

STOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Lorraine Green

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16TH APRIL 2012 AT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HALL, COMMON ROAD, STOCK AT 8.00PM.

Present: *Cllrs. Millernas, Johnson, Lee, Fairman, Fenwick, Finch and Rilstone*
In The Chair: *Cllr. Dixon*
Minute Secretary: *Lorraine Green*
Also Present: *3 Members of the Public and CBC Cllr. Ian Grundy*

The Chairman advised that PCSO Kay Fleming sent her apologies.

		ACTION
1.	MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2011. 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 June 2011 meeting. All agreed.	
2.	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES. Nothing to report.	
3.	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. <u>Council Membership</u> The past year has seen a full programme of meetings, generally a full council meeting each month supplemented as necessary by a separate meeting to focus on planning matters. I am pleased that full attendance is the norm at meetings; in fact over 90% of all possible Councillor attendances were achieved across the year. The commitment and diligence of all Councillors is something for parishioners to be proud of. <u>The Village Environment</u> In common with many places the village seems to be getting busier and busier. Similar problems to previous years continue. Damaged verges, litter, dog fouling are ongoing issues. The Parish Council now employ the services of a "village handyman" to tackle some of the day to day jobs of keeping up the appearance of the village. The efforts have been noted by many. The centre of the village is, as many will know, a Conservation Area. This area deserves special attention and it has been recognised by Chelmsford Borough Council who are financing some improvements and enhancements to the area. Fencing around the grass areas is being extended and repainted. Repairs to the old water pump opposite All Saints' are in hand and reinstatement of the pump that was sited close to the bus shelter is underway as an historic artefact. Other works will include new bollards on the gravel walkway and a tree seat near the brick bus shelter. Finance from Chelmsford Borough Council has been used to purchase planters for siting around the Stock village sign. These and other areas will be planted. Further works are being considered by Chelmsford Borough Council. <u>The former library</u> It is pleasing to note that after all the issues and delays that the former library will be made available for use by the community in the shape of The Stock and Buttsbury Heritage Society. Final details are still to be completed but it is expected that the Parish Council will act as trustee for the ownership of the building.	

	<p><u>Roads and Traffic</u></p> <p>The Parish Council continues to lobby Essex County Council regarding Highways issues, but with limited success. Clearly the current economic conditions will prevent any significant expenditure. We are advised that the resurfacing of the High Street pavement promised for this year will be included in the next financial year programme.</p> <p>One area of success has been the formation of a “Community Speedwatch” team. These volunteers are working to a programme agreed with Essex Police and are monitoring the speed of traffic through the village. Any breaches of speed limits are reported to the Police. It is pleasing to note that when the teams are operational speeds are generally being contained. That after all is the point of the exercise!</p> <p><u>Planning Matters</u></p> <p>The Parish Council continues to monitor planning applications and to make comments on the general behalf of residents. The number of planning applications before the Parish Council was again in excess of 70 during the past year.</p> <p>After much effort from people in the village, The Village Design Statement (VDS) was finally accepted and approved by Chelmsford Borough Council, and has been delivered to all households in the village. This important piece of planning guidance has been produced based on the input from residents of the village over the last few years and will be of use to anybody considering new development, refurbishment or extensions to property within the village.</p> <p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>The Parish Council has again maintained the precept at the previous year’s level.</p> <p><u>Other Matters</u></p> <p>We had a very successful street party to celebrate the Royal Wedding last summer. It is the turn this year to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty and I am pleased to advise that planning is at an advanced stage and the celebrations will conclude with the lighting of a new parish beacon.</p> <p>The PCSO’s continue to attend most Parish Council meetings and are active around the village. We are grateful for their contribution.</p> <p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>My thanks go to all Parish Councillors for their efforts throughout the year. The Clerk continues to provide detailed support and information which is invaluable and appreciated. Equally, Borough Councillor (and now County Councillor also), Ian Grundy, works very hard on behalf of the Parish in his duties and his support to the Parish Council is much welcomed.</p>	
4.	<p>TWEEDY CHARITY.</p> <p>Mr Tony Barker had advised the Clerk that the holly tree had been cut down as it was over 30ft high. This has given a lot more light. It has been quite an uneventful year with only a few minor things needing to be done. Everything is going ahead well. Mr Barker thanked Cllr. Woodward for sorting out the lane.</p>	
5.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS.</p> <p>PCSO Fleming had reported the following to the Clerk:-</p> <p>9 Mar 12:00 - 25 Mar 10:00 Theft of heating oil in Stock Lane</p> <p>16 Mar 19:00 - 18 Mar 10:00 Burglary dwelling - caravan broken into and items stolen in Smallgains Lane</p> <p>19 Mar 16:30 - 20 Mar 08:00 Theft of tools from a garage in Madles Lane</p> <p>20 Mar 09:00 - 22 Mar 19:00 Theft of heating oil in Stock Lane</p> <p>23 Mar 10:08 Burglary dwelling - Artefact bogus workman stole cash in Brookmans Road</p>	

	<p>27 Mar Theft from m/v Birch lane car broken into between 19:00-21:00 briefcase and laptop taken</p> <p>PSCO Fleming asked the Clerk to highlight for people to be aware regarding the theft of heating oil.</p> <p>A parishioner complained about the speeding in Smallgains Lane and asked whether anything can be done in the new financial year. She asked whether bollards could be put down in Smallgains Lane when the High Street is shut to do the pavement as the verges will be destroyed. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Highways and ask them to give the Parish Council notice as to when the work is going to be carried out as the Parish Council need to make alternative arrangements.</p>	<p>CLERK</p>
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The Chairman thanked everyone for coming; the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

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

STOCK PARISH COUNCIL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR-ENDED 31/3/12

RECEIPTS

Precept	£40,000.00
Bank Int.	£ 20.38
VAT Refund	£ 1,777.63
Misc.	£ 870.00
Parks Etc.	<u>£ 6,924.79</u>
	£49,592.80
Current A/c. 31/03/11	£ 4,634.23
Tracker A/c. 31/03/11	<u>£34,170.22</u>
	<u>£88,397.25</u>

PAYMENTS

Admin	£27,719.31
Grass Cutting	£ 5,769.30
S137	£ 1,400.00
Open Spaces/Parks Etc	£11,808.15
VAT	<u>£ 1,779.25</u>
	£48,476.01
Current A/c. 31/03/12	£ 1,230.64
Tracker A/c. 31/03/12	<u>£38,690.60</u>
	<u>£88,397.25</u>