

Hoo St Werburgh Parish Council

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hoo Saint Werburgh Parish Council
Held via Zoom on Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 6.00pm.

***Councillors present: Chambers
Counsell
Cutting
Fray
Freshwater
Gissing
Pearce
Perfect
Pratt
Rees
Sands
Savage
Tildesley
Williams
Winstanley***

Also: Parish Clerk.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Tildesley.

1. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

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 Williams to accept these as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Chambers and agreed by all present.

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Bells Lane Medical Centre

The Clerk confirmed that the agreed letter had been sent to Medway Council and all agreed parties as discussed at the previous meeting. She stated that to date she had not received a response from Medway Council, and had followed this up.

th activities in the Parish

The Clerk confirmed that as agreed that grant had been paid to the youth club for summer activities. Members asked the Clerk to follow this up to ascertain whether the summer activities did take place and seek a breakdown of the grant spend.

5. **Public Question Time.**

No matters were raised.

6. **Urgent Matters.**

Cllr Savage reported that she had been approached by a resident asking when the play equipment at Kingshill Recreation Ground would be refurbished, as she was willing to fund raise for this if necessary. The Chairman stated that the Clerk was seeking to establish whether Section 106 funds could be made available to spend at Kingshill, and if so, the area could be refurbished.

Action: Clerk to seek an update on the Section 106 funding for the PC Recreation Grounds.

7. **Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman reported that there had been several incidents with fires at Kingshill Recreation Ground, and a number of trees had been destroyed. There was also an issue with rough sleepers in the woodland. He stated that the Clerk had reported this to the police, and a crime report had been logged. The police had advised the PC to monitor the situation.

8. **Clerks Report.**

Draft Response to LGBC Draft Recommendations Consultation

It was agreed that Cllr Pearce would draft a response to this consultation and was circulated to all members for approval.

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

Action: Agreed response to be submitted to Medway Council.

Cockham Community Parkland consultation

Medway Council will be submitting a planning application for the conversion of farmland into a new parkland running between Chattenden and Hoo St Werburgh in winter 2020.

We would like to invite you to an on-line presentation of the proposals with our consultants (LUC and BPTW). Please can you let me know if you are available on Friday 7th August at 10am (to 11.30am) to take part? A Teams meeting invite will be sent to you to take part.

Cllr Sands stated that he had attended three presentations regarding the Parkland Consultation in his capacity as a Ward Councillor and Parish Councillor.

He stated that Medway Council were positive about the parkland plan, he feels it is a better option to housing. The parkland would not be maintained by Medway Council, it would be managed by an external party. The running costs would be £200,000 a year, and there would be a bursary of 2 million for the management.

The parkland would consist of two parking areas of 40 spaces and toilet facilities.

He raised concerns that no ecological report had been carried out, and there had been no RSPB or Kent Wildlife input. This was an add on to the Local Plan and there was talk of a visitors' centre being built at the site. He felt that a parkland already existed at Deangate.

A general discussion took place regarding Deangate and the loss of farmland in the parish.

Cllr Sands stated that since the original consultation a lot of the detail had changed, and it appeared that Medway Council were not being transparent with their plans. He felt that the PC must object to the loss of farmland.

Cllr. Pearce reminded members that he had put together a draft response based on the consultation document for members consideration, and the deadline for responses was 7th September 2020.

Members discussed this further and agreed that the Clerk should seek an extension to the deadline, until 10th October, to enable the Parish Council to fully consider the updated proposals.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Medway Council.

Remembrance Sunday

The Clerk reported that the Poppy Wreath has been ordered as in previous years. This was ratified by members.

John Lawsons Circus

The Circus has asked if they can hire the recreation ground from 12th April 2021 to 14th April 2021 – Their visit this year was cancelled due to Covid. This was approved by members, subject to Government guidance at the time.

9. Monthly Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members.

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

10. Financial Matters.

1. Grant Application – Whoo Cares Christmas Dinner

The PC has received a grant application for Whoo Cares seeking a grant of £200 towards their Christmas Dinner Event in December.

