

Council Meeting 12.12.23

MEETING
12 December 2023 19:00 GMT

PUBLISHED
6 December 2023



To: Members of Goudhurst Parish Council

I summon you to a Meeting of Goudhurst Parish Council on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7.00pm in The Church Rooms, Back Lane, where business detailed on this agenda will be discussed.

Goudhurst Parish Council recognises that there are continuing risks associated with COVID-19 and is supportive of individuals wearing masks in meetings and maintaining a social distance. 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 and to ask questions or raise issues of local interest prior to the start of the meeting. 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)).

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

Claire Reed

Clerk to Goudhurst Parish Council

28 November 2023

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

Quorum for Council: 4 Members

Agenda

	Location Date The Church Rooms, Back Lane 12 Dec 2023		Time 19:00	
	Item		Time	Page
	7pm - prior to the start of the meeting. Questions and con of the press and public.	nments from members	19:00	-
	This is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or rais. Thereafter they are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the Meeting not permitted to speak during the remainder of the meeting except by sp. Chairman) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1. Please redecide on items of business not specified on the published agenda althout o refer any issues raised for further discussion (LGA 1972 Sch 12 10 (2))	(members of the public are pecial invitation of the note, Council cannot lawfully ugh the Chairman may decide		-
1	To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reaso	ns given.	19:30	-
2	Declarations of Interest		19:31	-
3	To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14 November 2023, and availabe the meeting via Board Intelligence.		19:32	5
	Members are reminded that only issues relating to material accuracy car	n be discussed.		-
4	To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors in total).	(limited to 10 minutes	19:33	-
5	Council to resolve to close the meeting to members of the	public and press		-
	In accordance with Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s2 press will be excluded for consideration of item 13 owing to the commer to be transacted.			-
5.1	To resolve to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Co Government to apply for a Public Works Loan Board loan of £100,000, years, for the purpose of purchasing a council office.			-
5.2	Accounts		19:43	-
5.2.1	Council to resolve to approve the budget and precept for 2024-25 as rec Committee	ommended by the Finance		-
5.2.2	To approve payments for December 2023.			16
6	Chairman's Report		19:48	-
7	Clerk's Report		19:53	19
8	Resolutions			-
8.1	Council to resolve to adopt the new Memorial Management Policy as red Authority.	commended by the Burial		20
8.2	Council to consider and make a decision on grant applications received.			23
8.3	Council to consider quotations and resolve to sign a new telephone and the $\operatorname{Hop}\nolimits$ Bine.	fibre broadband contract for		38
8.4	Council to receive an update on the proposal to establish a village events any action needed.	s calendar and to decide on		-

8.5		Item To receive an update on plans for the D-Day 80 Celebrations and to decide on any action needed.	Time	Page
8.6		Committee Reports		-
8.6.1	1	Council to adopt the minutes of the Burial Authority meetings held on 21 November 2023 and 28 November 2023 and to note decisions made.		39
		Clerk to draft an action plan for Memorial Safety Testing.		-
		The adoption of the new Grass Management Plan for a trail period of 12 months beginning in March 2024.		-
		To trial no glysophate Roundup in the cemeteries for a period of 12 months to be reviewed in December 2024.		-
		To hold all future Burial Authority meetings in the council's offices, starting at 1pm.		-
8.6.2	2	Council to adopt the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 21 November 2023 and to note decisions made.		46
		Grants were approved for the Millenium Green.		-
		To award three-year contracts, payable by standing order, to all the existing maintenance contractors with the exception of the St. Mary's contract which should remain as a one-year contract payable against invoice.		-
8.6.3	3	Council to adopt the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 28 November 2023 and to note decisions made.		47
		To purchase a new PROW map for Balcombes Hill		-
		To launch Goudhurst Parish In Bloom 2024		-
		To purchase 50 hedgehog highways for distribution to residents		-
		To add the petanque pitch to the residents' survey		-
		To replace the 'Do not feed the ducks' signs on The Plain.		-
		To repaint the red phone kiosk on The Plain		-
		Replace the dead trees on the Village Green		-
		Renew the Legionella Control contract		-
		To switch the street light on The Plain back on		-
		Editied schedules of works for the maintenance contracts were approved		-
9		Planning Committee		-
9.1		Members to note Committee recommendations and TWBC decisions in November 2023	19:58	49
10		Correspondance		-
10.1		Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2024-2034 Consultation		-
10.2		Community Transport Grant Scheme (KCC)		-
11		Items for information	20:00	-
11.1		Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 09 January 2023 at 7.00pm, Church Rooms.		-



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 7.00pm in the Church Rooms

Before the meeting was convened, there was public participation but no requests to speak had been received.

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors present: Cllrs Craig Broom, Antony Harris (Chairman), Edward Hodgskin, Suzie Kember, Phil Kirkby, Julia Kiggell, David Knight, Geoff Mason, Paul Wareham and Alison Webster (arrives at 8.15.)

Officers present: Claire Reed, Clerk and Panetta Horn, RFO.

Others present: None.

APOLOGIES

431/23 Apologies were received from Cllrs Ed Read-Cutting (working) and Caroline Richards (family commitment).

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

432/23 Cllr Antony Harris declared an interest in the item relating to Board Intelligence.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

433/23 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 October 2023, copies of which had been previously distributed to Members via Board Intelligence, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

434/23 There were no reports.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 435/23 The Chairman briefed council, the report can be found at Appendix 1.
- 436/23 Following the dismissal of the appeal against refusal of planning permission at Crowbourne Orchard, it was **agreed** that the Clerk should write to Mr Guy McNaughton to thank him for organising residents. **Action: Clerk**
- 437/23 It was **agreed** that Council should consider its capacity to support issues outside of its control that impact on Parish residents. It was **agreed** to add this to the agenda for consideration at the December meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

- 438/23 The Clerk updated council on current projects. The report can be found at Appendix 2.
- 439/23 Members were reminded to send details of any fly tipping 'hotspots' to the Clerk so they can be passed onto the local policing team. **Action: All**
- 440/23 It was **noted** that Council's current registrar for the Goudhurst-pc.gov.uk domain has given Council notice to move to a different registrar by 30 November 2023. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should implement the move as soon as possible. **Action: Clerk**

- 441/23 It was **noted** that Council's website needs to be updated to ensure continuing compliance with regulation WCAG 2.1 Level AA. **Action: Clerk to investigate options and report back to Council.**
- 442/23 The Council hosted an ICCM Memorial Management course on 10 November attended by the Clerk and Chair of the Burial Authority. The Clerk is now preparing a Memorial Management policy for consideration by the Burial Authority.
- 443/23 Kent County Council will be hosting parish seminars again on 22 and 29 November and 1 December the Clerk is awaiting details on how to join and will pass these on the members when received.
- 444/23 A meeting to discuss the Parish Highways Improvement Plan with KCC Highways has been arranged for 21 November. The Clerk and Chair of Highways will attend.
- 445/23 The Clerk was thanked for the arrangements made for Remembrance Sunday.

ACCOUNTS

446/23 Council **noted** the summary of receipts and payments in October 2023:

Receipts UTB in October 2023

CCLA at 30th September 2023

Total

Amenities Burial Authority Rental – Mary Days garages	0 £1,440.00 £177.00
Receipts CCLA in September 2023	
	£423.00
Total Receipts	£2,040.00
Payments in October 2023	
UTB	£19,026.00
CCLA	£0.00
Total	£19,026.00
Cash Balances at Bank	
UTB at 26 th October 2023	£145,070.00

£98,047.00

£243,117.00

- 447/23 Council **resolved** to approve the payments for November 2023 as presented at the meeting and detailed in Appendix 3.
- 448/23 It was **resolved** that Cllrs Geoff Mason and Suzie Kember would approve the electronic payments on UTB.

