

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2006 at 7:00 pm**  
**in the Function Room of the Fenn Bell Inn St Mary Hoo**

**Attendance**

Parish Councillors and The Clerk were present as follows:-

Mrs. M D Stanney (Chair)  
Mrs C Johnson

Mr M E Budd (Vice-Chair)  
Mr E C Woodards Clerk/RFO

Mr R J Beckey

**Also in Attendance**

No-one else in attendance

1. **Apologies for Non-Attendance**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Mr H S Khatkar and from Medway Councillor Phillip Filmer

2. **Code of Conduct – Parish Councils Model Code of Conduct Order 2001- LGA 2000**

The Clerk Mr E C Woodards made a Declaration of Prejudicial Interest in respect of Minute No. 7d concerning the Fee which it was suggested should be paid to the Web Master. No other Interest was declared for the current Meeting.

3. **Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2005, and which had been distributed previously, were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters arising from the Minutes with the exception of Items appearing elsewhere**

i) **Joint Meeting of Clerks and Medway Council Staff**

The Clerk reported on the Business conducted at a Meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2005 and that another Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2006 at Halling Community Centre which he would attend if at all possible.

ii) **Voluntary First Registration of Title by the Land Registry of Land owned by the Parish Council at Fenn and the Village Greenpiece**

The Clerk reported that the Registration was in progress.

5. **Planning Applications and Associated Matters**

The Clerk and Chair reported on the following:

- a) **Enforcement Action:** Fenn Croft, Newlands Farm Road. Still no comment from Medway concerning the use of the Holiday Accommodation. It was agreed that the Chair take the matter up with the Enforcement Officer at Medway.
- b) **Application:** New Orchard Barn, Malmaynes Hall Road, Upper Stoke. Continued use of land for the siting of 4 Residential Caravans and the construction of a new Amenity Block. A Decision of Refusal now made by Medway Council.
- c) **Application:** Willington House, Ratcliffe Highway. Part Reconstruct and Extend. It was agreed to make no comment.
- d) **Application:** for the erection of 10 Wind Turbines at Grain. The Chair reported that, although this application was for a site in Grain and not St Mary Hoo, a resident from a neighbouring Parish had complained that St Mary Hoo had not objected to it and requested that the Parish Council did so as it had serious repercussions for him. The Chair had informed him of his rights and that the Parish Council had no objection to the Application. The Chair's action was agreed.
- e) **Medway – Local Development Framework:** After discussion, it was agreed that no parish input was necessary as it does not directly concern St Mary Hoo.

6. **To receive Reports from Parish Council Representatives serving on Committees**

Councillor R Beckey submitted a brief verbal Report on the Vital Villages Plan and a written Report on the business conducted at the Rural Liaison Committee. The latter included references to Speedwatch; major work on the A228 scrapped; Local Development Framework; Traffic density from Grain and that the next Meeting to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> March will be an Open Meeting to include all Parish Councillors and Clerks.

7. **Finance**

a) **Society of Local Council Clerks**

It was agreed to continue Membership for 2006 at a cost of £30.00

b) **Schedule of Accounts for Payment – Approval was given as follows:-**

<b>Mrs M D Stanney</b>	<b>On a/c Chairman's Allowance @ £250 pa December 2005 and January 2006</b>		<b>£41.66</b>
) <b>E C Woodards</b>	<b>On a/c Travelling and Clerks Expenses December 2005 and January 2006</b>	<b>25.00</b>	
	<b>Photo copies</b>	<b>-</b>	
	<b>Stationery</b>	<b>29.29</b>	
	<b>Postages</b>	<b>0.62</b>	
	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>5.00</b>	
			<b>£59.91</b>
i) <b>Susan Button</b>	<b>Hire of Function Room on 11/01/2006</b>		<b>£14.00</b>
r) <b>Society of Local Council Clerks</b>	<b>Annual Subscription 2006</b>		<b>£30.00</b>

c) **Requests for Financial Assistance**

It was agreed to refuse requests from the WRVS and the S.E. Regional Play Association due to lack of any likely local benefit.

d) **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Annual Fee payable to Web Master of £75.00**

The Clerk declared a Prejudicial Interest and left the Meeting Room until the matter was resolved. Following the report of the Chair, it was agreed to pay the Web Master an annual fee of £75.00 per annum in advance for I.T. Management with effect from 01.04.2006.

e) **Parish Precept of £1500 to be levied upon Medway Council for the Financial Year 2006/2007**

Copies of the Final Accounts for 2004/2005; the Original and the Revised Estimates for 2005/2006; the Budget for 2006/2007 and details of Balances, all of which had been previously circulated, were examined and considered. After increasing the Web Master's Fee to £75 from £50 and reducing the contingencies -figure accordingly, the net estimate for 2006/2007 was approved at £1780. Then, after taking into account the size of the balances, it was resolved that the sum of £280 be appropriated from balances in 2006/2007 bringing the sum to be precepted for that year down to £1500 which was approved. This maintains the Precept at a constant figure for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year. Estimated balances would then be reduced to £4578 as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007. The Precept Form for inclusion in Medway's Billing arrangements for 2006/2007 was subsequently completed and signed.

8. **Medway Local Strategic Partnership**

Meeting due to be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2006.

9. **Community Speedwatch Scheme within the Parish**

After careful consideration of the Report contained in the Rural Liaison Committee Minutes, it was agreed not to get involved as there would be very little immediate benefit to St Mary Hoo as only a very small stretch of road within the Parish came within the Scheme.

10. **Kent Police Authority – Council Tax and Policing Plan for 2006/7 – Consultation**

The submission from the Police Authority was received and the Response Form completed.

11. **Medway Valley Bus \Service to be withdrawn from 6/7<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

Received

12. **Standards of Conduct in Local Government – Discussion Paper**

No comments were made.

13. **Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

Signed: .....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Dated: .....