

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