This has been circulated to the Finance and GP Committee who have recommended awarding the full grant of £200.

Members approved this application and a grant of £200 was awarded to Whoo Cares.

2. Christmas Lighting.

Approval is sought to progress with this year's Christmas lighting for the village and to do the following:

- a. Place an order with Medway council to supply and install the lighting in the village centre.
- b. Order a 20-foot Christmas Tree at an approximate cost of £350 to erect and remove.
- c. Place order to install the lights to the Christmas tree at a cost of £25 to erect and remove.

Members approved the expenditure for the Christmas lighting.

3. Quotation for Fencing repairs at Hoo Common.

The PC has received a quotation from West Sole Fencing to replace the damage fencing at Hoo Common. Three quotes were sought, but only one contractor attended site to give a quotation. This is as follows:

To take out damaged fencing for disposal Fencing.

To supply and fit three 6' 4"x4" posts and six 4"x 1 1/2" rails.

For five 6' 4"x4" posts and eight 4"x 1 1/2" rails to anti-cycle barrier area (all materials for this area to be carried from car park.

TOTAL £750.00 Plus Vat

Members approved the expenditure for the repairs to the fencing.

4. Quotation for additional Standpipe at the Allotments.

In line with discussions at the last Environment Meeting, the following quotation has been sought for the installation of an additional standpipe at the allotments. This will complete the line of taps, making the water easily accessible to all allotment plots. The quotation is for the sum of £495 +vat, as follows:

To extend water service by approximately 25m at a depth of 600mm deep, blind with sand, backfill, compact, and reinstate.

Install double tapped insulated standpipe.

Removal of soil from site.

A mini digger of 1.5 tons will be used to excavate trench and a petrol trench rammer to compact backfill.

£495 plus VAT

As this is under £500 only one quotation is necessary.

Members approved the expenditure for the installation of the additional standpipe for the allotments.

5. Quotation for Noticeboard installation at Allotments.

A quotation for the installation of a noticeboard for the allotments has been received for the sum of £400 + vat, as follows:

To supply and fit 2 no 8-foot posts at a depth of 2 foot and secure 2 no noticeboards with coach bolts.

£400 plus VAT.

As this is under £500 only one quotation is necessary.

Members approved the expenditure for the installation of the notice board at the allotment.

6. Quotation for repairs to Play Equipment at Pottery Road Recreation Ground.

The following quotations for put forward for consideration by members, as the gates at the Pottery Road Play Area need adjustment.

2 gates need adjustment, but one is more in need of it than the other.

The 1 that needs doing is the one than joins the 2 areas together and the other is the gate closest to the MUGA.

Cost to adjust 1 is £58.00 + VAT

Cost to adjust 2 is £102.00 + VAT

As this is under £500 only one quotation is necessary.

Members approved the expenditure for the repairs to play equipment at the Pottery Road Recreation Ground.

7. Quotation for new Play Equipment at Pottery Road Recreation Ground.

As agreed at both the Environment meeting and PC meeting the new items of play equipment have been selected to comply with the S106 Agreement associated with Pottery Road Rec. Quotations were previous approved, subject to the quotation being confirmed for the safety surfacing similar to that already installed at the play areas.

The final Quotation for the three new items of play equipment, including delivery, installation and the safety surfacing is £10,985.19 +vat.

Please find attached the quotation for information.

Members approved the expenditure for the installation of the new play equipment at the Pottery Road Recreation Ground.

11. Environmental Matters.

Cllr Fray spoke regarding the poor condition of the pond at the Arethusa site, she reported that she had met with the developer to discuss this, and she had received reassurances that the pond would be enhanced and landscaped as part of the development plans.

She stated that she had also enquired about the Parish Beacon, and reported that this was currently being refurbished, and would be erected neat to its original position at the site.

12. Planning Matters.

Cllr Sands reported on planning related matters.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

MC/20/1716 151 Bells Lane, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9JA
Retrospective application for conversion of integral garage into habitable room with single storey extension to rear of garage incorporating alterations to existing conservatory.