RESOLUTIONS

- 449/23 It was **resolved** to obtain a further quote for a new telephone and fibre broadband contract for the office. It was further **agreed** to request details from Flotek of customers who would be willing to give a testimonial on services. **Action: Clerk**
- 450/23 It was **resolved** to appoint Microshade VSM as Council's provider of Microsoft 365 and IT support. **Action: Clerk**

- 451/23 It was resolved to sign a new 3-year contract with Board Intelligence. Action: Clerk
- 452/23 It was **resolved** to appoint the Living Forest to carry out hedge works in the Burial Ground at a cost of £5,405.00. It was noted that works needed to be completed before the nesting season. **Action: Clerk**
- 453/23 It was **resolved** to obtain a further quote for works to remove ivy from the stone walls and mortuary in the Victorian Cemetery. **Action: Clerk**
- 454/23 It was **resolved** to apply to the Land Registry to register the Tattlebury Triangle providing the costs do not exceed £500. Any expenditure over £500 will need the approval of council. **Action: Clerk**
- 455/23 It was **resolved** to support the establishment of a village events calendar. Cllr Edward Hodgskin agreed to arrange a meeting of group representatives in January to discuss what is needed. **Action: Cllr Edward Hodgskin**
- 456/23 It was **resolved** to defer the publishing of the residents' survey pending the completion of further due diligence. **Action: Clerk to agenda for January**
- 457/23 Cllr Edward Hodgskin agreed to liaise with the Royal British Legion (Goudhurst Branch) and brief council on plans at the December meeting. **Action: Cllr Edward Hodgskin**
- 458/23 It was **resolved** to adopt the KALC Community Awards Scheme 2024.
- 459/23 It was **resolved** to appoint Cllr Julia Kiggell as Council's representative to the Cranbrook Schools Review Project

YOUTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

- 460/23 It was **resolved** to adopt the minutes of the Youth & Housing Committee meeting held on 24 October 2023. The following decision were noted:
 - To obtain a further quote for a MVHR system for the Chequer Field.
 - To defer a decision on the design of a Youth shelter pending the outcome of the public consultation.
 - To apply for match funding for a new AED for the Village Green/ Church Rooms.

It was resolved to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to 21.45

PLANNING COMMITTEE

461/23 **Recent planning Applications**; Please see Appendix 4.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 462/23 Response from Carlos Hone regarding planning permission at 15 Lurkins Rise. It was agreed to write back to Mr Hone concerning material planning considerations which were ignored (overshadowing/ loss of light). Action: Cllrs Craig Broom and David Knight
- 463/23 Email regarding the West Kent Rural Grant Scheme. No decision.
- 464/23 **Correspondence from a resident.** It was **noted** that Cllr Antony Harris had acknowledged the latest letter and suggested a meeting which had been turned down.
- 465/23 A letter has been received from South East water regarding *maintenance works at Bewl Water* which has been forwarded to members.
- 466/23 Membership invitation from the *Rural Services Network, Market Town Group.* It was agreed not to join the group.
- 467/23 Letter from KCC regarding 16 days action against domestic abuse.
- 468/23 Information regarding *Community Transport Grants* available. Information passed to the Highways Committee for consideration.
- 469/23 It was noted that the Chief Executive of *KALC* has written regarding rejection of the motions submitted by Council for the forthcoming AGM.

- 470/23 **Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund.** Information was received 24 hours before the deadline so no action was taken.
- 471/23 The Clerk has received information regarding the *Bedgebury Master Plan* which has been shared with members.
- 472/23 It was **noted** that the working group were still awaiting the outcome due diligence around the potential purchase of a community asset.
- 473/23 The RFO briefed members on potential funding available through the Community Ownership Fund.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

474/23 Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 12 December 2023 at 7.00pm in the Church Rooms.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Claire Reed, Clerk

Appendix 1 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 14 November 2023

Chairman's Report – November 23

Matter arising October report (NDP timetable, Glebe mowing etc, wasps at Bus Stop).

KALC

Next TW Area Committee Thursday Nov 23rd at The Club Goudhurst.

GPC councillors welcome to help meet and greet.

Parts of agenda may be of interest incl. KALC Planning/NDP Expert, (will circulate when received).

The **KALC AGM** Sat 18 Nov at Ditton, agenda expected shortly, can be interesting.

Traveller site.

Clerk has written to TWBC for confirmation of enforcement timetable.

Parish Council – Scope of interest.

See Chairman's piece November e-News.

"Do we stick just to our limited brief or also try to voice and represent the opinion of the community where we can".

Feedback and cooperation with local Parishes.

Cranbrook High Weald Closure and local educational options.

Request GPC support local area working group.

Letter received from resident (and response)

Planning and the TW Agreement.

with some new Chairman settling in, KALC group reforming to agree priorities.

Appendix 2 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 14 November 2023

Clerks Report to Council 14 November 2023

Project Updates

Renovations to the public toilets following December's arson attack are now complete and the toilets have reopened. There are still a few items to be rectified and these are in progress. Due to the builders' delay, we have missed the inspection date for this year's Loo of the Year. The application fee has been rolled forward to next year.

The new cycle stands have been installed in Balcombes Hill carpark and at Goudhurst Club.

We are still awaiting a quote for the combination of all CCTV systems with remote access. Clerk has chased. We continue to have requests for footage, the Clerk will add a note to the website detailing on what grounds footage can be released i.e. to the police and, if deemed appropriate, insurance companies.

The issue of the cess pit on the Lower Glebe field has been raised with the current land agents who have passed it to the Diocese. Rev Rachel has also contacted the Diocese to ask for reassurance that the cess pit is functioning properly, we await a response.

The new defibrillator and cabinet for Goudhurst has been delivered and is awaiting installation – Mrs Read-Cutting is kindly managing this on behalf of the council. Power will be redirected to the red phone box so that the heated cabinet can be installed. Discussions continue regarding the use of the adjacent modern phone box.

The council has secured match funding from the government for an additional AED for the Village Green which will be affixed to the Church Rooms, this was at the request of the Goudhurst Dynamos.

Council has also secured an FA grant for the grass pitch at the Chequer Field, this will allow council to spend £19k on pitch improvements over the next 6 years.

A new memorial bench has been installed in the the south west corner of the Burial Ground and a further bench will be installed in the Play Area on Back Lane. Families will be able to purchase plaques (via the Burial Authority) to be installed on the benches. This will be a more cost-effective way for families to remember their loved ones and will limit the number of new benches.

A revised scheme of works for maintenance of hedges in the Burial Ground has been sent to contractors and the quotations received are to be considered by Council this evening. The hedges need a heavy cutback as some graves are disappearing under them. There is also a need to clear the area at the bottom of the burial ground as the PROW to the bottom of the Lower Glebe field is almost impassable owing to overgrowth and a build-up of detritus. Once cleared, more signage will be needed to advises visitors not to dispose of items in this area.

Following the dismissal of the Planning Appeal for application 22/01066, The Mobile Home at Crowbourne Orchard Smiths Lane (and associated enforcement notice), Clerk has written to Planning Enforcement to request information regarding the timetable for enforcement to ensure the site is returned to green belt by the March 2024 deadline.

A further quotation for a new ventilation system at the Chequer Pavilion has been requested by the Youth & Housing Committee before a decision on the way forward can be made and a contractor appointed.

Appendix 2 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 14 November 2023

The Christmas Shopping event will take place on 02 December between 12 (Church from 3) and 8pm. A meeting to decide on action needed took place in October with all parties attending. GPC is the overarching organisers and will provide insurance, Risk Assessments, medical cover, organise the restriction of parking on the south side of the High Street and has organised the road closure for the top of Balcombes Hill. GPC will also pay for advertising banners, provide electricity and Christmas lighting and organise marshals for the road closure/ pedestrian safety.

The policy update timetable is slightly behind schedule but it is anticipated that this will be caught up by the new year.

The new Assistant Clerk will start with council on 20 November. She will be working 20 hours a week.

