

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 6.35 p.m. on Wednesday 11th September 2002 in the Function Room of the Fenn Bell Inn St Mary Hoo

Attendance Those present were as follows:- Mrs M D Stanney (Chairman); M E Budd (Vice-Chairman); D F Sinclair; Mrs M L Sinclair; J W Nettleton and The Clerk/RFO E C Woodards. Mrs B Gower and Mrs C Ordway of the Landfill Action Committee were also in attendance. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Medway Councillors C Buckwell and P Filmer.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th July 2002 Minutes, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from the Minutes

Highway Complaint - Ruts in the Sharnal Street Bypass As no action had yet been undertaken by Medway Council, the Chairman agreed to take the matter up with the Highways Department.

Further Footpath Complaint Councillor Mrs Sinclair to notify the Clerk of the footpath reference number relating to the footpath running through the Industrial Site from Fenn Street to the A228 and which Councillor Nettleton reported as needing clearing.

Appointment of Internal Auditors Mrs B Gower and Mrs C Ordway agreed to act as joint Internal Auditors subject to discussions with the Clerk/RFO as to the requirements of the position. The Members expressed their appreciation of this kind offer.

Planning and Associated Items The Clerk reported as follows:-

1. Change of Use from Agriculture to Grazing Land etc. at Turkey Hall Farm. Letter of Objection sent by the Clerk following consultation with the Chairman. A personal objection had also been lodged by Councillor Budd.
2. Northern Extension of Landfill Site by Biffa. A letter had been received from Medway officially confirming planning refusal to this Application.
3. Future Planning Consultation. Letter received from D.E.F.R.A that Parish Councils will continue as Statutory Consultees and will not lose the right to be consulted and will be entitled to make representations on any relevant applications.

Consultation Document issued by the Government on the Future Development of Air Transport including Proposals to construct a Airport at Cliffe The Chairman and Members reported in some detail on these proposals and on Meetings which they had either called or attended throughout the Hoo Peninsula. The Proposals meant that almost the whole of St Mary Hoo and Allhallows would disappear under a huge new Airport, two or three times the size of Heathrow, with adjoining areas being devastated with associated development. The whole of the Hoo Peninsula, together with the Gravesham Area, would be subject to the noise and pollution caused by large Aircraft taking off and landing every few seconds, day and night, for the foreseeable future.

All Members present expressed thier horror and dismay at the proposals, which if carried out, would comletely destroy St Mary Hoo and Allhallows, destroying 1100 homes and blighting the area

for all time. It was agreed that the Clerk make the strongest possible representations against the proposals and that approval be given to leaflet drops , banners and other associated action already taken or due to be taken, together with any associated expense in order to draw the attention of residents to the dangers and distress facing them. Councillor Nettleton was thanked for the notices that he had displayed and that the Fenn Bell Inn and 11 St Marys Cottages should continue to act as a letter box for the depositing of letters and questionnaires concerning the proposed Airport.

**Chairman's Allowance - Additional Expense** Reference was made to the tremendous additional work undertaken by the Chairman in connection with the Proposed Airport. As the Chairman had a prejudicial interest in this subject, she left the room. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the Chairman's Allowance be increased by £25 a month, commencing from the middle of July 2002 and terminating only when the situation eased, probably in Mid November 2002, a matter of four months. The Chairman returned to the Meeting.

**Finance - External Audit** Statutory period for the inspection by the Public of the Accounts for 2001/2002 had expired on the 09.09. 02. Interested parties are now entitled to question the District Audit about the Accounts.

**Finance - VAT Claim for amounts paid during 2000/2001 and 2001/2002** Claim received in full for the sum of £177.85.

**Finance - Bank Mandate Change** Number of Nominees allowed from the date of the next change in nominees restricted to three only

**Finance - Donation to the 7th Strood Allhallows (and District) Scouts for the Year 2002/2003** It was agreed to continue to make this contribution in the sum of £50 as allowed in the Estimates. Authorised under Section 137 L.G. Act 1972.

**Finance - Accounts for Payment** Approval was given as follows:-

1.Mrs M D Stanney On a/c Chairmans Allowance at £168 per Annum. July and August 2002 plus £50 extra for the period Mid July to Mid September 2002 re Cliffe Airport	£78.00
2.E C Woodards On a/c Clerks Allowances and Expenses for July and August 2002 including £35 for repairs to W.P.	£77.75
3.J W Nettleton Hire of Function Room on 11.09.02	£14.00
4.7th Strood Allhallows (and District) Scouts. Donation for 2002/2003. Authority Section 137 L.G.Act 1972.	£50.00

**Medway's Annual Progress Report on the Local Transport Plan for the Year 2002** Report produced for information

**Medway's Local Agenda 21 Plan - Long Term Vision for Medway** The Chairman commented on the Plan which deals with a duty on L.A.'s to prepare Community Strategies for promoting the well being of their areas.

**Medway Council considering Area Committees for Urban Areas** The Chairman reported that a Pilot scheme for Strood was to be set up which would not interfere with Rural Liaison.

Register of Electors The Clerk reported that, in future, two Registers would be maintained, one with all electors shown with a very limited distribution and one with just those electors shown who did not object to their details being provided to any organisation for a fee.

London Gateway - Harbour Empowerment Order - CPO Land at Cooling Marshes This Precautionary Order, with no connection with Cliffe Airport, was received.

Medway Housing Needs Survey Notice received of a Postal questionnaire which is being sent to residents by Medway Council.

Publication by DEFRA This publication setting out the levels of access to services that people living in Rural Areas can expect during the coming year is available on the Internet.

V,G, 205 - Common land The Clerk reported that the published survey does not include the Village Green. However, the Survey is being revised and a further 3 month period of consultation is being allowed when no doubt the omission will be remedied.

Ethnic Monitoring - Publication This Guide for Public Authorities was received.

Resignation of Clerk/RFO The Clerk referred to the fact that he would have served for nearly 48 years in March 2003 and that he would be tendering his resignation, regretfully, as from that date or from any other date convenient to the Parish Council.

Next Meeting The next Meeting was agreed as Wednesday 6th November 2002.

Signed.....  
Chairman of the Parish Council

Dated.....