

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 MAY 2018 AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE VILLAGE HALL MALLARD WAY LOWER STOKE.

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors: Mr B Stone Chairman, Mrs M Elmes, Vice Chairman. Mr G Blackman. Mrs J Cherry, Mr P Tungate. Mr G Barron, Mr R Bridge, Mr R Morrad Clerk.

Public: 14 members of the public. 2 PCSO's, Cllr Filmer, Cllr Freshwater, Medway Council officers, Catherine Smith and Dave Harris.

Cllr Stone welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The parish clerk Mr R Morrad was appointed clerk for the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllrs, Freshwater. Cllr Barron. Michael Laidlow Watch Liaison. Officer, Rev Kan Yu,

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON THE 3 MAY 2017.

The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr B Stone and seconded by Cllr Mrs M Elmes. All present agreed.

MEDWAY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT:

Cllr Filmer.

Highways work undertake in Peninsula 17/18

- Dealt with 657 requests for service, from customers, regarding highway issues.
- We undertook 257 minor repairs and maintenance issues to street lighting columns, via our contracts.
- We raised 116 minor works orders, on individual roads, for repairs to the carriageway.
- We raised 56 minor works orders, on individual roads, for repairs to the footway.
- We completed 100% of statutory highway safety inspections, within the targeted timescales.
- We completed the cleansing of 1565 gullies, undertook 4 CCTV surveys of sites in the ward to investigate drainage issues, cleaned the culvert on Britannia road and inspected the culvert and drainage system on Main Road Hoo, which led to 300m of ditch clearance and a chamber dig out.
- 8 areas had road markings refreshed and 18 road signs were renewed.
- We resurfaced the footway in All Saints Road and the carriageway on Grain Road (from Lower Stoke to Stoke Bridge).

2018/19 Resurfacing schemes in the Peninsula

For 2018/19 resurfacing schemes, we have 4 areas in the Peninsula Ward which will have footway schemes (areas in Pintail Close, Teal Close, Green Lane, Herdsdown and Grain Road) and we are resurfacing the carriageway in Knights Road Hoo (from number 68 to Bells Lane).

Waste Services and Enforcement

The following actions were carried out by **Waste Services** and **Enforcement** on the Peninsular between the 1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018

- Peninsular Residents achieved a recycling rate of 65% between Oct 17-Mar 18 this is a 3% increase on the previous year
- 30 Fly tipping incidents were cleared by the Council's contractor (Veolia)
- 8 Offensive and 24 Non- Offensive graffiti incidents were cleared by the Council's internal graffiti team
- Waste services monitoring offices inspected 210 waste collections and 58 street inspections
- 3 cases await trial against individuals linked to fly tipping on the Peninsular. First case has a date set for first hearing on 16th April 2018 other two cases have no date set.
- The number of waste collection completed on the peninsular by Veolia between Oct 17 –Mar 18 was **393,876** only 94 of these were not collected on time. We achieved 99.98% of collection as per scheduled during this period

Integrated Transport

- The installation of a new Zebra crossing on Main Road, Hoo, opposite Hoo Academy, is planned for June this year. Using the Council's Local Transport Plan funding, the new facility will improve safety for pedestrians crossing Main Road, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day.
- We are working on a joint scheme with Natural England to facilitate the completion of a National Coastal Path - a single footpath encompassing all of the British Isles. A gap in the footpath currently exists by the A228 at Grain. Design work is underway to provide the new section of footpath over the next year.
- ASD continue to provide an excellent service with the two MY buses serving the Peninsula, bringing students in to Holcombe Grammar School and Strood Academy
- We continue to provide a comprehensive Road Safety Education programme to schools on the Peninsular:

Licence to Kill (L2k), Seatbelt sled, Bikeability and Bikeability Balance have been delivered as follows:

- L2k – Hundred Of Hoo
- Seatbelt Sled – Hoo St Werburgh and AllHallows
- Bikeability – High Halstow and Hoo St Werburgh
- Bikeability Balance – Hoo St Werburgh
- Scooter skills - Hoo St Werburgh

Road Safety Team

Over the last year on the Hoo Peninsula, Medway Councils Road Safety Team have delivered Road Safety sessions which include:

- Road Safety Demo - Hall based lesson using a simulated road to introduce pupils to basic road safety skills and concepts for years 1 and 2
- Distractions - Road safety lesson on the classroom using stats to explain how pupils become more likely to be involved in an accident as they get older because of distractions. For years 5 and 6
- Sequences - Classroom lesson building on basic road safety knowledge using sequencing to give a broader knowledge of crossing skills for years 3 and 4

These were delivered to the following schools:

- All Hallows Stoke
- Hoo St Werburgh
- Marlborough Centre

From Cllr`s M Pendergast & R Freshwater.

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT MAY 2018

At long last spring has arrived although at times it seems that we have been propelled straight into summer. This made the London Marathon even more of a challenge for the runners this year, with temperatures in the mid-seventies.