Claire Reed Clerk

Appendix 3 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 14 November 2023

Accounts Payable November 2023

Payment Ref	Invoice Number	Supplier	Description	Gross	Net	VAT Code	Authorisation Ref
23209		Kent County Playing Fields	Annual Subscription	20.00	20.00	z	Clerk
23210	246167	SLCC	Annual Membership adjustment for Clerk	41.25	41.25	Z	Clerk
23210	2255016	Mazars	External Audit Fees	756.00	630.00	S	Contract
23211	8071543439	KALC	Training Course -Making the Planning system Work	39.22	32.68	S	Clerk
23213	0071313133	RBL	Remembrance Day Wreaths	50.00	50.00	z	Clerk
23214	40705	Envirocure	L8 Testing Chq Field and Balcombes Toilets	61.50	51.25	S	Contract
23215	10092	Cool Plumbings	Fixing Urinal Sensor	80.00	80.00	Z	Clerk
23216		Pearson's	50% cost for clearance of Tattlebury Triangle	180.00	150.00	S	Contract
23217	139596	Pear Technology	Footpath mapping update	57.00	47.50	S	Clerk
23218		Claire Read	Minor Expenses - Mileage	39.39	39.39	Z	Contract
23219	1827	Fernshire tree service	Lights on chestnut tree by Pond	930.00	775.00	S	Council
23220	8223899499	KALC	Dynamic Councillor Course - JK	60.00	50.00	S	Clerk

Appendix 3 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 14 November 2023

Accounts Payable November 2023

23221	35239	Iden Signs	Christmas Fair Banners	270.00	225.00	S	Clerk
23222	6183	Groundscare	Additional Cut (Monthly invoice of £1600.32 paid by standing order)	267.36	222.80	S	Contract
23223		Fermor	Repairs/Painting of Tree seat on Plain (£425) and Repairs to KD Bus shelter roof (£110)	535.00	535.00	Z	Amenities
23224	2246	F&C	Toilet Cleaning to 8/10	1,052.40	877.00	S	Contract
23225	227	GVH	Hop pickers meeting 24/10	15.00	15.00	Z	Amenities
23226	232	GVH	Meetings 19 & 26/9	108.00	108.00	Z	Council
23227	252	GVH	Hop pickers meeting 19/12	15.00	15.00	Z	Amenities
23228	1GP23	RMR	Event Medical Care for Christmas Fair	286.00	286.00	S	Clerk
23229	107466	Living Forest	Work on Oak Tree at Chequers Field	456.00	380.00	S	Amenities
23230	6855413929	KALC	Finance for Councillors Course	48.00	40.00	S	Clerk
23231	6985102169	KALC	Finance for Councillors Course	48.00	40.00	S	Clerk
23232	7175175639	KALC	Dynamic Councillor Course	60.00	50.00	S	Clerk

Appendix 4 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 14 November 2023

Recommendations and Decisions October 2023

Application	Address	Proposal	GPC	TWBC
22/02835	Triggs Oast, Cranbrook Road	Proposed removal of the existing tennis court and the erection of a new detached house and detached garage, with associated works and landscape enhancements.	Refuse, the application fails to meet key policies in Goudhurst NDP and Borough plans and, in terms of section 80, does not appear to meet the criteria for exceptional quality of design.	Withdrawn
23/02520	The Firs, Chicks Lane, Kilndown	Proposed two storey and part single storey rear extension	Approve	
23/02210	Smugley Farm - amended plans	Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission 21/04235/FULL (Erection of two replacement dwellings with associated landscaping (amendments to planning permission 18/03451/FULL)) - replacement of detached car barn with family room and inclusion of swimming pool on Plot 2	Approve	
23/02637	Knights Hole, Jarvis Lane	Demolition of existing stables and erection of self-contained annexe (Retrospective)	The Council deprecates the use of retrospective planning applications. Our view is that the size and scale are in keeping with the original building and the materials are similar. We accept that it is not visible from surrounding properties of footpaths.	
23/02684	4 Priors Heath	Single storey infill of enclosed courtyard and changes to fenestration on east elevation	Approve	

Appendix 4 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 14 November 2023

Recommendations and Decisions October 2023

23/02690 & 23/02691/LBC	Old Peacock Cottage, Cranbrook Road	Erection of oak framed garden room to the side following removal of existing extension	Refuse in its current form - the proposed extension does not conserve what is an important building. GPC will support the decision of the conservation architect.	
23/02753	Beech House, North Road	Demolition of existing lean to and conservatory, internal alterations, new dormer to existing roof and the construction of a two-storey side extension with 2 No. dormers	Approve	

RFO report to Council

Accounts.to (30/11/23)
These figures will be presented to Council at the December 2023
Council meeting.

Recei	nts IIT	R in No	vember	2023
recei	ווט כוע	טעו ווו כ	veilibei	2023

Amenities Income	0
Burial Authority	3,975
Mary Day Garage Rents	

Receipts	CCLA	in S	September	2023
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401

Total Receipts	£4,376
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Payments November 2023

UTB	11,792
CCLA	0
Total Payments	£11,792

Cash Balances at Bank

Current Balances	232,404
CCLA at 31st October 2023	98,448
UTB at 30 th November 2023	133,956

Accounts Payable to 05.12.2023 for authorisation

Payment	Invoice	C I'	D tut.		N I.	VAT
Ref	Number	Supplier	Description Domain renewal for goudhurst-	Gross	Net	Code
			pc.gov.uk domain name for 2 years			
23254		Parish Council Websites	from 19/11/23	105.60	88.00	Z
			October and November Burial			
23255		Ann Millward	Digitisation	390.00	390.00	Z
			October Cleaning of Toilets £674 and			
23257		F&C	Pavilion £190	1,036.80	864.00	S
				,		
23258		Surrey Hills	Legal Fees relating to FOI	1,500.00	1,250.00	S
		,	Grant for playground Inspections £550	,	•	
23259		Millennium Green	and Grant for mowing £2500	3,050.00	3,050.00	Z
			L8 Testing Chq Field and Balcombe	,		
23260		Envirocure	Toilets	61.50	51.25	S
23261		Millennium Hall	Grant for film club	550.00	550.00	Z
			Reimbursement for Fire extinguisher			
23262		Georgina	hire for Coronation service	48.00	40.00	S
		- Coorguia		10.00		
23263		Envirocure	Annual Maintenance	119.10	99.25	S
23264		Richard Greenaway	Maintenance at Toilets	110.00	110.00	S
23265		Jackie Clark	Supper for 25 for KALC meeting	275.00	275.00	Z
			Lunch for 10 for Memorial Testing			
			Course. Fee to be reimbursed by			
23266		Jackie Clark	Course Organiser	160.00	160.00	Z
.						
23267		Pinders	Buildings survey	1,500.00	1,250.00	S
		_	Reimbursement of Christmas fair			
23268		Pam Bonniface	advertising	42.78	42.78	Z
23269		Community heartbeat	Battery for Goudhurst Defib	267.00	222.50	S
23270		Viking	Office stationery supplies	370.62	304.90	S

The Council needs to appoint two Councillors to authorise the November Payments on Unity.

RFO 's Report December 2023

The Bank Reconciliations are required to be signed by a Councillor who is not the Chairman. The reconciliation reports and Bank statements will be brought to the meeting and a volunteer will be asked to sign them off at the end of the meeting.

2024-2025 Budget

The draft budget will be presented to Council at the December meeting for approval. This draft was agreed at the Finance Committee with a percentage increase of 4.5% The tax base has reduced however and so this will actually be a 4.9% increase on the tax bills.

Panetta Horn RFO 5 December 2023

Appendix 2 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 12 December 2023

Clerks Report to Council 12 December 2023

Project Updates

We are still awaiting a quote for the combination of all CCTV systems with remote access. Clerk has chased. We continue to have requests for footage, the Clerk will add a note to the website detailing on what grounds footage can be released i.e. to the police and, if deemed appropriate, insurance companies.

The new defibrillator and cabinet for Goudhurst has been delivered and is awaiting installation – Mrs Read-Cutting is kindly managing this on behalf of the council. A decision was made by the Amenities Committee to redirected power supply to the red phone box so that the heated cabinet can be installed and to remove the modern box. However, BT have confirmed that the modern box would need to remain if the council wish to spur the supply. The Amenities Committee will discuss this further at their next meeting.

Following an alert that the charity managing the government match funding for AEDs may be subject to fraud proceeding, Clerks are seeking to source alternative funding.

Council has received the first instalment of the FA grant for the grass pitch at the Chequer Field, the funding will allow council to spend £19k on pitch improvements over the next 6 years.

A new 'shared' memorial bench has been installed in the the south west corner of the Burial Ground and a further bench will be installed in the Play Area on Back Lane to replace the rusting picnic bench. The Clerk is currently investigating the best, and most cost effective, way to have uniform plaques produced for the benches.

