

STOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Lorraine Green

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28th MAY 2015 AT 7.30PM. AT STOCK VILLAGE HALL, COMMON ROAD, STOCK

Present: *Cllrs. Millernas, Johnson, Fenwick, Finch, Rilstone, Cooper & Cansdale*
In The Chair: *Cllr. Fairman*
Minute Secretary: *Lorraine Green*
Also Present: *0 Members of the Public and CCC Cllr. Ian Grundy*

		ACTION
1.	MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2014. The Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting were taken as read and the Chairman confirmed that they were signed as a true record at the meeting held on 19 th May 2014. All agreed.	
2.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES. Nothing to report.	
3.	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Council Membership The past year has seen a full programme of meetings, with a council meeting each month supplemented by a separate meeting to focus on planning applications. During the past year we have had nine councillors all of whom give up a considerable amount of time to attend Parish Council meetings on a voluntary basis. The commitment and diligence of all councillors is something for which parishioners can be proud. In particular I would like to thank Jo Lee who has done some great work on community speedwatch and also lobbying Essex Highways on speeding through the village. Jo has decided to stand down as a councillor and we wish her well in the future. The Village Environment The Parish Council spends a considerable amount of time dealing with the upkeep of the village and maintaining and improving its appearance continues to be an important priority. Some of the works undertaken this year include: - Double yellow lines - in conjunction with South East Essex Parking Partnership double yellow lines were placed near to junctions with the High Street to improve road safety. - Surface water drainage improvement works on the Common. - Resurfacing of the Church car park We employ a village handyman to undertake maintenance and small works to improve the appearance of the village.	

Hankins Wood, Swan Lane

The Parish Council successfully lobbied Chelmsford City Council to purchase Hankins Wood in Swan Lane. The freehold of the wood will remain with the City Council but a long lease is to be granted to the Parish Council. We intend to remove the barbed wire around the perimeter of the wood and also improve the area used for parking on Swan Lane.

World War One commemoration July 2014

The Parish Council held a WWI commemoration event on Sunday 27th July. The event, opened by the Mayor of Chelmsford, featured the Essex Yeomanry band, together with music and poetry from the period. Exhibitors included Stow Maries WWI aerodrome, History Horse and the Royal British Legion. Many thanks to all those who helped organise the commemoration. It was a fitting tribute to the men of Stock who fought and died during WW1.

Roads and Traffic

The “Community Speedwatch” team has been working hard to try and reduce the number of speeding vehicles passing through the village. A number of new recruits have come forward to assist and I would like to thank the whole team for helping to undertake this important work.

The Parish Council continues to lobby Essex County Council regarding Highways Panel regarding lowering speed limits on the roads around the village.

Planning Matters

The Parish Council continues to monitor and make comments on planning applications. The number of applications before the Parish Council was again in excess of 100 during the past year.

Police Matters

Stock remains a safe place to live and crime levels are comparatively low. However crime levels have slightly increased during the year. According to Essex Police in the period between the 1st January 2014 and 31st March 2014 there were 26 offences recorded compared to 23 over the same period in 2015. Much of the crime related theft from houses, outbuildings and vehicles. The Parish Council continues to lobby Essex Police to increase their presence in the village.

Finance

There has been a modest increase in the precept of 1.5%.

