

Hoo St Werburgh Parish Council

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hoo Saint Werburgh Parish Council
Held in Hoo Village Hall on Thursday 1st December 2022 at 7.00pm.

Councillors present: Cutting
Fray
Pearce
Savage
Styles
Tildesley
Williams
Winstanley

Also: Sherrie Babington - Parish Clerk, Sergeant Holpin - Kent Police, Mark McCree – Community Safety Officer Medway Council and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Williams.

1. Apologies.

Apologies and reasons for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Counsell, Rees, Sands, and Perfect.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Police Matters.

The Chairman of the meeting welcomed Sergeant Steven Holpin and Mark McCree to the meeting.

Sergeant Holpin spoke regarding Operation Gambit currently being undertaken in the parish and updated members on the action taken by the police to date.

He reported that since the Operation was set up in the Hoo additional resources had been allocated. This included an AMPR camera on the Ratcliffe Highway, CCTV cameras on Knights Road, and Pottery Road Recreation Ground. He stated that there had been 30 to 40 stops searches, and 16 reports had been progressed, 2 motorcycles had been ceased and 11 arrests had been made. He spoke regarding the drug problems in the parish and confirmed that a Class B drug problem did exist in Hoo.

Sergeant Holpin spoke with regards to the issues that had been taking place in the parish and accepted that the police had not done a good job in Hoo, he felt that the impact of Operation Gambit would be felt for a while, and the police were now in a better position to see what was happening in the parish.

He spoke regarding general policing matters, the new Chief of Police for Medway and his plans to have model Ward based local PCs in Medway.

Mark McCree updated members on the temporary CCTV cameras installed at Knights Road and Pottery Road Recreation Ground.

Cllr Williams thanked Sergeant Holpin and Mark McCree for attending the meeting.

Members noted that the Headteacher of Hundred of Hoo Academy had been invited to attend the Parish Council meeting, but had not responded to this invitation. It was therefore agreed that a further invitation would be extended to the Headteacher and Chair of Governor's to The Hundred of Hoo Academy.

Action: Clerk to progress.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all present.

It was proposed by Cllr Tildesley to accept these as a true record, seconded by Cllr Cutting and agreed by all present.

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

5. Matters arising from the Minutes.

a. Safe Crossing of Bells Lane.

Following a site meeting to discuss a possible safe crossing on Bells Lane, the Parish Council were still awaiting feedback from Medway Council regarding the Section 106 money.

The Clerk was asked to follow this up with Medway Council.

Action: Clerk to action.

b. Water run off at Elm Ave.

It was reported that this had now been actioned by Medway Council.

6. Parish Councillor Vacancy.

It was reported that both councillor vacancies were now open to co-option, and four applicants had been received. It was agreed that these would be discussed as a confidential item at the close of the meeting.

7. Public Comments.

A resident attended the meeting and raised concerns regarding the Parking on Vicarage Lane in the bus stop.

This was discussed and the Clerk was asked to report this to Medway Council.

Action: Clerk to action.

8. Urgent Matters.

No matters were raised.

9. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members.

This was proposed by Cllr Cutting, seconded by Cllr Fray, and agreed by all present.

b. 2023/2024 Budget and Precept.

It was agreed that the budget would be discussed when the banding rates were published by Medway Council as this would enable the Parish Council to establish a clear understanding of how the precept would impact residents.

10. Clerks Report.

The Clerk's Report was circulated to all members and noted.

11. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman's Report was given to the meeting.

12. Parish Council Committees.

To receive the reports and recommendations from PC Committees.

a. Events Committee.

Cllr Pearce gave an update on the work of the Events Committee. He confirmed that they were working on the Coronation Event and had met to brainstorm initial ideas.

The Clerk stated that the funfair had been in contact regarding hiring the recreation ground for 2023 and this coincided with the Coronation Celebrations.

It was agreed that the Events Committee would liaise with the funfair regarding this matter.

b. Environment Committee.

To arrange a date for the next Environment Committee Meeting:

It was agreed that a date would be set for early January – date to be agreed.

c. Personnel Committee Meeting.