The major works to the hedges in the Burial Ground have been booked for January/ February 2024. A new hedge management plan for the Lower Glebe Field has been agreed by the Amenities Committee.

New maintenance contracts have been drafted in line with the newly approved grass and hedge maintenance plans. They will be sent to contractors in the New Year for costings.

Following the dismissal of the Planning Appeal for application 22/01066, The Mobile Home at Crowbourne Orchard Smiths Lane (and associated enforcement notice), Clerk has again written to Planning Enforcement to request information regarding the timetable for enforcement to ensure the site is returned to green belt by the March 2024 deadline.

A further quotation for a new ventilation system at the Chequer Pavilion has been requested by the Youth & Housing Committee before a decision on the way forward can be made and a contractor appointed.

The Christmas Shopping event on Saturday 02 December seems to have been a success. The Clerk is awaiting details of a 'mop up' meeting.

The policy update timetable is still slightly behind schedule but it is anticipated that this will be caught up by the new year.

Claire Reed Clerk





STANDING ORDERS MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURE

Reviewed and approved by Council 12 December 2023

To be reviewed December 2025

1. Responsibility

- 1.1 Any memorial placed on a grave space remains the property of the owner(s) of the Exclusive Right of Burial. The owner is therefore responsible for its upkeep and maintenance and for ensuring the memorial remains in a safe condition.
 - Historically there have been a number of accidents in cemeteries around the UK, some of which have resulted in fatalities, due to memorials being unsafe. Whilst the memorials are the responsibility of the registered grave owner The Burial Authority has a responsibility for ensuring that its sites are safe for both staff to work in and for the public to visit.
- 1.2 The Burial Authority can take no responsibility for any damage, accidental or otherwise, to any memorial within its cemeteries. Therefore, any person arranging for the installation of a memorial must consider appropriate insurance that will cover repair or replacement of a memorial should it become damaged in the future.

It has to be understood that memorials are exposed to all types of weather and maintenance in and on the site. Memorial Masons will fix to the best standards of the day however future occurrences such as bad weather may result in memorials becoming damaged or destroyed beyond repair. Your memorial mason will be able to advise of insurance options available to you.

2. Memorial Fixing

- 2.1 All memorials over 625 mm (24.5 inches) in height must be fixed to, and fully compliant with, the current British Standard (BS8415). This extends to ANY memorial over 625 mm (24.5 inches) that is being re-fixed following an interment or removal for any other reason.
- 2.2 Only Monumental Masons on the British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM) or those on the Register of Qualified Memorial Fixers (RQMF) are authorised to carry out refixing or repair works at Goudhurst. The Clerk can provide guidance on registered masons.

3. Memorial Inspections

- 3.1 All memorials over 625 mm (24.5 inches) in height in all cemeteries will be inspected by trained staff at least once during a rolling 2-year period to assess their safety. This will be done through both a visual assessment and a basic hand test to determine if there is movement in the memorial and to what extent.
- 3.2 The individual undertaking the assessment will make the decision on the memorial's overall safety based on a dynamic risk assessment for which they have been trained.
- 3.3 Once inspected each memorial will fall into one of three categories, detailed as follows:

- Red Memorial is unsafe and poses a risk. It requires require immediate attention to make safe and/or protect the public.
- Amber Memorial is safe but there are minor concerns and it should be reassessed in 12 months' time to ensure it has not deteriorated further.
- Green Memorial is safe and should be re-inspected in 2 years as part of the next round of
 inspections or as part of any other check that may occur, for example when checking
 memorials around a planned burial ahead of excavation of the grave.

The Council has a legal obligation to ensure all of its sites are safe to both visit and work in. In order to be satisfied that this is the case it is essential that Goudhurst Burial Authority carry out regular inspections of memorials on the sites in a bid to avoid injury or death to any of its staff or visitors.

- 3.4 Staff undertaking the inspections will record the details of every memorial and an assessment of its safety using the categories above. These details will be recorded on the Burials administration system. The details will include:
 - Date of Inspection
 - Name of Inspector
 - Grave Identification (Section, Row and Number)
 - Category of Memorial (Red, Amber, Green)
 - Details of any Actions Taken

4. Actions Post Inspection

- 4.1 Should a Memorial be identified as a 'Red', and fail the inspection, staff will need to take immediate action to make that memorial temporarily safe or cordon it off until permanent repairs can be made by the grave owner. These actions will be based on a number of factors and the best solution will be administered by the memorial inspection team based on their assessment of the memorial and the surrounding area. These actions may include:
 - Laying the memorial flat In most cases this will be where a memorial can be laid down on or within an existing kerb set so as not to cause a new trip hazard.
 - Stake and Banded The memorial will be fastened tight to a wooden post which will act as a temporary support. The banding will also hold a warning notice. The stake and band will be re-inspected every 12 months to ensure neither have deteriorated.
 - Monolith Conversion This involves digging out a depth roughly one third of the overall height of the memorial from the last joint in order that it can be sunk into the ground and made safe. The memorial will have a suitable material wrapped around the part under the ground and a memorial warning notice will be added to the grave. Due to foundations it may be necessary for the memorial to be moved slightly forward into the grave space to avoid existing foundations.
 - Cordoned Off In some cases it may be necessary to cordon off a particular memorial or an area containing a number of memorials due to their safety. Warning signs will be attached to any cordon placed around a memorial or group of memorials.

 Removal – In extreme cases it may be necessary to remove a memorial from the grave and place into storage if none of the above options are suitable.

All of the above are regarded as 'Temporary Fixes' and should not be seen as a permanent solution to deal with an unsafe memorial. They are intended to reduce or remove the risk of a memorial causing harm or damage to someone. Prior to taking any of the actions above the memorial will be photographed and details recorded of any existing damage or issues.

4.2 Large memorials over 1.6m (5.2ft) will be visually assessed and if any concerns are recorded the memorial will be cordoned off and arrangements will be made for a specialist contractor to undertake an inspection and provide a detailed report including costs and options to make safe.

5. Informing Grave Owners

- 5.1 Goudhurst Burial Authority will endeavour to contact the grave owner when any action has been taken due to a memorial failing a safety inspection. However, if the grave owner is recorded as deceased or the last burial was over 50 years, no correspondence will be sent but a notice will be left on the grave space for a period of not less than 12 months.
- 5.2 Any memorial installed within the previous 6 years that fails an inspection that has been we will contact the memorial mason directly to request repairs be made to ensure the memorial is fully compliant with BS8415.

The stability guarantee of a memorial is the responsibility of the memorial mason and they may provide a longer guarantee period, 6 years is the standard legal period that must be covered by the installation.

6. Repairs to Memorials

- 6.1 The registered grave owner has a responsibility to ensure a memorial is made safe by being properly re-fixed to the current BS8415 standard by a Memorial Mason on the British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM) or those on the Register of Qualified Memorial Fixers (RQMF).
- 6.2 'Do it yourself' repairs by families will not be permitted. All costs associated with organising for a memorial to be repaired, including the reversal of any works undertaken on behalf of the Burial Authority, remain the responsibility of the grave owner.
- 6.3 Should a grave owner fail to take any action within a reasonable time period, the Burial Authority may look to find a semi-permanent solution. This may be laying the memorial flat, sinking the memorial into the ground (monolith conversion) or another suitable action.
 - The Burial Authority needs to maintain its sites to a high standard and will always try to avoid taking any action that may impact on the general grounds maintenance of sites.



GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Name of Group / Organisation:	We Are Beams			
Contact Name:	Marie Moorey			
Position in Organisation:	Fundraising Executi	Fundraising Executive		
Address:	38-40 Allsworth Court, Hextable, Kent, BR8 7RJ			
Telephone:	01322 668501 option 5			
Email:	marie.moorey@wearebeams.org.uk			
Is your organisation a	Yes ⊠	If yes, Charity Number	1054129	
registered charity?	No □			
•	ve a bank account, which requires two unrelated people to cheques and make withdrawals? This must be in the name of the			
organisation / group that it is app				

Brief Description of your group / organisation's main purpose / activities

Beams is a charitable organisation that provides comprehensive support services to families of children and young people with any form of physical, learning, or sensory impairment. Its vision is to take the lead in transforming the lives of disabled children and young people, enabling them to have greater independence and control of their lives and futures.

