

Hoo St Werburgh Parish Council

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hoo Saint Werburgh Parish Council
Held via Zoom on Thursday 4th February 2021 at 7.00pm.

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

Also: Parish Clerk.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Tildesley .

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Counsell.

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

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Cllr Freshwater informed members that he had not yet revised the letter to Medway Council regarding medical provision for the Peninsula, he suggested that it was not opportune to send this at present and suggested that this was revisited at a later date.

This was agreed.

5. Urgent Items.

Cllr Perfect asked if the Parish Council could consider having a designated dog run area at one of its recreation grounds.

This was discussed and it was agreed that this would be placed on the next Environment Committee agenda for further consideration.

Action: Clerk to place item on Environment Agenda.

Cllr Cutting asked if the Parish Warden could check the fencing at Kingshill Recreation Ground to ensure that this was sound, and the ponies were gaining access to the recreation ground.

The Chairman stated that the ponies were escaping through the fencing at Vidgeon Avenue, and this was not the Parish Councils fence.

Cllr Cutting spoke regarding the lock on the play area gate at Pottery Road Recreation Ground. The Clerk stated that this had been raised with the safety inspector for the play equipment, and they had confirmed that the closures were adequate, and locks could not be installed as the access to the areas needed to be inclusive.

Cllr Perfect spoke regarding the flooding at the allotments and stated that some plots had also sustained some vandalism. She suggested that the PC may wish to consider painting the fencing with anti-vandalism paint.

6. Public Question Time.

No matters were raised.

7. Hoo Vaccination Programme.

Cllr Williams reported that since the last meeting the Parish Council had written to Medway Council to raise concerns regarding the Vaccination Programme for the Hoo Peninsula. He stated that five letters had been sent and to date no reply had been received from Alan Jarrett of Medway Council, however a response had been received from Kelly Tolhurst MP.

He stated that he was also due to attend a meeting regarding this on 19th February 2021 and would report back to the next meeting.

He asked members for formal ratification of the letters the PC had sent. This was proposed by Cllr Savage, seconded by Cllr Sands, and agreed by all present.

8. Financial Matters.

The Financial Statement was circulated to all members.

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

9. Planning Matters.

a. Applications Received.

MC/20/3151 31 Robson Drive, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9DZ

Formation of vehicular crossover and hardstanding to front, together with retaining wall.

- MC/20/3272 80 Wylie Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9EG
Construction of a single storey storm porch and first floor extension rear and side.
- MC/20/3308 2 Coe's Green, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 8PY
Construction of a single storey extension to rear/side.
- MC/20/3317 12 Whitehouse Close, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway
Construction of a Two storey extension to side.
- MC/20/3179 13 Haig Villas, Main Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway
Construction of a single storey extension to side/rear.
- MC/21/0022 Pickwick House, 214 Main Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester
Construction of a single storey extension to rear.
- MC/20/2787 30 Breaburn Drive, Hoo St Werburgh , Rochester , ME3 9US
Conversion of existing carport into a storage room to the front.
- MC/20/3264 Land Bound by Main Road, Saxon Shore Way and Vicarage Lane
Change of use from agricultural land to community park, comprising the installation of a toilet facility, formation of two car and cycle parking areas, two vehicle accesses (Main Road and Vicarage Lane), landscaping, tree planting, boundary treatments and associated works.
- MC/21/0206 25 Church Street, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9AH
Construction of a detached single storey building for use as storage to rear - demolition of existing outbuildings.
- MC/21/0231 3 Newitt Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Medway, ME3 9ES
(Resubmission of MC/20/2574) Construction of a single storey extension to side/rear - Demolition of existing garage.

b. Cockham Wood Parkland.

Cllr Sands reported that the Planning Committee had met to consider the Cockham Wood Parkland application and had asked specific questions of Medway Council regarding this. He stated that their response had been received and circulated to members.

He reported that the Parkland would not have bridlepaths, and pedestrians would share the same space as cyclists.

He stated that the Planning Committee had considered this matter and had no objections to the application, he asked members for their views.

This was discussed and members gave their views on the proposals.
Concerns were raised with regarding the the management of the Parkland.

Cllr Rees confirmed that the proposals included the provision for it to be handed over to a Volunteer Management Trust and an endowment paid to assist with this.

Cllr Pearce stated that he was opposed to the proposals and felt that the PC should object to this.

Following discussions Cllr Sands asked members to vote on whether they were in favour or against the application for the Parkland.

Members voted, and it was agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to the application by 10 votes in favour and 4 votes against.

Cllr Sands summarised the discussions and stated that the PC was in favour of the Parkland, however there were still questions regarding the management of this that needed to be raised.

c. HiF Infrastructure Consultation.

Cllr Sands reported that the Planning Committee had met to discuss the HiF Consultation and Cllr Williams had put together a draft paper for members to consider as the response from the Parish Council.

He asked members for their views.

Cllr Rees stated that the document set out the timescales and the fact that the rail was left with two years to get the work done after the order in the summer of 2022.

Members discussed the financial management of the fund, and Cllr Sands stated that any shortfall would have to be made up by the rate payers of Medway.

Members stated that they had concerns regarding the finance and possible shortfall.

Questions were raised concerning what would happen should the work not be completed by 2024.

Cllr Fray stated that she felt that the infrastructure should take place before the development, she asked if there was any way that the PC could engage with Medway Council to ensure that the road does not cross the corner of Deangate.

She stated that the Parish Council needed to engage with Medway to seek a second road onto the Peninsula as it was much needed.

She stated that she felt that the PC should look at the future and new development may need a railway.

Members discussed this, and other views and agreed that an new road was needed, however not necessarily in the form outlined in the HiF Consultation.

Cllr Sands summarised members discussions and asked all present to vote on whether they felt that the PC should object to the HiF Consultation in its current form.

Members voted to object to the HiF Consultation by 11 votes to 2, with one no vote.

Cllr Sands stated that the PC Planning Committee would coordinate a response based on the PC discussions and views and circulate this to members for their approval before submitting this to Medway Council.

Action: Planning Committee to finalise the written response to Medway Council, Clerk to circulate and send as agreed.

10. Date of next meeting.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 4th March 2021.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting to the press and public at 9.15pm.