



Stock Parish Council
The Tythe Barn, High Street, Stock, Essex. CM4 9BU

Minutes

for meeting held at
The Cricket Club Pavilion
Tuesday 11th March 2025

Present: Chairman: Present
Vice-Chairman: Present
County Cllr: Present

Councillors: R Pritchard, J Pye, P Mcallister, S Porter-Clark,

Also present: the Parish Clerk

1. Welcome

Cllr P Fenwick welcomed the public to the meeting.

2. Apologies of absence

Apologies had been received by Cllrs M Eade and M Baker.

3. Minutes of last meetings

Resolved to **Approve** the Council minutes held on 25th of February 25 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Declaration of Councillor Interests relating to the Agenda

Cllr M Rolph declared he wouldn't be commenting on the planning application reference 25/00165/FUL

5. Public participation

There were no questions from the public.

6. Planning Matters

5/00126/FUL - Two-storey side extension with changes to fenestration. Alterations to the front and rear.

Birley Cottage Stock Road Stock Ingatestone Essex CM4 9PJ

Resolved to not support

25/00238/FUL - Removal of existing barn. Proposed single storey rear extension to the existing dwelling, with conversion of existing barn to carport.

Hippodrome Barn Goatsmoor Lane Stock Ingatestone Essex CM4 9RS

Resolved to support

25/00165/FUL - Erection of a new boundary wall with railing and native hedging along existing front boundary and entrance splay. New entrance gates to existing vehicular entrance.

Marvells 5 High Street Stock Ingatestone Essex CM4 9BD

Resolved to support

25/00258/FUL - Demolition of existing garden room and construction of proposed domestic art studio

Heathfield Dowsett Lane Stock Ingatestone Essex CM11 1JH.

Resolved to support

7. Introduction of Essex County Councillor

Our newly elected Country Councillor Sue Dobson introduced herself to the meeting. She reported that Essex Highways have been asked to look at 3 LHP's again to begin with, which are the signalised crossing, the bus stop and the 20MPH speed limit throughout the High Street. Herself and Cllr Lee Scott will be pushing for these to come into force and will do her very best to make it happen.

Highways and Maintenance

8. Parking

The proposal for restricted parking in The Village is currently in the consultation period which runs until 14th March 2025.

This is now very much in the hands of South Essex Parking Partnership and not Stock Parish Council.

There have been many consultations to the scheme as it stands and Cllr Mark Rolph (on behalf of The Parish Council) is preparing a document presenting all views to forward to SEPP on behalf of all Parishioners.

9. Parking at Stock School

As above.

10. Speeding & Road Safety

As you will recall all of our efforts to have Average Speed Cameras, Speed Reductions in and around The Village and improvements to the Pedestrian Crossing and Bus Stop position were rejected by Essex Highways. We therefore met with and raised our concerns with our MP Sir John Whittingdale. He has agreed to take our concerns to Tom Cunningham, the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation, and have all of our LHP's revisited.

A meeting was held with Cllr Lee Scott, Cabinet Member, on behalf of Cllr Tom Cunningham, and our Essex County Councillor, Sue Dobson on 19th February 2025.

We understand that Cllr Lee Scott had a meeting on 10th March 2025 with the appropriate officers involved which is leading to progress behind the scenes.

11. Vehicle Activated Devices

Cllr J Pye reported that we have received the Licenses for the three VAS devices and is pleased to confirm that all three have been successfully installed and received a positive response from many Parishioners.

We are in the process of arranging the download of the data from the High Street devices which includes the time of vehicles passing and the speed recorded. It is hoped that this comprehensive data will assist in us obtaining Average Speed Cameras.

12. SpeedWatch

Cllr M Rolph reported that with the better weather coming, we are back to having the speed watch team out twice per week.

PC Verrall has been in the High Street with a speed gun this week and Trucam have also been in The Village providing their speed watch services.

13. Highways Reports

Cllr J Pye reported that several works have been completed around the Village and some are still outstanding which Essex Highways are aware of and will be completed in due course.

14. Street Care

Cllr J Pye reported that the litter bin opposite The Ship Public House is now to be emptied on a regular basis. We have regular visits from litter pickers every other Tuesday.

15. General Maintenance

Cllr J Pye reported that several maintenance jobs around The Village have been completed.

Works to be actioned

Bus Shelter opposite the Hoop – Clean and tidy up after the house construction completed (budget price of £220)

Kissing Gate half way down Mill Walk – repair and repaint (budget price of £110)

Village Gateways

We have now agreed a basic design and position for the improved Village Gateways and it is my intention to get these underway as soon as possible (budget price of £5,000)

16. All Saints Church

No update.