Beams' values are:

- Parent-driven
- Disabled child at the centre of all we do
- Responsive to needs quickly
- Promoting an inclusive agenda
- Beneficiary involvement in the development of services
- Regular monitoring and evaluation
- Increasing social awareness of disability
- Collaborative working

Beams' mission is to provide comprehensive support services to families of children and young people with any form of physical, learning, or sensory impairment. It aims to support the whole family through a menu of services that directly benefit and assist those dealing with the challenges of raising a disabled child.

Please provide the number, or percentage, of Goudhurst Parish residents that currently use the service (if applicable).

We are currently supporting 22 families in the Parish.

Details of any restrictions placed on who can use / access the organisation's services			
Anyone with a child with a disability is able to access our service			
Details of the project for which the grant is required			
We are requesting funding for our Cygent Parenting Programme that we offer which is a valuable resource for families of children with ASD. It is important for parents to understand their child's needs and to have strategies for coping with challenging behaviours. The course also provides an opportunity for parents to connect with other families who are going through similar experiences.			
Each course accommodates 10 families and the 22 families within your proferred the opportunity to attend. The program is comprehensive and contains a comprehensive and contains of topics, including:			
 What is ASD? Communication Sensory issues Understanding Behaviour Managing Behaviour-coping strategies 			
The follow-up session after a few months is also a valuable addition to the program, as it allows parents to assess their progress and receive further support if needed. It is a well-designed and comprehensive program that provides valuable support to families of children with ASD.			
We host one full course a term during the day but have begun to host a evening to allow parents to attend who may otherwise be working or no childcare during the day.			
When will the project start? We do not offer retrospective funding.	Cygnets takes place each term throughout the year.		
Will your project be completed within six months from receipt of your grant?	Yes ⊠		
If not, please explain why below.	No □		
How will this project benefit the parishioners of Goudhurst?			
The parishioners will be offered a space on the training course to help them understand their children's needs and to have the strategies to cope with challenging behaviours.			

Total Cost of project	Each course costs £500 per family to run.	Amount of Grant requested	£1000
Have you received, applied or intend to apply for funding from any other source for this project?	Yes ⊠ No □	If yes, please give the name(s) of the other funder We have applied to other parish councin which our service users reside.	
How much of the total cost do your group / organisation intend to raise yourself and how?	All of the funds will be raised through fundraising activities including applying to trust, foundations and parish councils.		•

Please tick to confirm you have included the following documents with your application.

1.	A copy of your organisations written constitution or details of the aims and purpose.	X
2.	Demonstration of a clear need for the funding.	\boxtimes
3.	A copy of the previous year's accounts or, for new initiatives, a detailed budget and business plan.	\times
4.	Evidence of any other award towards the project.	
5.	Any other supporting documentation e.g. quotes, needs analysis or survey	∇

Please ensure that the person signing the declaration on behalf of your organisation has the appropriate authority to do so.

DECLARATION:

I confirm that the information contained in the application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I agree to that any money awarded by Goudhurst Parish Council as a result of this application will only be used for the purposes stated in the said application, and in accordance with the grant conditions detailed in the Parish Council's Grant Awarding Policy.

I confirm that the proposed project is lawful and confirms to any rules governing our group / organisation. I further agree to provide copies of receipts and invoices as required to Goudhurst Parish Council to confirm details of how the money has been spent if the application is successful.

I understand that all money awarded must be repaid to Goudhurst Parish Council and my organisation will not be able to apply for a future grant in the following circumstances:

- If a false declaration is made, or if any information contained in the application is found to be false, inflated or exaggerated
- If the proposed project does not proceed or is abandoned for any reason or if the organisation disbands during the period of the grant
- If the organisation does not provide the necessary invoices and receipts confirming how the money has been spent or does not comply with any other conditions stipulated.

I understand that details of the grant awarded will be included on the Parish Council website and Annual Report.

Signed:	M.Moorey
Print Name:	Marie Moorey
Position in the Organisation	Fundraising Executive
Date:	28/11/2023

Please sign the above declaration and return this form together with all supporting documentation required either by post or email to:

Claire Reed The Hop Bine Risebridge Farm Goudhurst Cranbrook TN17 1HN

Email: <u>Clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk</u>

Please contact us if you need help with the form or advice about your application.

NOTES:

- Please complete all questions and sign and date the declaration at the end of the form.
- Where a question is not applicable, please enter N/a on the form.
- If you wish to provide additional information or expand on a question, please provide on an attached sheet.
- Please refer to the Council's Grant Awarding Policy for full terms and conditions of grants.
- The deadline for returning completed applications will be advertised. Grant applications
 will be considered by the Council at the Parish Council meeting following the deadline
 advertised.
- Submission of this application does not automatically mean that an award will be granted. Goudhurst Parish Council reserves the right to award grants at their discretion.
- Only one project per application will be considered.



GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Name of Group / Organisation:	Goudhurst Dynamos Football Club		
Contact Name:	Sarah Keith-Lucas		
Position in Organisation:	Secretary		
Address:			
Telephone:			
Email:			
Is your organisation a registered charity?	Yes □ No ⊠	If yes, Charity Number	
Do you have a bank account, whi	•		Yes ⊠
authorise cheques and make with organisation / group that it is app		be in the name of the	No 🗆
Brief Description of your group /	organisation's main p	ourpose / activities	
football in a fun, supportive envir	or profit group run by volunteers giving our local young people a chance to play n, supportive environment. We have over 100 players registered in the club enjoy regular training sessions as football games within various local leagues.		
Please provide the number, or percentage, of Goudhurst Parish residents that currently use the service (if applicable).			currently use the
N/A			
Details of any restrictions placed	on who can use / acc	ess the organisation's se	rvices
N/A			
Details of the project for which the grant is required			
can be used easily by the club for	ce our old worn out 9 a-side goal posts with new ones that are on wheels and y by the club for training sessions and games. We have fund-raised £900 so far of goals and we have around £1080 from the Football Foundation		

When w	vill the project start? We	do not offer retrosp	ective funding.	January 2024
Will your project be completed within six months from receipt of your grant?			m receipt of your grant?	Yes ⊠
π ποτ, μ	lease explain why below.			No □
How wil	I this project benefit the	parishioners of Gou	dhurst?	
the club take a fr	. The current goals are ve	ery fiddly to put up a ct meaning more tin	e and the coaches and vo and are falling apart. Theso ne and effort would be giv	e new goals would
Total Co	ost of project	£2569	Amount of Grant requested	£589
intend t	Have you received, applied or intend to apply for funding from any other source for this Yes If yes, please give the name(s) of the other funder			ame(s) of the
project?	·		Football Foundation £10	080
your gro	How much of the total cost do your group / organisation intend to raise yourself and how?			
Please tic	k to confirm you have inc	cluded the following	documents with your app	olication.
1.	A copy of your organisations written constitution or details of the aims and purpose.			ns and
2.	2. Demonstration of a clear need for the funding.			\boxtimes
3.	A copy of the previous y budget and business pla		or new initiatives, a detail	ed
4.	4. Evidence of any other award towards the project.			

Any other supporting documentation e.g. quotes, needs analysis or survey

5.

results.

Please ensure that the person signing the declaration on behalf of your organisation has the appropriate authority to do so.

DECLARATION:

I confirm that the information contained in the application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I agree to that any money awarded by Goudhurst Parish Council as a result of this application will only be used for the purposes stated in the said application, and in accordance with the grant conditions detailed in the Parish Council's Grant Awarding Policy.

I confirm that the proposed project is lawful and confirms to any rules governing our group / organisation. I further agree to provide copies of receipts and invoices as required to Goudhurst Parish Council to confirm details of how the money has been spent if the application is successful.

I understand that all money awarded must be repaid to Goudhurst Parish Council and my organisation will not be able to apply for a future grant in the following circumstances:

- If a false declaration is made, or if any information contained in the application is found to be false, inflated or exaggerated
- If the proposed project does not proceed or is abandoned for any reason or if the organisation disbands during the period of the grant
- If the organisation does not provide the necessary invoices and receipts confirming how the money has been spent or does not comply with any other conditions stipulated.

