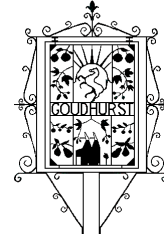


# Goudhurst Parish Council

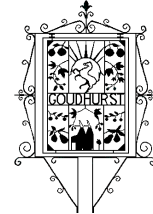


## Youth & Housing Committee 02.05.23

MEETING  
2 May 2023 19:30

PUBLISHED  
26 April 2023

# Goudhurst Parish Council



To: Cllrs Jill Andrew, Craig Broom, Phil Kirkby (Chairman), David Knight, Oliver Tinkler and Mrs Alison Webster. Cllr Antony Harris (ex-officio). Mr Steve Hope (advisor)

I summon you to a Meeting of the Youth & Housing Committee on Tuesday 02 May 2023 at 7.30pm, in Goudhurst Village Hall, where business detailed on this agenda will be discussed.

**Goudhurst Parish Council recognise that there are continuing risks associated with COVID-19 and are supportive of individuals wearing masks in meetings and maintaining a social distance. We will continue to provide hand sanitiser at the entrance to the Village Hall. In order to keep everyone safe, please do not attend a meeting if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 5 days. We will continue to review the risks and will comply with any future controls recommended or mandated by HM Government.**

**Members of the Public and the Press are welcome to attend this meeting.** At the Chairman's discretion, 15 minutes will be set aside for questions from members of the public each one of whom may be invited to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes in total relating to items on the Agenda or about issues of local concern. Thereafter they have the right, and are welcome, to stay and observe the rest of the Meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1.

Please inform the Clerk if you intend to film or record the Meeting.

Claire Reed  
Clerk to Goudhurst Parish Council  
26 April 2023

Parish Council Office - The Hop Bine, Ranters Lane, Goudhurst, TN17 1HN  
01580 212552 | [clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk) | <https://goudhurst-pc.gov.uk> | 07494 117313

A quorum for Youth & Housing Committee is 3 Members.

# Agenda

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Owner</i>
Goudhurst Village Hall	2/05/23	

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of interest

3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of a meeting of the Youth & Housing Committee held on 07 February 2023.

3.1. Members are reminded that only issues relating to material accuracy can be discussed.

4. To receive questions from members of the press and public.

4.1. This is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or raise issues of local interest. Thereafter they are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the Meeting (members of the public are not permitted to speak during the remainder of the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1. Please note, Council cannot lawfully decide on items of business not specified on the published agenda although the Chairman may decide to refer any issues raised for further discussion (LGA 1972 Sch 12 10 (2) (b)).

5. To consider the proposal to erect a shelter on the Village Green and to decide on next steps.

6. To receive a report on the progress of the enhanced maintenance on the Chequer Field and to decide on any action needed.

7. To consider grants available from the FA for pitch improvements on the Chequer Field and to decide on next steps.

8. To receive an update on any housing issues raised by residents.

9. Next Youth & Housing Committee meeting to be confirmed.

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## YOUTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 07 February 2023 at 19.30 in Goudhurst Village Hall

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs Jill Andrew, Craig Broom, Antony Harris, Phil Kirkby (Chairman), David Knight (Vice-Chairman) and Mrs. Alison Webster.

**Officers Present:** Claire Reed, Clerk; Rebecca Barden, Assistant Clerk. Mrs Georgia Read-Cutting.

1. Apologies: There were none.
2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.
3. Minutes: It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 09 August 2022.
4. Questions from the public and press. There were none.
5. **Chequer Field Gate**  
It was **noted** that Goudhurst Primary School had contacted the Clerk regarding the gate in the south west corner of the field. The gate is no longer in situ as it, and the posts, are very badly rotten. The primary school have asked if Council would consider covering half of the costs of a replacement gate. It was proposed that the gate be replaced by a fence. The Clerk was asked to check access requirements with council's hedge cutting contractor. Subject to access requirements, it was agreed to **recommend** to council that 50% of the costs be covered.  
**Action: Clerk.**
6. **Shelter for the Village Green**  
It was **noted** that this project has been considered over many years and a number of consultations have taken place. There is a budget provision of £6000 in the 2023-24 budget for the project. It was **agreed** that committee members will research and forward any design proposals to Cllr Phil Kirkby before the next meeting. It was further agreed to **recommend** to Council that any additional budget underspend from 2022-23 be earmarked for the project.
7. **Support for Youth Organisation in the Parish**  
It was **noted** that £1,000 is budgeted to support Goudhurst Scouts in 2022-23 and that the Group Scout Leader was preparing an application for funds. However, it was noted that all grants will be subject to the new grant awarding process for 2023-24 onwards.
8. **Enhanced Maintenance on the Chequer Field**  
It was **noted** that the enhanced maintenance programme prepared for the council by the Grounds Maintenance Association was 12 months in. It was further **noted** that the council is required to carry out a schedule of enhanced maintenance for at least 2 years before an application for pitch enhancement funding would be considered by the FA. Post meeting note: the contractor has confirmed that the enhanced maintenance is improving the pitch quality.

