

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

***Councillors present: Andrews  
Bamber  
Bhattal  
Chambers  
Counsell  
L Pearce  
M Pearce  
Perfect  
Rees  
Sands  
Tildesley***

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

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

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Bhattal, Gatfield, Flack and Hipsey.  
Cllr M Pearce gave his apologies as he would be leaving the meeting at 8.30pm.

**2. Declaration of Interests.**

Cllr M Pearce – Flanders Farm/Street Farm planning application.  
Cllr Rees – Church grant application.

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

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

The Minutes were signed and dated by the Chairman.

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

The Chairman spoke regarding the two medical practices within the parish and their capacity to take more patients.

He informed members that following correspondence from the PC, a response had been received from The Elms Practice stating that their patient list was open. He stated that to date the PC was still awaiting a response from the Bells Lane Practice.

**5. Urgent Matters.**

No matters were raised.

**6. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

**7. Clerks Report.**

The Clerks Report was noted and accepted by members.

Parish Council Website – Members agreed to progress a new website for the Parish Council at a cost of £600. This was proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Tildesley and agreed by all present.

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

**8. Police Report.**

Cllr Pearce spoke regarding the PCSO cover for the parish and questioned how many officers were covering the Peninsula. He suggested that the Parish Council liaise with the Police Commissioner to establish this.

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

**9. Public Question Time.**

A resident attended the meeting and spoke regarding the planning application for Land West of Hoo. She stated that the applicant had submitted further details and asked the Parish Council what changes had been made.

The Chairman stated that to date he had not seen the revised details; however the Parish Council would be looking into this and making a further response if necessary.

Reverend John Smith attended the meeting and spoke regarding a grant application submitted to the Parish Council. He asked how the church could register its interest in Section 106 Agreements. This was discussed by members and Reverend Smith was advised to liaise with Medway Council regarding this matter.

He spoke regarding the parish elections and asked how the church could help to publicise these.

**10. Financial Statement.**

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

The cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

**11. Grant Applications.**

The Chairman informed members that a grant application had been received from Hoo Church and had been circulated to all members.

It was suggested that due to budgetary implications that this should be discussed as a Confidential Item.

This was approved by all present.

**12. Village Hall Lease.**

Cllr Rees stated that this matter was still being progressed and was currently with the Village Halls solicitor.

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

Cllr Rees stated that there was no progress to report regarding the burial ground at present.

Cllr Rees informed the meeting that she had been looking into the construction of a footpath for the churchyard leading to the War Memorial. She stated that tenders for the work now needed to be sought to determine the cost of the work.

The Clerk was asked to action this and it was agreed that an item should be placed on the next agenda.

***Action: Clerk to seek tenders for proposed work.***

**14. Planning Matters.**

MC/14/3063 – Flanders Farm - The Chairman informed the meeting that a decision on this application had been postponed by Medway Council as a site meeting was to be arranged.

MC/14/0501– 40 Kingshill Drive, Hoo – no objections.

MC/15/0451– 2 Sturdee Cottages, Hoo – no objections.

Land West of Hoo – The Chairman informed members that he had received an email from the planning officer of Medway Council asking whether the Parish Council would confirm if it was willing to support a Section 106 arrangement for community facilities within the parish should this application be approved.

He stated that the Parish Council had objected to the application and he had explained this to the planning officer. He confirmed that any decision made by the Parish Council would not prejudice or compromise the Parish Councils stance to the planning application.

He asked for members views on this request.

Cllr Rees confirmed that the Parish Councils view would be without prejudice.

Cllr Sands stated that he did not think that the Parish Council should be giving its view at this point. The Chairman stated that it was important that the Section106 money was ring-fenced for the village should the application be approved.

He reminded members of the problems with Section 106 money for the Bells Lane development being spent within a neighbouring parish.

Cllr Andrews raised concerns regarding the lack of infrastructure within the parish. The Chairman confirmed that he raised these concerns within the response to the planning application by the PC.

Cllr Bamber suggested that it was premature to allocate any Section 106 for the development at this stage. This was discussed further and it was agreed by all members present that the Parish Council was against development in this area.

The Chairman requested that Members vote on whether to support a Section 106 Agreement for community facilities in the parish without prejudice to the Parish Council's objections to the application. This was agreed by members with a vote cast 5 to 3 in favour of supporting an allocation for community facilities.

**Action: Clerk and Chairman to action.**

Cllr Pratt reported that the Port Werburgh planning application for 60 mobile homes had been approved by Medway Council. She informed members that a Section 106 allocation has been made towards open spaces, doctor's surgeries and village amenities.

**15. Highways Matters.**

No matters were reported.

**16. Allotments.**

Cllr Perfect reported that following a meeting with allotment holders it had been agreed not to progress with a composting area.

She reported that a handrail was needed for the allotment steps and it was agreed that she should seek quotations for this work.

**Action: Cllr Perfect to progress.**

Cllr Rees spoke regarding the reinstatement of the footpath alongside the allotments and informed members that she had a contact that may be able to give a quotation for this work.

**Action: Cllr Rees to progress.**

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

Cllr Michael Pearce stated that he was in progress with 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 the equipment was now being constructed and would be installed on site in April 2015.

Adult Fitness Equipment – Cllr Chambers reported that the outstanding work on the fitness equipment would be undertaken in the near future.

Cllr Tildesley spoke regarding the quotations for the tarmacing of the area around the fitness equipment and informed members that the quotation submitted by Safeplay at the previous meeting had been revised as the original quote was incorrect.

This was discussed and it was agreed that as the quotations were coming in above the limit specified in the Parish Councils Financial Regulations that the Clerk should seek formal tenders for this work.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

Cllr Chambers spoke regarding the decision at the previous meeting not to progress signage for the fitness equipment and stated that she felt that this was necessary as it may discourage children from using it. Cllr Pearce stated that he would liaise with Safeplay regarding this.

**Action: Chairman to progress.**

**19. Recreation Grounds.**

Cllr Tildesley reported that to date the zip wire seat had still not been repaired.

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

**20. Ward Councillors Report.**

Councillor Watson gave his report to the meeting.

He spoke regarding the planning application for Flanders Farm and the Land West of Hoo.

**21. Urgent Items.**

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council's Annual Assembly would take place on 16 April 2015.

**22. Date of next meeting.**

2nd April 2015.

*There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.*

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....