I understand that details of the grant awarded will be included on the Parish Council website and Annual Report.

Signed:	
Print Name:	
Position in the Organisation	
Date:	

Please sign the above declaration and return this form together with all supporting documentation required either by post or email to:

Claire Reed
The Hop Bine
Risebridge Farm
Goudhurst Cranbrook
TN17 1HN

Email: Clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk

Please contact us if you need help with the form or advice about your application.

NOTES:

- Please complete all questions and sign and date the declaration at the end of the form.
- Where a question is not applicable, please enter N/a on the form.
- If you wish to provide additional information or expand on a question, please provide on an attached sheet.
- Please refer to the Council's Grant Awarding Policy for full terms and conditions of grants.
- The deadline for returning completed applications will be advertised. Grant applications
 will be considered by the Council at the Parish Council meeting following the deadline
 advertised.
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- Only one project per application will be considered.



GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Name of Group / Organisation:	1 st Goudhurst Scout Group		
Contact Name:	Chris Reed		
Position in Organisation:	Group Scout Leade	r	
Address:	The Scout Hut, Tatt	lebury Lane, Goudhurst,	ΓN17 1BU
Telephone:			
Email:			
Is your organisation a registered charity?	Yes ⊠ No □	If yes, Charity Number	303395
Do you have a bank account, when authorise cheques and make wi	•		Yes ⊠
organisation / group that it is ap		st be in the name of the	No □
Brief Description of your group	/ organisation's mair	purpose / activities	
The Group promotes Scouting in the Goudhurst area and follows the aims of the Scout Association - to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities.			full physical,
Please provide the number, or percentage, of Goudhurst Parish residents that currently use the service (if applicable).			
The Group has grown to over 70 young people across its Beaver, Cub and Scout sections. It also hosts the Weald District Explorer Scout Unit, which has 15 members, some of whom are from Goudhurst			
Details of any restrictions place	d on who can use / a	ccess the organisation's s	ervices
Preference is given to residents of Goudhurst and/or those with siblings already in the group			
Details of the project for which	the grant is required		
Funding equipment for the group er	nabling us to offer an im	proved experience to our yo	ung people.
1 x Kelly Kettle 'Base Camp 1.6ltr Stainless Steel Whistles When Boiled Kettle and Camp Stove in one Ultra-fast Wood Fuelled NO Batteries/Gas Camping, Fishing, Scouts, Picnics, Emergencies			

https://amzn.eu/d/9ygSdNS			
£65			
12 x DD Hammocks Camping Hammock - Lightweight Double Layer Hammock For Backpacking Hiking And Travel, Easy Set Up			
https://amzn.eu/d/cotsDti			
£30 (each), total £360			
2x LIVIVO 5L Litre Stainless Steel Airpot Hot Tea Coffee Drinks Vacuum Flask Jug- Suitable for hot or Cold Drinks up to 24 Hours			
https://amzn.eu/d/bXUgw1q			
£38 (each), total £76			
2x LIVIVO 3L Litre Stainless Steel Airpot Hot Tea Coffee Drinks Vacuum Flask Jug- Suitable for hot or Cold Drinks up to 24 Hours			
https://amzn.eu/d/bXUgw1q			
£30 (each), total £60			
Beaver craft materials (various)			
£200			
2x First aid kits			
https://www.spservices.co.uk/item/YouthOutdoorPursuitsFirstAidKitEnhanced 25 0 543 2 1.html			
£80.04 (each), total £160.08			
When will the project start? We do not offer retrospective funding.	When funding is provided		
Will your project be completed within six months from receipt of your	Yes ⊠		
grant? If not, please explain why below.	No □		
How will this project benefit the parishioners of Goudhurst?			

-	nce the experience we p		ne Scout Group on an on-goi oung people of Goudhurst ar	_	_	
Total Cost of project		£921.08	Amount of Grant requested	£921.08	£921.08	
intend t	u received, applied or of the other source for this other source for the sour		other			
your gro	uch of the total cost do oup / organisation to raise yourself and					
Please tid	ck to confirm you have i	ncluded the follo	owing documents with your	application.		
1.	 A copy of your organisations written constitution or details of the aims and purpose. 			\boxtimes		
2.	. Demonstration of a clear need for the funding.				\boxtimes	
 A copy of the previous year's accounts or, for new initiatives, a detailed budget and business plan. 			\boxtimes			
4.	Evidence of any other award towards the project.					
5.	Any other supporting documentation e.g. quotes, needs analysis or survey					

results.

Please ensure that the person signing the declaration on behalf of your organisation has the appropriate authority to do so.

DECLARATION:

I confirm that the information contained in the application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I agree to that any money awarded by Goudhurst Parish Council as a result of this application will only be used for the purposes stated in the said application, and in accordance with the grant conditions detailed in the Parish Council's Grant Awarding Policy.

I confirm that the proposed project is lawful and confirms to any rules governing our group / organisation. I further agree to provide copies of receipts and invoices as required to Goudhurst Parish Council to confirm details of how the money has been spent if the application is successful.

I understand that all money awarded must be repaid to Goudhurst Parish Council and my organisation will not be able to apply for a future grant in the following circumstances:

- If a false declaration is made, or if any information contained in the application is found to be false, inflated or exaggerated
- If the proposed project does not proceed or is abandoned for any reason or if the organisation disbands during the period of the grant
- If the organisation does not provide the necessary invoices and receipts confirming how the money has been spent or does not comply with any other conditions stipulated.

I understand that details of the grant awarded will be included on the Parish Council website and Annual Report.

Signed:	C G Reed
Print Name:	Chris Reed
Position in the Organisation	Group Scout Leader
Date:	05.12.23

Please sign the above declaration and return this form together with all supporting documentation required either by post or email to:

Claire Reed The Hop Bine Risebridge Farm Goudhurst Cranbrook TN17 1HN

Email: Clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk

Please contact us if you need help with the form or advice about your application.

NOTES:

- Please complete all questions and sign and date the declaration at the end of the form.
- Where a question is not applicable, please enter N/a on the form.
- If you wish to provide additional information or expand on a question, please provide on an attached sheet.
- Please refer to the Council's Grant Awarding Policy for full terms and conditions of grants.
- The deadline for returning completed applications will be advertised. Grant applications
 will be considered by the Council at the Parish Council meeting following the deadline
 advertised.
- Submission of this application does not automatically mean that an award will be granted. Goudhurst Parish Council reserves the right to award grants at their discretion.
- Only one project per application will be considered.

Move to FTTP

Currently the office is working with a standard broadband connection which is slow and unreliable and, coupled with Citrix, can sometimes leave officers unable to work for minutes at a time. The current connection gives average download speeds of 6mbps and upload speeds of 0.4mbps. Clerk has obtained a quotation from Microshade's telecoms partner, Flotek, for FTTP coupled with an upgraded telecoms system which includes additional features as detailed in the attached summary. Council's current provider has also quoted for FTTP however any upgrade to the telecoms system would be at an additional cost.

Monthly costs	Current costs	Current provider (24 mths)	3-year contract	4-year contract	5-year contract	ВТ
FTTP		37.10			47.00	
FTTC	52.38					
Speed	6MBPS	330MBPS	115MBPS	115MBPS	115MBPS	500MBPS
	0.4MBPS	50MBPS	20MBPS	20MBPS	20MBPS	110MBPS
Phone lines	90.29	90.29	Included	Included	63.92	Unlimited minutes
Support	As needed	As needed	Included	Included	Included	24/7
Parts & Labour	As needed	As needed	Included	Included	Included	Included
						Hybrid Backup (4G) Static IP
Total	142.67	127.39	147.32	125.58	110.92	110.00
Set-up costs						
Installation		110.00	Included	Included	Included	Included
Router		310.00	Included	Included	Included	9.95 Complete wi-fi
Hardware	Additional	Additional	Included	Included	Included	Included
Training		Not offered	Included	Included	Included	Not offered
Total		420.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.95
Total - Year 1	142.67	1,948.68	1,767.84	1,506.96	1,331.04	1,329.95
Ongoing cost per year		1,528.68	1,767.84	1,506.96	1,331.04	1,320.00
			Portable	Portable	Portable	Portable

BURIAL AUTHORITY

Minutes of a Meeting held on 21 November at 6.00pm in St Mary's Church

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors Present: Cllrs Antony Harris, Phil Kirkby, Geoff Mason and Caroline Richards. **Officers Present**: Mrs Claire Reed, Clerk.