## 9. Items for Information

9.1 The Coronation Celebration will take place in a large marquee on the Village Green. A decision on the location of the marquee needs to be made.

9.2 The application to KCC for Members Grant Funding to install a pétanque court on the Village Green is progressing. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

9.3 Cllr David Knight briefed members on his recent success in speeding up repairs to a Town & Country property in the Parish. It was noted that some of the housing stock is in poor condition and often residents are not receiving the correct help and support from the housing association. It was **agreed** that anyone with such difficulties should be signposted to the Borough Councillors for support. Cllr Knight agreed to arrange a meeting with Town & Country Housing to discuss housing issues. **Action: Cllr David Knight.**

9.4 It was noted that a housing needs survey is due. **Action: Clerk and Cllr Craig Broom.**

9.5 Next Youth & Housing Committee Meeting on Tuesday 04 April 2023, 7.30 pm in Goudhurst Village Hall.

Meeting Closed at 20.54

## Funding for the Chequer Field – Clerk’s paper to the Youth Committee 02.05.23

### Background

In March 2022, a pitch inspection was carried out on the Chequer Field and a report produced by the Grounds Management Association. The pitch was graded as poor and a number of recommendations were made in the report. Over the past few months, enhanced maintenance as recommended in the report, has been carried out on the field culminating in the application of a new top dressing at the end March 2023. The total cost for these additional works is £10.5k. This enhanced maintenance (minus the top dressing) needs to be carried out for at least two years before an application will be considered by the FA to the Grass Pitch Drainage Fund. It is estimated that the cost for year 2 will be in the region of £3k which is in addition to the £ budgeted for routine maintenance such as grass cutting and line marking.

### Available Funding

#### *Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund*

The FA has recently changed its Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund to accept applications from Parish Councils. The fund is a six-year tapered fund with the grant reducing by a third every two years.

The Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund can be used for the following:

- To employ contractors to carry out pitch improvement works (e.g. slitting, scarification or decompaction)
- Purchasing materials (e.g. seed, fertiliser, or topsoil)
- Purchasing equipment (e.g. soil sampler)

Routine maintenance such as grass cutting and line marking are **not** eligible. This fund must be used in addition to the existing pitch maintenance budget.

As the Chequer pitch has been graded as poor, the council is eligible to apply for this type of funding and would qualify for the full grant of just under £13k.

	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Applicant Contribution</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	£ 3,200.00	£ -	£ 3,200.00	100%
<b>Year 2</b>	£ 3,200.00	£ -	£ 3,200.00	100%
<b>Year 3</b>	£ 2,133.34	£ 1,066.66	£ 3,200.00	67%
<b>Year 4</b>	£ 2,133.34	£ 1,066.66	£ 3,200.00	67%
<b>Year 5</b>	£ 1,066.69	£ 2,133.31	£ 3,200.00	33%
<b>Year 6</b>	£ 1,066.69	£ 2,133.31	£ 3,200.00	33%
<b>Total</b>	£ 12,800.06	£ 6,399.94	£ 19,200.00	67%

If the council is successful in an application for this type of grant it will not be able to apply for the Grass Pitch Drainage Fund for a further two years i.e. a total of three years of enhanced

maintenance will need to be carried out prior to the application. Pitch inspection will need to be carried out twice a year.

### ***Grass Pitch Drainage Fund***

This is a small grant of up to £25,000. The conditions state that the council would need to contribute at least 25% of the total costs towards the project. Kent FA estimate that a drainage project on a 11x11 pitch would cost in the region of £100k so it is likely that the council will need to find £75k for the project.

### **Conclusion**

The council has two options:

1. To apply for a Grass Pitch Maintenance Grant of £12,800.06 over six years. This grant will be used for pitch improvement works which are in addition to the routine maintenance of the field. If successful, the council will not be able to apply for a drainage grant for up to two years however, these additional works may negate the need for drainage works altogether. Council may wish to consider building up ear marked reserves for a drainage project.
2. Continue with the current enhanced maintenance for another 12 months before applying for a Grass Pitch Drainage grant. If choosing this option, council will need to consider how the additional monies required for a drainage project will be raised.