17. Litter Pick

Cllr M Rolph reported that a litter pick is to take place on 29th March 2025 which coincides with a Love Chelmsford event, who have been invited to join us for this.

Environment

18. The Common Tree Survey, Drainage and Car Park Project

Cllr J Pye has reported that a permanent kerb is required due to the road surface collapsing. An application has been made for permanent road improvement from a different Highways department. This requires approval from our County Councillor, Sue Dobson.

Stock Parish Council have been served with a pre action letter from the Environmental Law Foundation on the instruction of a local resident, Ms E Miller. This that the works executed to the car park by the common was unlawful in consequence of the common having been registered as a Village Green in 1971.

SPC were advised by Chelmsford City Council to take legal advice, this has been actioned and now in the hands of the Parish Council's solicitors.

19. Trees in the Village

Planned tree works for 18th March 2025

Birch Lane/Common Road – Dead sycamore to be felled, Large dead branch that extends across Common Road near Birch Lane

Mill Road – Pollard two Willows where branches are becoming tangled in electric cables.

Common Road – Cut down all epicormic growth, suckers and ivy to all trees on both sides of Common Road.

Planned tree works for 26th March 2025

Common Playground Side – Dead due stemmed sycamore to be felled, Large dead ivy covered Sycamore to be felled.

Planned tree works for 16th April 2025

Common Playground – cut back all overhanging trees and bushes, cut off all the Ivy from tree.

From Common Playground to Common Road – Cut back all overhanging trees and bushes, remove epicormic growth and suckers.

Common areas between Orchard House and Stock Surgery – General cut back and tidy up these untidy areas including removing ivy and dead branches.

20. Flooding

It has been resolved that Essex Highways, Essex Flood Assets and some volunteers will clear the blockages around Smallgains Lane. Cllr M Rolph reported that he is working with our solicitors and Essex Water Management for a solution to clear the Brook.

21. Other Matters

Local Government Pension Scheme Resolution

1. As required by legislation, notice is hereby given that Marnie Dillon, the current Clerk, will be eligible for membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme operated by Essex County Council, following the necessary 7 days public notice. This item will be included in the Agenda of the meeting of the Parish Council on 11th March 2025.

All Councillors present agreed.

22. Finance

It was resolved that the accounts for payment for March 2025 be approved as follows:

Sage Monthly Fee	£30.00
Essex Pension Fund	£7.44
O2 Monthly Bill	£13.57
HMRC Employer Contributions (March Pay)	Not Due Yet
Clerk Wages (March Pay)	Not Due Yet
S Type Security (JAN 25 Patrols)	£588.00
Branches Tree Services	£1125.00
Swarco (VAS)	£9966.76
Harrys Son (Speed Post Installations)	£434.80
HMRC overdue Interest	£96.53
C R Swift (Gravel Path)	£6795.77
C R Swift (Grass Cutting)	£6089.75
C R Swift (Common works)	£8068.81

The bank account balances as of 11th March 2025 are:

BARCLAYS Business Current Account: £9885.12

BARCLAYS Business Savings Account: £90198.14

UNITY Current T1: £21,520.08

UNITY Instant Access: £50,210.95

The Clerk reported she would like to take some annual leave over the Easter Holidays.

25. Village Information Exchange

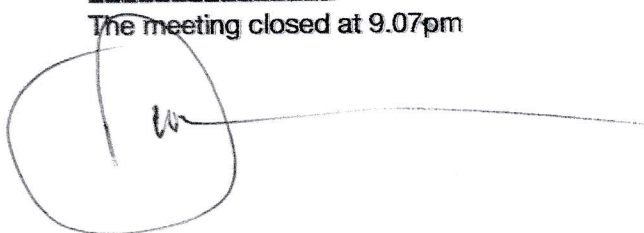
- Cllr M Rolph reported that Caloo (a playground installment provider) will have the design and quote by the end of March for the upcoming playground refurbishment on The Common.
- Cllr M Rolph reported that the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators have agreed to not have S Type Security in their WhatsApp group however they have all been given S Type Security's contact details should they need their assistance for any matter.
- Cllr S Porter-Clark reported that her and Cllr P Mcallister will be planting the hedges on Dakyn Drive on 29th March 2025.
- It was reported that work is actively happening on the matter regarding a tenant on Back Lane.

26. Date of Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th April 2025, at 7.30pm at the Cricket Pavilion on Common Road.

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The meeting closed at 9.07pm

A handwritten signature, possibly 'M', is written over a large, hand-drawn circle. A long horizontal line extends from the signature to the right.