

Goudhurst Parish Council



AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 27 July 2021 at 19.30 in the Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Chris Ditton (Chairman), David Boniface, Alan Foster, Antony Harris, Caroline Richards, Jayne Russell and Mrs. Alison Webster.
Mrs Claire Reed, Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Guy Sutton (holiday) and Phil Kirkby.
2. **Declarations of interest:** None.
3. **Minutes:** It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2021 were an accurate record.
4. **CCTV to cover the Church Wall.** It was **agreed** that quotes should be sought to install a new CCTV camera to cover the church wall at the west end of St Mary's. Footage of any vehicles causing damage, including registration numbers and company details, will be used to bill hauliers for repairs.
5. **Signs for the Village Green.** The committee were shown an image of a wooden sign similar to that proposed for the village Green. It was **agreed** that artwork and costings should be brought to the next meeting for recommendation to Council.
6. **Proposal to reduce or replace with trees the hedge at the west end of the Village Green.** After a lively discussion it was **agreed** that the hedges should be left as they are and not removed nor reduced at this time. The hedge provides users of the Green with privacy and protection from traffic noise. It also provides a natural habitat for wildlife and absorbs pollution from the road. Alternatives discussed included a new sign for the Green and lowering the hedge.
7. **To consider and make a decision on who will be invited to join the Glebe Fields Working Group.** It was agreed that a single representative from each local group that has taken part in the Annual Parish Meeting should be invited. It was further agreed that notices should be placed on the Parish Council, Church and Social Club notice boards, on the Council's social media and in the e-newsletter.
8. **Christmas lights for The Plain.** A quotation has been received from a contractor for lights on the Plain. The lights will be installed in the Horse Chestnut tree and will stay up permanently. The contractor will revisit every two – three years to check the status of

the lights and tree growth. It was **agreed** to recommend to Council the expenditure of £725 for 100m of Christmas lights.

9. **Improvements to the Plain.** It was noted that there are a number of outstanding projects on the Plain namely;

- replacing the Council noticeboard
- what to do with the History board
- repairs to the benches
- a proposal to replace the bench surrounding the horse chestnut tree with a metal bench
- providing tourist information
- a request from some retailers for shops to be signposted from the Plain.

It was **agreed** that any other proposals or ideas should be emailed to the Clerk and that a working group will be set up comprising members of relevant committees to discuss the proposals and actions needed.

10. **Additional waste bins for the Parish.** Following an audit of waste bins by Cllr David Knight, it was agreed that Clerk should contact Street Scene at TWBC to discuss the addition of three more bins at Tattlebury Triangle, Lurkins Rise Play Area and Kilndown Millennium Green – West Road.

11. **Items for information.** It was noted that the goal posts on the Village Green had been removed to allow the goal mouths to be reseeded. The Committee were keen for the posts to be reinstalled, in a new position if needed, so that they can be used over the summer holidays. **Action: Clerk**

12. **Date of the next meeting:** Tuesday 28 September 2021, 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.