# GRASS PITCH IMPROVEMENT GUIDE





# GRASS PITCH REVOLUTION



Data from the grassroots football survey shows that the number one issue impacting the game according to players is the below standard quality of pitches. Currently 2 in 3 pitches nationwide are rated as 'poor'. This poor quality of pitch not only leads to a poor quality playing experience, but also forces 150,000 postponements each season.

The FA, the Football Foundation and the Grounds Management Association (GMA) are working together to revolutionise the state of pitches across England, ensuring that by 2030, grassroots football has 20,000 'good' quality pitches to enjoy. The Football Foundation's revolutionary web-app PitchPower will be the driving force behind the pitch improvement programme. By partnering with the GMA, clubs and organisations will now be able to access both detailed guidance along with Football Foundation funding to improve the nation's grassroots pitches.

# PITCHPOWER

PitchPower is the Football Foundation's free revolutionary web app for inspecting and improving grass pitches. Using your mobile phone or tablet, you can complete a pitch inspection at the touch of a button.

After undertaking an inspection, the GMA will send you back a report detailing what you need to do to improve the pitch. This report also unlocks the Football Foundation's grass pitch improvement funding.

# FUNDING

After receiving your PitchPower report, you can apply for financial support to help you carry out the works suggested by the GMA in the report.

The Football Foundation have three funds to apply for to help you with the cost of improving your pitches.

- Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
- Grass Pitch Machinery & Equipment Fund
- Grass Pitch Drainage Fund

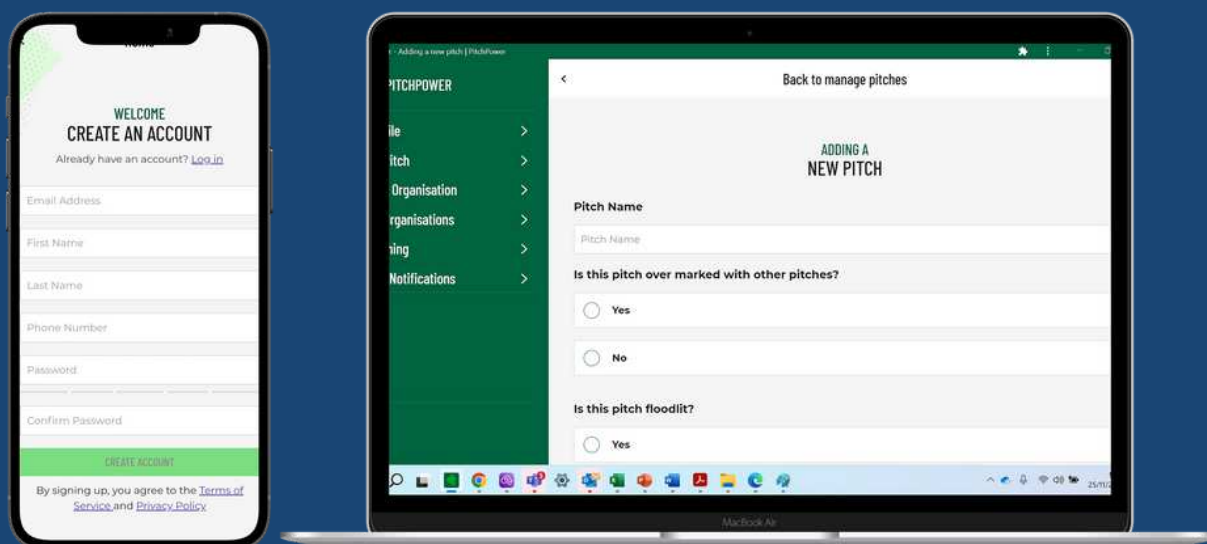


# PITCHPOWER

You'll need to begin PitchPower with the following pre assessment ABCDEF actions before you head out to undertake the inspection.

- A Account** – Create an account to log in to [www.PitchPower.org.uk](http://www.PitchPower.org.uk). Add yourself to your organisation (e.g. club or league etc). Add your grounds to your organisation. Add your pitches to your grounds. You may find it easier to add your pitches on a computer rather than phone.
- B Budget** – Collate details of the annual budget for both pitch maintenance and renovations for the site.
- C Cancellations** – Note details of how frequently you have to cancel games due to pitch issues and how many times this is due to waterlogging.
- D Drainage** – Note details of existing drainage at the site. If you have drainage, note what type it is and what year it was installed.
- E Equipment** – Note details of maintenance equipment used on the site, including the make and model plus the year of purchase and condition.
- F Fixtures** - Note down how many hours on average each pitch has match play on it per week, along with training hours and whether it has any recreational use

It is worth trying to collate the above information several days before you intend to carry out the inspection as you may need to consult the pitch owner, contractor, fixture secretary or treasurer for some of this information



