

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL at The Jessel Room in Goudhurst Parish Hall on Monday 10 June 2019 at 7.30 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Antony Harris (Chairman), David Boniface, Craig Broom, Christopher Ditton, Alan Foster, Philip Kirkby, David Knight, Barry Noakes (after Minute 074/19), Mrs Caroline Richards, Mrs Jayne Russell, Guy Sutton and Peter Wood  
County Cllr Seán Holden until 7.40 pm. 1 Member of the Public until approximately 7.40 pm

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

070/19 were accepted from Borough Cllr Linda Hall (commitment elsewhere.).

### **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

071/19 None were declared.

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

072/19 It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 13 May 2019, copies of which had been previously distributed to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS**

A Member of the Public raised, not for the first time, the matter of the 'Local History Board'. Some years ago, when it was standing near to the Goudhurst Village Pond and close to the footway along West Road, it was blown into the Pond in a storm and was severely damaged. It is currently standing close to the north wall of the Parish Hall. She asked when it will be reinstated in its original position as requested. Council responded by saying that there is now a new Council with a new budget. The Amenities Committee will be considering the matter and bringing representations to Council.

### **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

073/19 County Cllr Seán Holden briefed Council on KCC's work on control of HGVs in Kent. The trial on the route from Leeds Castle to Headcorn is working well. The extension of clamping HGVs overnight in unauthorised parking places has had some success. KCC's Bee pollinating strategy is being progressed. The matter of the A268 Hawkhurst to Rye being close for 11 weeks so that SGN Gas can relay pipes has been renegotiated down to 5 weeks from 17 June 2019. County Cllr wishes to know if Goudhurst has further difficulties over school bus services to Cranbrook School..

Borough Cllr Barry Noakes observed that the Conservatives had lost 13 seats in the recent elections, mostly to the TW Alliance Party that opposed the proposed scheme for a new Town Hall.

## COUNCILLOR VACANCY

074/19 Following Minute 074/19. The Clerk informed Council that he had notified the Returning Officer of a vacancy in the Goudhurst Parish Ward. The Returning Officer confirmed that ‘ten electors for the Ward had not given notice in writing claiming an election’ during the notice period and so Council could go ahead and co-opt. There were no other applicants. It was **resolved** that Mr Colin Barry Noakes should be co-opted to fill the vacancy with immediate effect.

## APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

075/19 Following Minute 042/19, it was **resolved** to postpone the completion of Appointments to Committees and Other Appointments until the next Parish Council meeting so that Members have time to consider which Committees they would like to join.

## AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Amenities Committee presented the Minutes of a Committee meeting held on 28 May 2019:

- 076/19 *Land at Chequer Field.* It was noted that the transfer of the Title from TWBC has been outstanding since 2011 due to legal difficulties at TWBC. The Parish Council’s legal adviser is in touch with TWBC but it seems that a conclusion to the matter is not imminent.
- 077/19 *The Village Green (the Upper Glebe Field).*
- Council has a request from the Friends of Goudhurst Village Green (FGVG) for the goal posts to be repaired or replaced.
  - Council needs to agree arrangements for the annual closure of the path around the north and west sides of the Green in accordance with GPC/Diocese of Canterbury lease.
- No specific action was agreed and the items will be taken forward to a later meeting of the Youth Committee
- 078/19 *Light Pollution from Town and Country Housing Assoc land.* It was **noted** that this is a long outstanding matter to be taken forward by the Housing Committee together with other issues involving Town & Country Housing,
- 080/19 *Defibrillators.* In the Parish there is 1 defibrillator in the red phone kiosk near Kilndown Quarry Centre and 1 on the outside wall at Goudhurst & Kilndown CE Primary School. It was **noted** that there are plans to establish a third one in the centre of Goudhurst. Two former Parish Councillors, Mrs Georgia Read-Cutting and Mrs Susan Newsam are bringing energy and expertise to the Defibrillator projects.
- 081/19 *The red phone kiosk from Yorkshire.* It was noted that it is presently being shot blasted and repainted. The intention is to use it to house a defibrillator in the centre of Goudhurst.
- 082/19 *Tree Survey.* It was noted that this was carried out in February 2019. The comprehensive report from the contractor indicates several trees should be felled or have further investigation/remedial work. Clerk to draw up a plan of action with expected costs.
- 083/19 *Electric Vehicle Charge Points.* Installed and in use at Balcombes Hill in April 2019 (Minute 052/19 refers). **Noted** that the site needs extra signage. Also the lay-by surface to be painted a contrasting colour to the adjacent road surface? Highways Committee to follow up.
- 084/19 *Replacement litter bin in Back Lane.* **Noted** that the Clerk is in touch with a contractor for installation.
- 085/19 *Annual Litter Pick.* **Noted** that this was successfully completed on 23/24 March. However participation was reduced probably due to TWBC indicating that their equipment should not be used on roads with a speed limit over 30 mph. **Noted** also that there are some volunteers that litter pick year round.
- 086/19 *Royal Mail letterboxes.* It was **noted** that the letter box at the junction of Kilndown Road and the A21 London Road has disappeared. The Clerk will check with the Royal Mail to ascertain if it has been withdrawn by them or perhaps stolen.
- 087/19 *Quarry Pond Forestry barrier gate.* Chairman Amenities Committee and the Clerk are obtaining quotes for a replacement since the current one is way beyond repair due to rot.
- 088/19 *Notice Boards Review:*
- The Plain. Refurbished in March 2019.

