MC/17/1870	58 BELLS LANE, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9HU Construction of a vehicle crossover onto a classified road
MC/17/2173	3 PADDOCK DRIVE, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9GQ Construction of a conservatory to rear

- MC/17/2198 6 BELLS LANE, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9HT**
 Variation of condition 2 to allow a minor material amendment to planning permission MC/16/5043 to extend the ground floor to be in line with neighbouring porch together with the change of material to be used on the front elevation of the first and second floors from brick to weatherboard cladding
- MC/17/2146 14 GAMELAN CRESCENT, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9FN**
 Construction of a single storey extension to rear
- MC/17/2262 THE CHEQUERS INN, 26 CHURCH STREET, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER**
 Construction of smoking shelter to rear of premises
- MC/17/2319 181 BELLS LANE, HOO ST WERBURGH, ROCHESTER, ME3 9JA**
 Construction of first floor extension to side/rear
- MC/17/2096 8 HILL COURT, CHATTENDEN, ROCHESTER, ME3 8LH**
 Construction of a two storey side/single storey rear extension with roof terrace above and raised patio to rear

Cllr Sands reported on recent communication from Ward Councillor Roy Freshwater regarding the former BAE site and stated that he was progressing this matter.

Action: *Cllr Sands to progress.*

18. Lionel and Elsie Pearce Memorial.

Cllr Tildesley reported that the contractor had now been instructed to undertake the work for the bench at the Church Yard.

19. Allotments.

Cllr Perfect reported on the allotments.

The Chairman stated that he was currently in the process of seeking quotations for the footpath at the allotments.

Cllr Sands spoke regarding the Brook to the rear of Hoo Pool and stated that there were concerns regarding this. It was agreed that this would be reported to Medway Councils Flood Warden.

20. Delegated Authority for the August Recess.

It was agreed that delegated authority for the August recess would be given to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr Perfect.

This was proposed by Cllr Chambers, seconded by Cllr Gatfield, and agreed by all present.

21. Urgent Items.

No matters were raised.

22. Date of next meeting.

7th September 2017.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting to the press and public at 9.20pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....