

Goudhurst Parish Council



YOUTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 02 May 2023 at 19.30 in Goudhurst Village Hall

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

Officers Present: Rebecca Barden, Assistant Clerk.

1. Apologies: Cllr Alison Webster (working)
2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.
3. Minutes: It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 07 February 2023.
4. Questions from the public and press. There were none.

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

The Chairman informed the meeting that he was currently awaiting a quote for a standard, circular shelter similar to one at Horsmonden. Until this quote has been received no further action can be taken.

Action: Cllr Kirkby

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

The Chairman gave a brief history regarding the Chequer Field; it's purchase, the failings of the surface, the maintenance that has been undertaken and potential future work required. The Chairman highlighted the report that had been prepared by the Clerk regarding current and future funding options for further work to improve drainage and therefore the playability of the pitch. Cllr Knight asked whether the pitch could be used at the moment and the Chairman informed him that this was not possible until the beginning of the football season due to recent treatments. Cllr Harris asked about the issue regarding line marking and the Chairman updated him regarding this and stated that the football club were looking at purchasing their own line marker.

Action: See below.

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

The Chairman outlined the issues relating to drainage on the Chequer Field and stressed that there must be a solution to allow the pitch to be playable. There was a discussion about the options available to the Council and the costs involved. Councillors were unsure whether the grant(s) available from the FA could be applied for at the same time as the current advanced maintenance was being undertaken.

Action: Clerk to clarify.

8. To receive an update on housing issues.

Cllr Knight informed the meeting that he was not aware of any outstanding housing issues. The Chairman asked whether there would be a way to improve communication with Town & Country (Peabody Trust). Cllr Knight said that staff were continually changing but he communicates with the Chief Exec. Cllr Andrew stated that the Head of Goudhurst and Kilndown Primary School was very grateful for the help offered by the Councillors. The Chairman asked whether the housing association could be contacted and asked how many social housing units there were in the parish. It was suggested that Cllr Knight should ask the Chief Exec for these figures and contact details for a reliable Officer to contact regarding housing issues in the parish.

Action: Clerk to look into the Housing Association's complaints procedure and Cllr Knight to identify the number of social housing units in the parish and obtain the contact number for housing issues.

9. Items for Information

9.1 Next Youth & Housing Committee Meeting to be confirmed.

Meeting Closed at 20.12