- Curtisden Green. Considered in need of major refreshment or replacement
  - Kilndown by the Pond. Refurbished in March 2019
  - Kilndown by Kilndown Village Hall. Not Parish Council property
  - Goudhurst Village Green (Top Glebe Field). Youth Committee to consider introducing one.
  - Tourist Information Board at The Plain. Presently situated by Goudhurst Parish Hall.
  - Goudhurst Burial Grounds. New one introduced in 2017.
- 089/19 *Goudhurst in Bloom*. **Noted** that arrangements by Mrs Angela Broom and Mrs Gill Wallis-Hosken are in hand for the 2019 competition. Prize giving is on 29 August at the Star & Eagle.
- 090/19 *Kilndown Fishing Club*. **Noted** that Council has received some membership subscriptions for the 2019/20 season
- 091/19 *Christ Church Kilndown clock*. Council has received a request from a resident in Kilndown for Parish Council support for the refurbishment of the Christ Church Kilndown clock. It was **agreed** that the Clerk will respond asking for further details of funds raised so far and costs.
- 092/19 *Christ Church Kilndown loop*. It was **noted** that Council has received a request from Christ Church PCC for help in raising funds for the installation of a hearing loop at Christ Church. The request was supported by a paper on relevant legislation and quotes from 2 suppliers of such equipment. It was **resolved** to offer a grant of £100.00 under delegated authority. The Clerk advised the Committee that there is conflicting legislation on grant funding to local church buildings. LGA 1894 s8(1)(i) prohibits such financial support but LGA1972, s137(1) or (3) is a different view of the legal position. The Clerk will contact Christ Church PCC to offer this grant.

#### **BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

The newly appointed Chairman of this Committee, Cllr Craig Broom, reminded Members that this Committee has been inactive in recent times. He intends to change that.

- 093/19 It was **resolved** that Council will produce an updated and refreshed Terms of Reference for the Committee and Cllr Broom will liaise with the Clerk to establish a schedule of meetings.
- 094/19 *Broadband*. The Committee will engage with those local contacts and wider agents on Broadband matters. It was **noted** that there is, or soon will be, a voucher scheme (£1,500 to £3,500) established by Kent County Council for private dwellings and businesses to upgrade their present broadband schemes.
- 095/19 *Promoting local retailers*. Some thought is to be given to a promotional leaflet project.

#### **CENTRAL GOUDHURST (TRAFFIC AND PARKING) COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of this newly established Committee (Cllr Antony Harris) briefed Council.

- 096/19 He proposes to hold a Committee meeting within the next month. Initially they will be focussing on 3 points:
- 097/19 A meeting with the Goudhurst Social Club Committee to discuss the hoped for change of Policy that may lead to the partial or full re-opening of the Club's car park;
- 098/19 To ensure that the Planning Application (19/00280) on the Land adjacent to the Old Parsonage includes an element of extra parking in that area;
- 099/19 To explore the possibility of establishing a public car park on the lower part of the Lower Glebe Field. It was **noted** that this proposal may be in conflict with the Goudhurst Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan and that there maybe security issues relating to the Lower Glebe field gates being left unlocked.

#### **HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Highways Committee reported verbally on some current issues but none required any decision from Council.