APOLOGIES

475/23 Were received from Edward Hodgskin (working).

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

476/23 There were none.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

477/23 It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the Burial Authority meeting held on 4 July 2023, a copy of which was made available to members prior to the meeting via Board Intelligence.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

478/23 There were none.

MEMORIAL APPLICATIONS REQUIRING A COMMITTEE DECISION

479/23 There were none.

MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY

480/23 It was **resolved** to recommend the adoption of the policy to the council. The Clerk was asked to consult council's insurance company on liabilities. **Action: Clerk to seek advice of Zurich and agenda for December's Council meeting.**

MEMORIAL SAFETY TESTING

481/23 It was **agreed** that the Clerk should draft an action plan for Memorial Safety Testing. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting was adjourned at 7.00pm

Claire Reed

Clerk



BURIAL AUTHORITY

Minutes of a Meeting held on 28 November at 1.00pm in The Hop Bine

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors Present: Cllrs Antony Harris, Phil Kirkby, Geoff Mason and Caroline Richards. Officers Present: Mrs Claire Reed, Clerk.

APOLOGIES

489/23 Were received form Edward Hodgskin (working).

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

490/23 There were none.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

491/23 There were none.

GRASS MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 492/23 It was **resolved** to adopt the new Grass Management Plan, as presented at the meeting, for a trial period of 12 months beginning in March 2024 (Appendix 1). Action: Clerk to inform contractors.
- 493/23 It was **noted** that there continues to be a large number of plastic flowers and cellophane in the Burial Grounds despite changes in the regulations. The Clerk was asked to add a sensitive notice to the gates and noticeboard, for a period of 6 months, to remind families of the changes. Cllr Geoff Mason was asked to add the change to his monthly 'Goudhurst Plan Bee' blog. Action: Clerk & Cllr Geoff Mason.

WEED GROWTH

- 494/23 It was **resolved** to trial No Glysophate Roundup in the cemeteries for a period of 12 months to be reviewed in December 2024.
- 495/23 It was agreed that the area around the base of church, ashes plots (St Mary's and Burial Ground) and the paths through St Mary's churchyard will be sprayed with in February and as needed thereafter. The Clerk was asked to request a quote for the works from Council's weed control contractor. Action: Clerk
- 496/23 Cllr Geoff Mason agreed to advertise the decision in his monthly 'Goudhurst Plan Bee' blog. **Action: Cllr Geoff Mason**

MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

497/23 It was **resolved** to approve the updated maintenance contracts for the cemeteries as presented at the meeting (Appendix 2). Action: Clerk

MEMORIAL BENCHES

498/23 It was **resolved** to add up to 10 memorial plaques to the top rail of the new 'shared' memorial benches in the Burial Ground and Play Area. The Clerk was asked to gain quotations for purchasing and engraving the plaques (5"x2") so that a final price can be established. It was noted that the Burial Regulations will need to be updated to note that only plagues approved and purchased are permitted to be added to these new benches.

Action: Clerk

FUTURE MEETINGS

499/23 It was **resolved** to hold all future meetings in the council's offices, starting at 1pm.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

500/23 It was **noted** that the Clerk had not yet received confirmation of permission to fell the self-seeded Cyprus tree growing out of a grave in the Victorian Cemetery.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next Burial Authority Meeting, Tuesday 19 March 2023, 1.00pm at The Hop Bine.

The meeting closed at 2.00pm

Claire Reed

Clerk

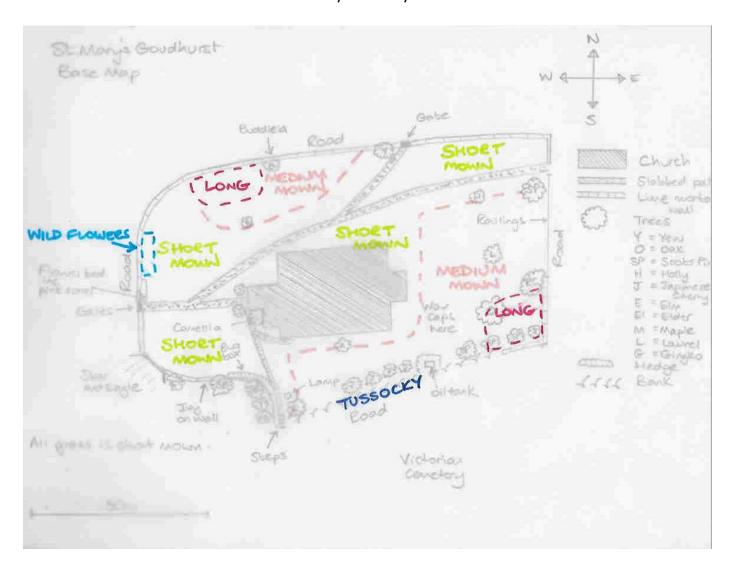
Appendix 1

Goudhurst's Plan Bee – Cemeteries Grass Management Plan

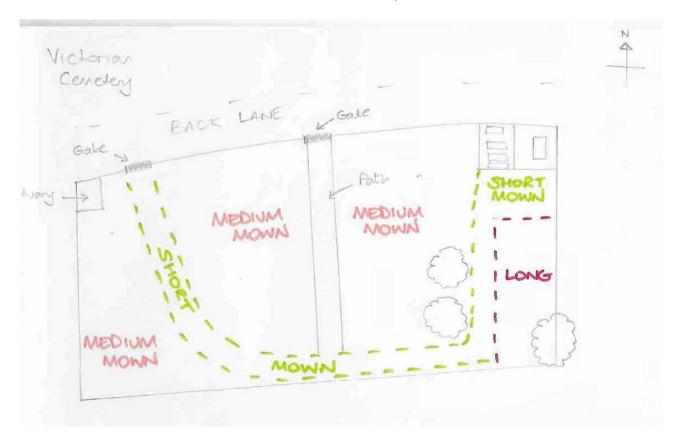
Version 1 November 2023

Area	Cut Length	Arisings	Frequency	Months
Short	No change	Remove all	Every 2 weeks	Mid March – Mid October
Medium	10cm blade	Remove all	Monthly	After bulbs have flowered
Long grass/ meadow	Standard	Remove all	3 times a year	February, July, October
Tussocky bank, south side of St Mary's Church	Standard		Once a year Note: the area immediately adjacent to the road may need additional cut(s) to prevent encroachment on the road.	September

St Mary's Churchyard



Victorian Cemetry



Appendix 2

St. Mary's Maintenance Contract March to October 2024

Conditions of contract

The Contractor is to provide all of the equipment required to undertake the maintenance work.

All arisings are to be removed from site, except mulch cuttings as agreed.

The use of weed killer is not permitted.

The Contractor should take due care when undertaking the work as commensurate with working in a public space.

Special care is required when working around gravestones and monuments to ensure they are not damaged.

The Contractor must advise the Council of any damage or repairs that become evident whilst undertaking the maintenance work or any damage they cause whilst in undertaking their work. No work is to be carried out on Sundays.

Work around the churches and churchyards should not be undertaken when a wedding or funeral is in process.

Evidence of public liability insurance will be required prior to the awarding of a contract.

Work R	equired	Frequency	Price
1.	Mow and strim in Back Lane Play area adjacent to the Church Rooms.	Every 2 weeks from mid-March to mid-October	
2.	Mow and Strim in the Burial Grounds to the South-East of St Mary's Churchyard.	Every 2 weeks from mid-March to mid-October	
3.	Mow and Strim in St Mary's Churchyard as per the agreed Cemeteries Grass Management Plan.	See Cemeteries Grass Management Plan	
4.	Mow and strim in the Victorian Cemetery as per the agreed Cemeteries Grass Management Plan.	See Cemeteries Grass Management Plan	
5.	Cut grass footway on south side of the highway.	Monthly May to September	
6.	Maintain stone walls in the Victorian Cemetery and Burial Ground clear of ivy and other plants growing out of them.	As required	
7.	Ensure hedge along the much-used path from the Back Lane steps towards the Church is kept tight and tidy so as not to impeded the use of the path. Please leave the Shepherds Crook clear of the closely adjacent hedge.	As required	
8.	Trim around ashes tablets on the north side of St. Mary's.	Annually	
9.	Maintain hedges in St Mary's Churchyard, the Victoria cemetery and the Burial Ground to avoid encroaching on graves. To include the laurel hedge at the north end of the Burial grounds which should be kept to a height of no more that 4ft. Please do not carry out any work on the yews that are on Parish Council land.	Annually, outside of nesting season	



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 21 November 2023 at 7.00pm in the Church Rooms

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors Present: Cllrs Craig Broom (Chairman), Antony Harris, Phil Kirkby, David Knight and Geoff Mason.