The winter was longer and much colder than it has been for several years and the snow made life difficult for us all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to clear the snow from roads and pavements in the area. Unfortunately the weather has had an adverse effect on the roads and there are a large number of potholes that now require attention.

A major landmark on the Peninsula disappeared in March this year with the demolition of the chimney at Kingsnorth power station. It was an emotional moment for a lot of people who had helped with its construction and for those who had worked at the power station. Medway Council is intent on building as many new homes as possible on the peninsula in the near future in order to satisfy the government's demand for more housing in the south east. There are already several developments underway and these will further stretch local services and the infrastructure which can barely cope at the present time. We all know how difficult it can be to make an appointment to see a doctor and Medway hospital struggles to cope with the present population.

In our village litter continues to be a problem as does the fact that some irresponsible people refuse to clean up after their dogs. These problems are all unacceptable and show a complete disregard for other people. There are plenty of bins provided in the village so there is no excuse.

Fly-tipping also continues to be a problem in the lanes around the village. Homeowners can be prosecuted if they are found to have employed anyone to remove rubbish from their home who doesn't have a waste carriers licence. Please remember this if you are renovating your house or just clearing away rubbish.

The parish council continues to maintain the playparks and some areas in the village that are not maintained by Medway Council. We also continue to support the Village Hall wherever possible in order for it to be available to local people. If you are planning an event please consider the hall as a venue. It needs to be used if it is to remain open.

Finally I would like once again to thank my fellow councillors and the clerk for all their hard work during the year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Clerk tabled the end of year income and expenditure accounts for 2016/17. These we agreed. No questions were raised regarding them.

Bank reconciliation

Stoke Parish Council

Financial year ending 31st March 2017

Prepared by Mr. R. Morrad, Clerk and R.F.O

Date31/03/2017.....

Balance per bank statement as at 31st March 2017	£	£
Current Account no.	15773.98	
Reserve Account no	<u>10369.58</u>	
	26143.56	

Petty Cash float –	n/a
Less any un-presented cheques at 31 st March 2016	0

Add any un-banked cash at 31 st March 2017	0

Net balances as at 31 st March 2017	<u>26143.56</u>

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:

Closing balance per cash book as at 31st March 2016

Approved by Council on	3 May 2017 -----
Chairman	Cllr B Stone -----
Parish Clerk & RFO	Mr. R Morrad -----

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the authority as at 31 March 2017 and reflects its income and expenditure during the year.

REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Stoke Methodist chapel: Report to Stoke Parish Council

The Chapel currently has a small congregation and we are revising our pattern of Sunday worship. From June, Sunday worship will be on the first Sunday of the month at 10.30 for a conventional service, and 3.00 p.m. for "Church Lite", a short act of worship with tea and biscuits, for busy people.

We continue to have drop-in sessions with tea and chat, on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. On Wednesday this is from 9.00 to 11.00 and currently caters mainly for parents returning from the school run but is open to all.

The Thursday session runs from 10.00 to 12.00, and is also open to all. We hope in time that this will provide a social focus for some of the more isolated people in the community. During this session, Medway Foodbank also operates out of the Chapel and in conjunction with this we are able to "signpost" people with particular issues to relevant advisory and help agencies.

Since the fire at Grain School, Sure Start has a small office in the Chapel that provides a local base for their staff in the area. This also links well with the drop-in and advisory services.

The Peninsula Additional Needs Group (PANG), for parents of children with additional needs, is now going to hold regular, fortnightly, meetings in the Chapel on a Monday (10.00 till 12.00) from the 15th May.

The dance school continues to operate from the Chapel on Thursday afternoons and evenings.

We continue to value the support of the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the Churchyard.

ST PETER & ST PAUL CHURCH REPORT

The restoration work at the church has now been completed including the re-tarmacking of the church path. With care and routine maintenance, the building should be in good condition for many years to come.

We maintain our regular congregation of around 14 every week, but with visits of groups to hear about and see the restoration, weddings, funerals and memorial services, 1600 people have been in the church in the last years including 135 at our annual carol service.

The churchyard continues to be kept mown, neat and tidy which must be a great comfort for those with loved ones buried in the churchyard.

As this year, we are holding an open day in the church on September 9th to coincide with the national heritage weekend where many ancient buildings around the county will be open.

Once again we were very pleased to receive your grant to help us maintain this wonderful building. Ian Betts – Churchwarden.

VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Village hall runs smoothly on a week to week basis.

Accounts in the capable hands of Christine Gurr.

Janet Turner – Key holder and responsible for the 200 Club.

Thank you to those who keep the Village hall clean and welcoming.

A new boiler has been installed

Marilyn Elmes.

Vice chairman, Village Hall committee.

QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

No questions were made from the floor.

The Meeting closed at 7.15 pm.