#### **HOUSING COMMITTEE**

- 100/19 *Town & Country Housing*. It was **resolved** that the Clerk will write to Town & County Housing (T&C) about 3 outstanding matters that have been long outstanding complaints by local residents.

- a. Light spillage from a street lamp on T&C land that is adversely affecting housing outside T&C land;
- b. A significant problem with a bedroom window of local resident (who does not enjoy the best of health) and who awaits repairs promised before Christmas last.
- c. Summerfields, Curtisdan Green. Roof problems in that rain water is penetrating. T&C are aware but are said to be very slow to put repairs in hand.

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Council **noted** the following Decisions from TWBC published in June 2019:

### **101/19 DECISIONS**

- 18/03043 Telecommunications Mast (Vodafone) Jarvis Lane Goudhurst  
Extension of hard surfaced area occupied by phone mast in connection with woodland management at Cherry Gardens Farm  
Refused permission
- 19/00419 Barns at New Finchurst Farm Summerhill Goudhurst  
Minor Material Amendment in relation to 16/07834/FUL – Revised ridge beam location and change in proposed roof (partial) material  
Granted permission
- 19/00666 1 Church Cottages Church Road Kilndown  
Addition of rear dormer window and replacement first floor window  
Granted permission
- 19/00872 Riseden House Riseden Goudhurst  
Proposed two storey rear extension (Roof alterations to approved scheme 18/02382/FUL)  
Granted permission
- 19/01146 Bockingfold Oast Ladham Road Goudhurst  
Erection of a single storey extension, replacement windows to north and south elevations, plus new front and utility room doors  
Granted permission

102/19 **APPLICATIONS** considered by the Parish Council Planning Committee in April 2019 with the representations here approved by Council:

- 19/00980 10 Flimwell Close Flimwell  
Loft conversion with rear dormer extension and 2 front roof lights  
Recommend approval  
Negligible increase in volume, minimal impact on neighbours or AONB.
- 19/01316 2 Brick Kiln Cottages Park Lane Goudhurst  
Erection of a double garage  
Recommend approval  
A modest rural structure which will have minimal impact on the locality or AONB and can not readily be put to alternative uses..
- 19/01335 Stable Cottage Cranbrook Road Goudhurst  
Proposed two storey rear extension. Adjustments to existing fenestration. Proposed entrance porch  
Recommend approval  
At this very well screened (particularly in summer) location this proposal will have minimal impact on the locality or the AONB. Subject to the volume increase complying with policy Goudhurst Parish Council is content that approval is granted.
- 19/00949 Land to the west of Cherry Gardens Jarvis Lane Goudhurst  
Alterations and extension to existing barns to convert into a single dwelling  
Recommend refusal  
Goudhurst Parish Council believes that the correct address for this application should be Wagtail Farm (see previous planning applications on this land).  
There are too many discrepancies in the plans accompanying the application.

There is a Public Right of Way (WC20 poorly maintained by the landowner) not shown on the plans which runs hard up against the large barn which is the subject to conversion. The access routes are incorrect on the plans.

The barn subject to conversion is described as a mid 20 century building but local knowledge is that it is hardly 10 years old.

The buildings originally formed part of the farm land owned by the Grade II listed Cherry Trees. Subsequently, the land on which the buildings stand was then named Wagtail Farm and was, in Goudhurst Parish Council's opinion, never anything more than a small holding not connected to Cherry Gardens Farm.

Goudhurst Parish Council agrees with the 2 points needing clarification as commented on by the Planning Officer.

Planning Officer may consider to referring to planning application 10/02234 et seq for further information.

19/00995

Station Villa Station Road Goudhurst

Demolition of an existing conservatory and replacement with a two storey side extension, single storey rear and side extension

Recommend approval

Subject to the volume increase complying with policy Goudhurst Parish Council (GPC) is content that approval is granted. However, GPC would be concerned if the approval of this application leads to further vehicle movements in and out on the A262 Station Road where the sight lines are not good.

19/01454

20 Lurkins Rise Goudhurst

Two storey side and rear extensions with single storey element

Recommend refusal

Goudhurst Parish Council considers that the proposal spoils the visual harmony and symmetry of the row of semi-detached dwellings along this part of Lurkins Rise. There are perceived issues of the subsequent size, mass and scale. If approved, the only access to the rear garden of the property is through the front door.