Officers Present: Mrs Claire Reed, Clerk; Mrs Panetta Horn, RFO.

APOLOGIES

482/23 There were none.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

483/23 There were none.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

484/23 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 19 September 2023, and previously distributed to members via Board Intelligence, be accepted as a correct record.

GRANT REQUESTS

485/23 It was **resolved** to approve the following grant requests for 2023-24:

- Millennium Green maintenance £2,500
- Millennium Green contribution towards play inspection and repairs to the Kilndown playground - £550

MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

486/23 It **resolved** to award three-year contracts, payable by standing order, to all the existing maintenance contractors with the exception of the St. Mary's contract which should remain as a one-year contract payable against invoice.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AT UNITY TRUST BANK

487/23 The forms were unavailable for signing due to a technical issue and it was **agreed** they would be signed at the Council offices by authorised councillors.

YTD EXPENDITURE AND 2024/25 BUDGET

488/23 The expenditure YTD and Forecast was reviewed and noted. The final figures for the budget were approved to be presented to Council at the December meeting for agreement.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next Finance Committee Meeting, Tuesday 19 March 2023, 7.00 pm in the Church Rooms.

Claire Reed

Clerk



AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 28 November 2023 at 7.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors Present: Cllrs David Knight, Antony Harris, Julia Kiggell, Geoff Mason, Caroline Richards, Alison Webster (arrived 20.15) and Ed Read-Cutting.

Officers Present: Claire Reed, Clerk, Kat Hoyle, Assistant Clerk

APOLOGIES

495/23 Apologies were accepted from Alison Webster for arriving late due to work commitments.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

496/23 There were none.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

497/23 It was resolved the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 22nd August 2023, and previously distributed to members via Board Intelligence, be accepted as a correct record.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

498/23 There were none.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 499/23 Footpath map (PROW) at Balcombes Hill

 It was **resolved** to approve expenditure of £462.50 for a new map. Asst. Clerk to source artwork from Pear Mapping. **Action. Asst. Clerk**
- 500/23 Millennium Walk
 Cllr Alison Webster agreed to approach David Boniface, regarding the accuracy of the route and condition of the signage. It was agreed to investigate the creation of a specific logo for walk. Action: Asst. Clerk to source quotes for the logo/posts if needed and Agenda for 27th February 2024
- 501/23 Overgrown trees by the BT lines at Quarry Pond
 It was agreed to seek advice from Council's tree surgeon. Action: Asst. Clerk
- 502/23 Goudhurst in Bloom 2024
 It was agreed to launch the competition for 2024. It was agreed that the Chair would approach parishioners to establish an organising Committee. It was Resolved to change the name to Goudhurst Parish in Bloom. Action: Clerks to locate existing prize cups
- 503/23 Hedgehog Highways
 It was **resolved** to purchase a box of 50 for £150. **Action: Asst. Clerk**
- 504/23 *Pétanque Pitch*It was **resolved** to add the project to the parish survey, before proceeding further
- 505/23 "Don't feed the Ducks" Signs at Goudhurst Pond
 It was resolved to approve expenditure of up to £200 to replace the signs. Action: Asst.
 Clerk.

506/23 The Village sign on The Plain

It was resolved to obtain costings to re-paint. Action: Asst. Clerk to sort.

507/23 Goudhurst Phone Boxes

It was **resolved** to remove the new phone box, with the condition of the Clerk obtaining a quote for spurring off the power for the AED in the red phone box. Post meeting note: Power can only be used if the new phone box remains in situ.

508/23 Goudhurst Red Phone Box

It was resolved to approve expenditure of £500 for painting. Action: Clerks

509/23 Goudhurst Village Green Trees

It was **resolved** to approve expenditure of £580 to replace the dead trees and re-stake the remaining trees. **Action: Clerks**

510/23 Legionella Control

It was **resolved** to approve £1289 for the Legionella Control 2024. Clerks were asked to investigate the feasibility of by passing the cold-water tank in the public toilets. **Action: Clerks to investigate with plumber**

511/23 Street lamp on The Plain

It was **resolved** to approve to turn the light back on and re-assess in February 2024.

512/23 Maintenance Contracts

It was **resolved** to approve the proposed contract subject to agreed amendments discussed in meeting.

513/23 Litter Bin Audit

It was noted a litter bin audit was carried out and the Clerk was asked to speak with TWBC regarding how many collections they contracted to do. It is further noted the bin by the public toilet is not being emptied frequently enough. **Action: Clerks**

514/23 Goudhurst Pond filtration

It was noted that no response received from County Councillor Sean Holden. Action: Clerks

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

515/23 Parish Council owned bus stop, Kilndown

It was noted the residents of Kilndown would like to use the disused Parish Council owned bus stop as a library. **Action: The Clerk to request proposal.**

516/23 The Plain Information Board.

Councillor Alison Webster updated the Committee on the progress of the new design for the Information Board. It was noted a new QR code and corresponding webpage will need creating. When the artwork is received, the copy will need proof reading. **Action: Clerk to create webpage.**

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next Amenities Committee Meeting on Tuesday 27th February 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Kat Hoyle

Assistant Clerk

Appendix 4 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 12 December 2023

Recommendations and Decisions November 2023

Application	Address	Proposal	GPC	TWBC
23/00505	The Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church Beresford Road Goudhurst	Demolition of the sacristy, boiler room and outbuildings, Erection of single storey extension to provide meeting room, kitchen, sacristy and disabled toilet, Provision of improved pedestrian access, Resurfacing of and improved layout of car park	Approve	Permitted
23/02412	7 The Old School	Proposed alterations to conservatory to form garden room.	Approve	Permitted
23/02684	4 Priors Heath	Single storey infill of enclosed courtyard and changes to fenestration on east elevation	Approve	Permitted
23/02690	Old Peacock Cottage , Cranbrook Road	Erection of oak framed garden room to the side following removal of existing extension	Refuse in its current form - the proposed extension does not conserve what is an important building. GPC will support the decision of the conservation architect	Permitted
23/02691/LBC	Old Peacock Cottage , Cranbrook Road	Listed Building Consent - Erection of oak framed garden room to the side following removal of existing extension	Refuse in its current form - the proposed extension does not conserve what is an important building. GPC will support the decision of the conservation architect.	
23/02753	Beech House, North Road	Demolition of existing lean to and conservatory, internal alterations, new dormer to existing roof and the construction of a two storey side extension with 2 No. dormers	Approve The Council does not consider that the development will impact any neighbours.	

Appendix 4 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 12 December 2023

Recommendations and Decisions November 2023

23/02814/LBC	Iden House , Cranbrook Road	Listed Building Consent - Addition of one dormer window on the west mezzanine roof, Conversion of mezzanine space into shower room	Approve	
23/02813	Iden House , Cranbrook Road	Addition of one dormer window on the west mezzanine roof, Conversion of mezzanine space into shower room	Approve	
23/02845	Summerhill Farm, Summerhill	Erection of 2 No. outbuildings	Approve	
23/02855	Lower Ladysden Farm, Winchet Hill	Conversion, extension and partial demolition of an existing agricultural building into two residential dwellings with associated landscaping, amenity land and parking.	Approve GPC would like to see conditions around the thermal performance of the buildings and the primary heating source should not use fossil fuels as detailed in Goudhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy D3.	
23/02881	May Farm, Chicks Lane	Alterations to existing private access road including: new permeable surfacing, relocation of gates, planting of new trees, hedge and grass	Approve	