To update members - to be discussed as a Confidential item at the close of the meeting to the Press and Public.

d. Finance, Audit and General Purposes Committee.

To agree a date for the FA&GP Committee to discuss the 2023/2024 Budget as soon as Medway Council has published the new tax band rates.

13. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications Received.

MC/22/2557 30 Braeburn Drive, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9US
Construction of a single storey extension to rear.

MC/22/2585 2 Highway Cottages, Main Road, Chattenden, Rochester, Medway
Conversion of garage into habitable living space and ground floor alterations.

MC/22/2654 111 Bells Lane, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9HY
Construction of a 2-storey side extension with single storey rear extension -Resubmission of MC/22/1591.

PC Objection overdevelopment of site.

MC/22/2668 66 Robson Drive, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9EA
Construction of a two-storey extension to side and a single storey extension to rear - demolition of brick shed and decking to rear.

PC Objection overdevelopment of site.

MC/22/2479 Land South of Abbots Court Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester
Change of use from arable farmland to a managed wetland reserve; creation of new wetland habitats; improvements to existing site hydrology; introduction of new footpaths, bridges/boardwalks; a rangers' facility, bird hide, landscaping, tree/scrub planting, boundary treatments, site interpretation boards and associated works.

It was agreed that this application would be referred to the Parish Council's Planning Consultant, Dave Chetwyn as this was part of the Hoo Development Framework

MC/22/2679 Tamarisk, Main Road, Chattenden, Rochester, Medway
Construction of a porch to front, a two-storey extension to rear, a single storey extension to rear with construction of roof terrace, removal, and replacement of thatched dormer windows. Construction of a detached outbuilding and outdoor swimming pool. Replacement of block paving and external landscaping changes and refurbishment of existing garage block demolition of porch, and conservatory.

MC/22/2753 19 Braeburn Drive, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9US
Construction of a single storey extension to rear.

APPLICATIONS DETERMINED BY MEDWAY COUNCIL

MC/22/2395

Unit 1A London Medway Commercial Park James Swallow Way Hoo St Werburgh Rochester
Medway

Details pursuant to condition 6 (drainage verification report) on planning permission

MC/22/0843 - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission MC/21/1889 to allow a minor material amendment for the proposed outbound gatehouse to be raised to align with the cab height of HGVs entering and leaving the site. Associated amendments to improve on-site safety and security in the vicinity of the gatehouses.

Discharge of Conditions

MC/22/2215

2 Elm Tree Cottages Chattenden Lane Chattenden Rochester Medway ME3 8LG

Construction of an L shaped dormer to rear and insertion of two roof lights to front together with a single storey extension to rear.

Approval with Conditions

MC/17/0351

Tudor Farm (Part of Court Lodge Farm) Stoke Road Stoke Rochester

Change of use of agricultural land for the storage of caravans for seasonal workers from the end of the season until the beginning of the next season, provision of a porta cabin to provide a

recreational facility for seasonal workers, a porta cabin for an office, a portable laundry unit, parking and turning space, a new farm road, a drainage connection to the main sewer and landscaping

Approval with Conditions

b. Other Planning Matters.

Hoo Development Consultation – Expansion of Consultation area – Letter sent to MC regarding this copy circulated in meeting papers.

14. Neighbourhood Plan Report.

a. General Update.

Cllr Cutting updated members on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan, she stated that this had been submitted to Medway Council for screening and their comments had been received.

The NHP Group was now waiting to see if Medway Council required an Environmental Impact Assessment.

15. Christmas Tree.

a. To ratify the purchase of the new Christmas tree Lights as agreed by email:

Pea Lights £65 per box of 10m in either warm white, white or multi coloured.

For a 20ft tree, 220m the cost would be £1,430 + vat.

This was approved (Fray/Williams).

b. School Tree Decoration Project.

Cllr Fray confirmed that this project had not been pursued as a similar project was being undertaken by the church.

16. Community facilities.

The Chairman reported that this matter was still ongoing and a meeting with Medway Council was due to be arranged.

17. Ward Councillor Report.

No matters were raised.

18. Date of next meeting.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 5th January 2023.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting to the press and public at 8.34pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____