103/19

*Planning Enforcement.* The Chairman raised the issue of Planning Enforcement. Recent cases give the impression that the Planning Authority does not always follow up on long unsettled cases with much vigour. 18/00001 is an example. The Chairman intends to take this matter to the TWBC quarterly meeting of Town and Parish Chairmen.

## **GOUDHURST PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

104/19 Following Minute 063/19. The update on the proposed timetable for 2019 is:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| June 2019:       | Issue Consultation Document to respondents for information<br>Health Check on Plan & related documents by IPE<br>Steering & GPC clear updated draft for submission to TWBC |
| July-Aug:        | Submit to TWBC for their 'Regulation 15' 6 week statutory consultation and incorporate any required amendments.  |
| 05 Aug – 27 Sep: | Formal 8 week consultation on Draft Preferred TWBC Local Plan  |
| October:         | TWBC appoint Independent Examiner  |
| November:        | Examination  |
| Dec- Jan 2020:   | Referendum. If passed, Plan made!  |

## **TRAINING**

- 105/19 Cllr Antony Harris attended the Community Lead Housing and Self Build Conference at Dover on 18 June.
- 106/19 Cllrs Chris Ditton, Mrs Jayne Russell, Craig Broom, David Knight and Peter Wood are all enrolled on Dynamic Councillor Courses between now and December 2019.
- 107/19 The Clerk attended an SLCC Regional Conference at Ashford on 26 June 2019.

## POLICY & STAFF COMMITTEE

108/19 *Recruitment of an Assistant Clerk (Clerk designate)* in a part time role. Following Minute 068/19. It was noted that some interviews are scheduled to be held later in June.

## ACCOUNTS

109/19 It was **resolved** unanimously that the following payments be made:

4674	RJ&L Hillier	The Hop Bine rent June 19	£400.00
DD	TWBC	NNDR Public Conveniences June 19	£104.00
4675	AVB Farnfield	Clerk's Pay & expenses May 19	£2,282.03
4676	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerk PAYE & NI May 19	£852.87
4677	Groundscare & General Services	St Mary's maint contract May 19	£1,325.28
4678	Capel Groundcare	Chequer Field etc grounds maint May 19	£1,089.72
4679	John Fermor Landscapes	Christ Church & Quarry Pond maint May	£400.00
4680	Pearsons Landscapes	The Pond & Plain grounds maint May	£111.60
4681	Tenterden Twilight	Premises Cleaning contracts Apr	£645.18
4682	Microshade Business Consult	Citrix Inv 11919	£61.14
4683	Paul & Eileen Landon	G'hurst War Memorial Garden maint	£56.50
4684	Balance Audio Visual	CCTV camera up High St Apr 18	£634.44
4685	Goudhurst Parish Hall	CCTV camera software upgrade	£261.59
4686	Kilndown Village Hall	K'down Annual Parish Meeting	£22.00
4687	Chata Hygiene	Toilet block sanitary service	£19.76
4688	Rialtas Business Solutions	Alpha Accounting software 2019-20	£145.20
4689	PCC Goudhurst	Room hire Hop Pickers Line group	£12.60
4690	GM Monk Ltd	Toilet Block electrics Apr-Jun	£128.71
4691	GM Monk Ltd	Toilet Block electrics testing Jan-Mar	£419.33
4692	NALC	Local Council Review annual subscrip.	£34.00
4693	Southern Electric	Toilet Block energy Feb-May 19	£409.03
4694	HP Inc UK (Reimburse Farnfield)	Printer Cartridges	£144.70
DD	Southern Electric	Chequer Pavilion energy Feb-May	£111.34
DD	Veolia Environmental Services	Burial Grounds bin May 19	£152.35

110/19 *Receipts in May 2019*

Burial Board	£1,160.00
Fishing Club subscriptions	£30.00
NatWest Business Reserve interest	£14.48
CCLA dividend	£13.86

111/19 *Bank reconciliation.* **Resolved** to accept the Clerk's explanation of the reconciliation of accounts to the end of May 2019 and **noted** that Council's cash book balance was:

Nat West Current a/c	£22,723.00
Nat West Business Reserve	£63,608.90
Unity Trust Bank current a/c	£500.00
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	<u>£20,407.74</u>
	£107,239.64

## NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

112/19 08 July 2019. Parish Council Meeting in the Jessel Room, Goudhurst Parish Hall. 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Anthony Farnfield, Clerk

These Minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting of Council