	Other Matters We will be hosting a Play in the Park event on 3rd August between 1.30pm and 3.30pm. Play in the park is a free two hour multi-activity session for children aged 6-11 and includes sports, arts, crafts, games and free-play. Many thanks to the Parish Councillors for their commitment throughout the year. The Clerk continues to provide detailed support and information that is invaluable and appreciated. Equally Councillor Ian Grundy continues to work hard on behalf of the Parish in his duties and his support to the Parish Council is valued. Cllr. Grundy felt that the Parish Council should invite a guest speaker to get more people to attend the Annual Parish Meeting and also it should be advertised. Examples were Alan Cook, Essex Police, First Responders. Kerry Cansdale agreed to make it a project and come up with ideas to entice parishioners to attend. The Chairman suggested combining the Annual Parish Meeting with the Heritage Society meeting as they get a large attendance. Cllr. Grundy reported that CCC were looking to purchase the land at the back of Hankin Wood and they would take ownership up to the footpath at Dakyn Drive. Cllr. Grundy suggested getting someone in the village to monitor parking on yellow lines as South Essex Partnership have not got the resources to be in the village every week. It was agreed that Cllr. Grundy would speak to South Essex Parking Partnership about this matter. He advised that the person would be trained and paid for approximately 10 hours a week. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the gentleman who was constantly reporting parking on yellow lines to see if he would like the position.	KC CLERK
4.	TWEEDY CHARITY. Mr Tony Barker had given the following report:- Once again I am pleased to submit the Trustees' Report for the last year. It has been a relatively quiet year, with full occupation throughout. There have been no major works requiring finance; indeed, the only problem has been some troubles with the heating of Nos. 3 & 4, which British Gas are trying to sort out through their 'Homecare' Service. The health of our tenant in No. 2 gives cause for concern: Liz Pye has not been well for many months and frequently has to go to Broomfield Hospital and/or the Surgery. We are extremely grateful to a local person who takes good care of her and arranges all her visits, but nevertheless, we remain concerned for her. Joyce Renwick left late this year, and Michael Willmott swapped No. 1 for her flat (No. 4). Joyce had left her home in immaculate condition and Michael was happy to move in without the additional cost of decoration. Almost immediately a replacement tenant was found for No. 1, moving in at the end of November after redecoration and some minor alterations. This has worked well and all has been quiet. The Trustees are, as always, extremely grateful to the Parish Council for their continued support and look forward to another year of peaceful management with no unpleasant surprises. We are acutely aware that each year the accommodation becomes more and more out of date and in need of upgrading. This will be extremely expensive.	

5.	REPORT BY ECC CLLR. IAN GRUNDY. Cllr. Roy Whitehead sent his apologies. Cllr. Grundy advised that more schools are going for academy status so ECC's responsibility is diminishing. The new Care Act is now in place for Adult Social and Children's Care. There are huge implications to the County and residents financially next year. Highways are slowly getting better. ECC are being given more money to do things. A lot of money has been given from Government for infrastructure including A12. Chelmsford to Colchester will more or less become a motorway. John Lewis is coming to the town and Next is moving in next to Primark. Callucinos Italian is going into High Chelmer. Riverside Leisure Centre is being redeveloped this will not include the ice rink. It is a £20m project. CCC are upgrading their computer software to Office 365 and Cllr. Grundy suggested the Parish Council bear this in mind and possibly considering changing over themselves.	
6.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS. A Speed Watch Co-Ordinator is required as Jo Lee has resigned. Chairman to approach John Pardon to see if he is able and willing to take over the role. Cllr. Grundy was concerned that the Parish Council do not have an office where surgeries can be held and parishioners can call in to speak to someone and ask for dog bags etc. It was agreed that the Clerk would have to man the office which had not proven worthwhile in the past when the office was at the Village Hall. Cllr. Cooper said people E-mail the Clerk if they have a concern. The Clerk advised that she receives many E-mails. Cllr. Millernas suggested using the Heritage Centre as an office. Cllr. Cansdale suggested having a meet a Councillor day once a month. The Chairman asked the Clerk to contact Jo Lee to get the link to the Parish Council's Twitter account and ask for an idiot guide of how to use it. Cllr. Fenwick suggested linking the Twitter account into the website. Cllr. Grundy reported that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme needs to be much stronger in the village and the Parish Council needs to encourage this. Superfast Broadband is due to be completed in the village by 2017. Clerk to advise the parishioner that had written in from Hereward Mount to contact BT regarding his broadband concerns.	ALL CLERK CLERK

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming; the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed (CHAIRMAN).....DATE.....

STOCK PARISH COUNCIL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR-ENDED 31/3/15

RECEIPTS

Precept	£ 41,412.00
Bank Int.	£ 21.34
VAT Refund	£ 2,616.03
Misc.	£ 798.00
Parks Etc.	<u>£ 484.56</u>
	£ 45,331.93
Current A/c. 31/03/14	£ 903.61
Tracker A/c. 31/03/14	<u>£ 39,728.49</u>
	<u>£85,964.03</u>

PAYMENTS

Admin	£ 26,913.42
Grass Cutting	£ 6,125.84
S137	£ 8,686.67
Open Spaces/Parks Etc	£ 9,163.29
VAT	<u>£ 3,879.10</u>
	£54,768.32
Current A/c. 31/03/15	£ 1,945.88
Tracker A/c. 31/03/15	<u>£ 29,249.83</u>
	<u>£85,964.03</u>