GET 15% OFF A SOIL SAMPLER & MALLET  
WITH CODE 'FF2021' AT [BMSPRODUCTS.COM](https://BMSPRODUCTS.COM)

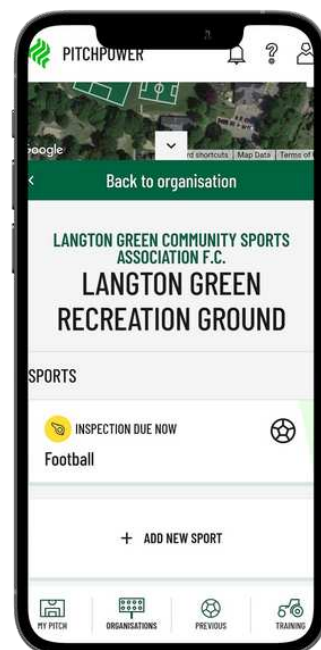


On the day of the inspection, you'll need the following:

- A soil sampler and mallet (a spade is fine as an alternative)
- A measuring tape
- A smart phone to access the PitchPower web app and take photos.

The app will ask you for the information you prepared beforehand related to budget, cancellations, drainage, equipment and fixtures. It will also require you to take some measurements and photos of the pitch both above and below the surface.

The app has hints and tips listed next to each item to guide you if you're not sure how to measure or take a photo of a particular part of the pitch. For parts such as the soil sample, this includes a YouTube video which shows you exactly how to take the soil sample out of the ground and how to measure each part.

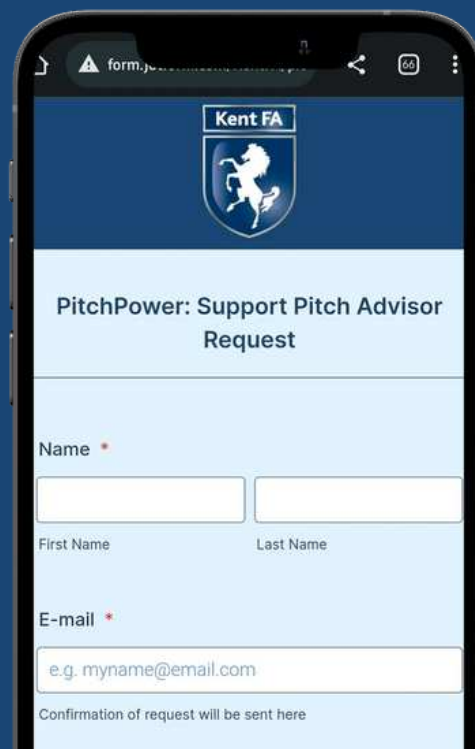


# SUPPORT PITCH ADVISOR

Kent FA can provide a Support Pitch Advisor (SPA) for your very first PitchPower assessment if you need it who can walk you through the process. To request an appointment with an SPA, please visit

[form.jotform.com/KentFA/pitchpower-support-pitch-advisor](https://form.jotform.com/KentFA/pitchpower-support-pitch-advisor)

Please note you will still need to do the pre assessment actions 'ABCDE and F' in advance of an SPA visiting.



Kent FA

PitchPower: Support Pitch Advisor Request

Name \*

First Name Last Name

E-mail \*

e.g. myname@email.com

Confirmation of request will be sent here



# PITCHPOWER REPORT

After submitting your assessment, the GMA will within a few weeks build a detailed report which will include, a programme of maintenance activity you should undertake in order to improve the standard of each pitch. You will also have a Pitch Quality Standard (PQS) for each pitch which will be either Poor, Basic, Good or Advanced.

Your report may suggest the purchase of maintenance equipment, or training courses. It will also tell you when your next PitchPower assessment needs to take place.

# FUNDING



Now that you have completed the PitchPower process and received your report, you can apply for the Football Foundation's grass pitch improvement funds on the application portal [apply.footballfoundation.org.uk](https://apply.footballfoundation.org.uk).

## Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund

This is a six year tapered fund with the grant reducing by a third every two years. The amount applicants are eligible for depends on their pitch composition and whether their Pitch Quality Standard identified for each pitch in the PitchPower report is 'poor', 'basic', 'good' or 'advanced'.

## Grass Pitch Machinery & Equipment Fund

This is a small grant of up to £25,000, though you would need to contribute at least 25% of the total costs towards the project. To be successful for this it is essential that a PitchPower assessment has been completed on all the pitches on the site, and it is likely to require a recommendation in the PitchPower report that machinery is purchased.