No objections

MC/20/1807 Medway One , Former Kingsnorth Power Station, Medway
Town and Country Planning Act (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 (as amended) - request for a scoping opinion.

Further details to be requested

- MC/20/1715 Plot 1C , London Medway Commercial Park, James Swallow Way
Alterations to the existing footpath and kerb and installation of a turning head.
No objections.
- MC/20/1478 Land at Upnor Road, , Upper Upnor, Medway
Erection of 75No. residential dwellings including 19x affordable housing with associated car parking and infrastructure; new landscaping and public open spaces including new public rights of way and bus stop; sustainable urban drainage system and associated earthworks and a new vehicular access from Upnor Road.
Objections
- MC/20/1906 59 Fourwents Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9JZ
Construction of a 2-storey front extension and enlargement of porch.
No objections
- MC/20/1923 26 Miskin Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9EB
Construction of a single storey extension to rear - demolition of outbuilding.
No objections
- MC/20/1774 The Hundred of Hoo Academy, Main Road, Hoo St Werburgh
Construction of a two-storey classroom block located in-place of an existing single-storey modular classroom building to provide additional teaching classrooms for special educational needs.
No objections
- MC/20/1967 Martlets, Ratcliffe Highway, St Mary Hoo, Rochester, Medway
Construction of a single storey extension to rear -demolition of existing conservatory.
No objections
- MC/20/1708 233 Lodge Hill Lane, Chattenden, Rochester, Medway, ME3 8NP
Relocation of existing boundary fence 1.8m to enclose, owned, grass area to front garden to stop damage and rubbish deposits and to enhance rear garden area with access gate to parking.
No objections
- MC/20/1944 CA Store, Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo St Werburgh
Solar Panels.
No objections
- MC/20/1958 Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester
Prior approval under Part 14 Schedule 2 Class J of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended) for the installation of solar panels.
No objections

MC/20/1951 Buildings 212-213, Kingsnorth Industrial Estate, Main Road
Demolition of open fronted storage building and construction of an extension to main building together with the construction of covered storage bays.

Objections

MC/20/1882 17 Church Farm Close, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway
Construction of a single storey extension to rear- demolition of conservatory.

No objections

MC/20/2117 34 Herdsdown, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9HN
Construction of a two-storey side extension and porch to front.

No objections

Members discussed general planning matters and concerns were raised regarding the Taylor Wimpey site near Nursery Gardens. Cllr Williams reported that residents were concerned that the developer had built closer to the gardens than outlined in the plans. Cllr Sands stated that he would look into this and report it to Medway Council if necessary.

Action: Cllr Sands to progress.

Cllr Fray spoke regarding HGV's in the village, she stated that she had spoken to Dave Harris regarding the proposed lorry park at Kingsnorth and stated that this had been approved and would be built in the near future.

She reported that Dave Harris (Medway Council) was due to arrange a site meeting for members to attend, to discuss the Hillcrest site and the proposed access onto Hoo Common.

13. Hoo Surgery Update.

Cllr Sands reported on a meeting that had taken place to discuss the surgery, and the plans that the surgery would now be taken over by Dr Mukherjee, who currently runs the practice in Strood.

He suggested that the PC holds a meeting with the new doctor to discuss the future plans for the surgery.

Cllrs Fray and Gissing stated that they did not feel that a meeting was necessary.

This was discussed by members and it was agreed by a vote that the Clerk would progress this. Cllr Fray abstained from voting.

Action: Clerk to action.

Cllr Sands spoke about the surgery building and stated that he was concerned about the long-term future of healthcare for the village.

14. Ward Councillors Report.

Medway Councillor Ron Sands gave his report to the meeting.

15. Neighbourhood Plan Report.

Cllr Cutting gave a report on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan.

She stated that the first part of the plan had now been put together and forwarded to the Planning Consultant.

The next NHP meeting was due to be held on 30th September 20.

16. Date of next meeting.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 1st October 2020.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting to the press and public at 7.00pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Dated.....