## Grass Pitch Drainage Fund

This is again another small grant of up to £25,000 though the total cost could be quite significantly higher than this. Installing drainage is considered a last resort and the Football Foundation would prefer to see at least two years of Grass Pitch Maintenance Funding going into the site first before drainage installation is considered.

A green tractor with a red mower attachment is shown on a grassy field. The tractor is facing right, and the mower is attached to the front. The background shows a line of trees under a cloudy sky. A yellow banner with white text is overlaid on the top left of the image.

# GRASS PITCH MAINTENANCE FUND

A PitchPower assessment **must** have taken place first as the PitchPower report has a four digit ID code which will be required during the application process.

Eligible lead applicants are

- Grassroots clubs & leagues (up to and including Step 7)
- Charities
- Educational sites that have affiliated community football that takes place
- Step 1-6 clubs only for pitches that are used for community football and not stadium pitches

You will need security of tenure in the form of

- Ownership of the freehold or;
- A lease or licence which has more than 12 months left to run and permission from the landlord to undertake improvement works

Grass Pitch Maintenance Funding can only be used for the following

- To employ contractors to carry out pitch improvement works (e.g. slitting, scarification or decompaction)
- Purchasing materials (e.g. seed, fertiliser, or topsoil)
- Purchasing equipment (e.g. soil sampler)

Routine maintenance such as grass cutting and line marking are **not** eligible. This fund must be used in addition to existing pitch maintenance budget.

The PitchPower report will suggest a PQS for each pitch. Pitches that come back with a PQS of 'poor' or 'basic' will be entitled to an enhance grant to improve the quality of the pitches. Any pitches that come back with a PQS of 'good' or 'advanced' will be entitled to a sustain grant to keep the pitches at that level.

Pitch Size	Enhance Grant PQS Poor / Basic	Sustain Grant PQS Good / Advanced
11v11	£3,200	£960
9v9	£2,560	£640
Mini Soccer 7v7 or 5v5	£1,920	£384

Both types of grant are tapered across 6 years. The enhance grant has an applicant contribution expectation of 33% to the total project cost. Not investing this does not preclude you from the grant, however you should plan towards this investment to ensure your pitch standard gets to a 'good' level and stays there. The sustain grant carries no expectation of applicant contribution. For both grants, you will need to evidence that you have spent the previous year's grant correctly though from year 2 onwards.



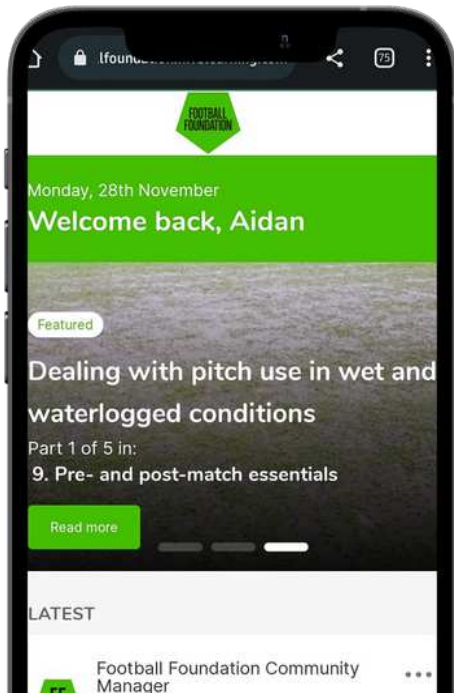




Here is an example of how the grant tapers over the six year period for one 11v11 pitch that was initially rated as 'basic' after it's initial PitchPower assessment.

Year	Football Foundation Grant	Applicant Contribution	Total Project Cost
1	£3,200	£0	£3,200
2	£3,200	£0	£3,200
3	£2,133	£1,067	£3,200
4	£2,133	£1,067	£3,200
5	£1,067	£2,133	£3,200
6	£1,067	£2,133	£3,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>£12,800</b>	<b>£6,400</b>	<b>£19,200</b>

# HIVE GROUNDSKEEPERS COMMUNITY



Sign up to the Football Foundation's Hive Groundkeepers Community. It's free to use and connects you to others involved in maintaining grassroots football pitches.

There are lots of helpful tips from both other users and staff at the Football Foundation and the GMA. Join using the link below and search 'Kent FA Grass Pitch Improvement Hub' to find the Kent community.

[footballfoundation.hivelearning.com](https://footballfoundation.hivelearning.com)

## GET IN TOUCH

Contact us today for support with improving your grass pitches.

Aidan Ainsley  
Facility & Investment Lead  
Kent FA

[Aidan.Ainsley@KentFA.com](mailto:Aidan.Ainsley@KentFA.com)

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@KentCFA



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