

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL on Tuesday 13 February at 7.30pm 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 (arrived at 19.44), Phil Kirkby, Geoff Mason, Paul Wareham (left 20.45 due to work commitments), David Knight and Alison Webster.

**Officers present:** Kat Hoyle, Assistant Clerk and Panetta Horn, RFO.

**Others present:** One member of the public.

### APOLOGIES

628/23 Apologies were received from Julia Kiggell (away), Ed Read-Cutting (work). Caroline Richards (family emergency)

### DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

629/23 None

### MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

630/23 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, copies of which had been previously distributed to Members via Board Intelligence, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record. It was **noted** David Knight raised a grievance around matter- 568/24.

### MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

631/23 A member of the public notified Council, of the excess debris up Clayhill, after a recent litter pick. It was agreed to refer the matter to the Highways Committee.

### REPORTS FROM COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

632/23 **County Councillor Sean Holden sent apologies due to family bereavement.**

633/23 **Borough Councillor David Knight and Alison Webster**

- Reported recent approval for the purchase of 18 houses, in Hawkhurst, which are available for anyone in Tunbridge Wells who fits the relevant criteria.
- Campaign launched around making women feel safer in taxis around Tunbridge Wells.
- Public consultation and survey launched for the Draft Strategic Plan for the Town Centre.
- Updates from Governance Review Committee to be submitted to Full Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February for approval;
  - o It is proposed the East/West split be removed with group leaders in the Borough ensuring equal representation on rural versus town wards/councillors.
  - o New Planning Committee members must undergo full planning training.

## ACCOUNTS

634/23 Council **noted** the summary of receipts and payments in January 2024.

### **Receipts UTB in January 2024**

Amenities Income	0
Burial Authority	520
Mary Day Garage Rents	303

**Receipts CCLA in December and January 2023** 872

<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£1,695</b>
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### **Payments January 2024**

UTB	10,994
CCLA	0
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£10,994</b>

### **Cash Balances at Bank**

UTB at 31st January 2024	100,000
CCLA at 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024	99,771
<b>Current Balances</b>	<b>£199,771</b>

635/23 Council **noted** the increases in maintenance contracts, which have been accounted for in the budget.

636/23 Council **resolved** to approve the payments for February 2024 as presented at the meeting and detailed in Appendix 1.

637/23 It was **resolved** that Cllrs Phil Kirkby and Geoff Mason would approve the electronic payments on UTB. **Action: RFO**

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

638/23 The Chairman briefed council, the report can be found at Appendix 2.

639/23 It was **noted** a meeting will take place with various heads to discuss School Places and ongoing travel for children.

## RESOLUTIONS

640/23 Council **resolved** to promote the Assistant Clerk to Deputy Clerk as recommended by the Employment Working Group.

641/23 It was **resolved** to close the meeting to members of the public and press in accordance with Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s2 owing to the sensitivity of the business to be transacted.

642/23 Council **resolved** to approve the expenditure of up to £500 a week to support additional cover for the office.

***The meeting was re-opened to the public***

- 643/23 Council **resolved** to further investigate becoming a certified IDA Dark Sky Community within 3 years. **Action: Cllr Geoff Mason.**
- 644/23 Council **resolved** to nominate Antony Farnfield for a KALC Community Award 2024. **Action: Cllrs Antony Harris and Phil Kirkby.**
- 645/23 Council received an update on D Day 80 Celebrations, and it was **agreed** that more information was required. **Action: Cllr Edward Hodgskin.**
- 646/23 Council received an update on the proposal to establish a village events calendar. It was **agreed** the office could print pages as required.
- 647/23 Council **resolved** to purchase The Antiques Shop on the High Street. It was further **resolved** to authorise Cllrs Phil Kirkby and Antony Harris to sign, on behalf of the Council, any legal documents as required for the purchase.

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE

- 648/23 **Recent planning Applications;** Please see Appendix 3.

#### HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

- 649/23 Council to adopt the minutes of the Highways Committee meeting held on 16 January 2024 and to note decisions made.
- To create a pre-HIP proposal (to reduce speeding up Winchet Hill).
  - To speak with KCC to investigate the re-opening of the KCC owned Carpark.
  - To approve expenditure of £1,405.95 and the additional pole to allow movement.

#### YOUTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

- 650/23 Council resolved to adopt the minutes of the Youth & Housing Committee meeting held on 23rd January 2024 and noted the decisions made.
- To spend up to £5578 on the ventilation, pending the outcome of the alternative quote.
  - To change name of the “Youth Shelter” to “Village Shelter”. It is **noted** this will be included in the wider village strategy
  - The AED to be put on Church Rooms by the designated contractor.
  - To investigate long term fencing options of the Back Lane Play Area.
  - The expenditure of £92 GMA Level One Training.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- 651/23 There were none

#### ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 652/23 It was **noted** of the need to set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting and publicise.
- 653/23 Cllr Edward Hodgskin raised the suggestion of a proposed Village Open Day. It was **agreed** to add this item to the March Agenda.

#### NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- 654/23 Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.00pm in the Church Rooms.

The meeting closed at 21.29

Kat Hoyle  
Deputy Clerk

**Appendix 1 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 13 February 2024**

**Accounts Payable February 2024**

<b>Payment Ref</b>	<b>Invoice Number</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT Code</b>	<b>Authorisation Ref</b>
24005	1212	Goudhurst Village Hall	Reimbursement of electricity for CCTV and pond pump	445.00	445.00	z	Contract
24006		Horn	Reimbursement of RFO expenses and Assistant Clerks Phone	150.97	82.48 +52.00	S Z	
24007	99917	TWBC	Uncontested Election Fees	704.62	587.18	S	Statutory
24008	65793	PI	Annual Playground Inspection	144.00	120.00	s	Contract
24009		Risebridge	Contribution to Oil	252.29	252.29	z	Contract
24010	2402	F&C	Cleaning of Balcombes Hill Toilets	796.80	664.00	s	Contract
24011		Ann Millward	Burial Digitisation 14 hours @ £15	210.00	210.00	z	Contract
24012	19247	Community Heartbeat	Defib Pads	265.14	220.95	s	
24013		Pam Boniface	Adverts for Christmas Fair	42.78	42.78	z	
24014		Envirocure	Monthly L8 checks	64.04	53.37	s	Contract
24015		Kat Hoyle	Expenses for Meeting Refreshments	10.75	10.75	z	

## Chairman's Report – February 2024

**Purpose:** Items for information, discussion, and if for decision then future agenda.

### Part A. Current matters

Much time over the past month has been taken up with two items:

The preparations around the issue of **the Vine**, its possible acquisition, contact with the owner and his agent and Resident Survey, which culminated in the Extraordinary Meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> Feb,

At the end of the Extraordinary meeting, we discussed how we may **work together better in future**, and in a harmonious way, acknowledging the differing input Councillors may bring.

Councillors proposed 4 or 5 key principles to enable us to work better and with respect. Suggestion for March Agenda.

At the Feb meeting we discussed the following for Feb agenda but in view of other issues propose for March/April.....

What do councillors consider should be our **GPC Priorities for 2024** (limited in number so they get done/started).

### **Parish Activities Fete, Christmas Fair etc.**

Agenda item.

### **Potential Planning Call-In?**

Action: Craig/Borough Councillor

### **Traveller site.**

Anything to report?

### ***Cranbrook High Weald Closure.***

Julia/Craig to update council.

### **Goudhurst in Bloom.**

Who is leading for **GPC? Timing?**

**Chairman attended two KALC** events during the month a workshop and Area Executive meeting.

***Part B. Longer term.***

**Planning and the TW Agreement.** KALC group reforming to agree priorities (GPC input).

**Parish Council – Scope of interest.**

What role will Parishes play in the future? Do we shape our future or just ride with it?

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

**KALC TW Area Committee**

**KALC AGM 2024** probably in November – suggest some Councillors may find interesting. Clerk to watch out for date.

ADH

Feb 2024

### Appendix 3 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 13 February 2024

#### Recommendations and Decisions January 2024

Application	Address	Proposal	GPC	TWBC
23/03213/FUL L	12 Flimwell Close, Flimwell, Wadhurst, Kent, TN5 7PP	Three storey dwelling house and detached garage	Refuse The Council raised concerns regarding the scale and mass of the proposal, particularly in relation to neighbouring properties, character and street scene. Concerns were also raised over the height of the building and the close proximity to the A21.	Refuse
23/03283/ENV SCR	12 Flimwell Close Flimwell Wadhurst Kent TN5 7PP	EIA Screening Opinion: Three storey dwelling house and detached garage (23/03213/FULL refers)	No comment	Refuse
23/03239/FUL L	Winchet Hall, Winchet Hill, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 1JX	Loft conversion with dormer window, rooflights & roof balcony to front elevation (South), Rooflights & gable picture window to side elevation (west) and hidden dormer windows to rear elevation (north)	Refuse– the mass and scale of the proposed elevation and dormer window are against the rest of the building. It is also noted The Design and Access Statement and other key part of the applications are missing.	
23/03348/FUL L	Crowbourne Grange, Station Road, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 1EQ	Conversion of ancillary building to a single dwelling with extension and associated hard and soft landscaping works	Approve	
MG/CTIL_113 579 24	Proposed Base Station Upgrade At Ctil_113579 24, Cherry Garden Farm, Pump Field, Jarvis	CTIL_113579 24, Cherry Garden Farm To improve 3G, 4G and add 5G network coverage for VMO2.	No comment to make accept the address needs tweaking as it is not in Cherry Garden Farm.	

**Appendix 3 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 13 February 2024**

Recommendations and Decisions January 2024

	Lane, Goudhurst, Kent, Tn17 1Dy (Ngr: 573290, 137941)			
23/03286/FUL L	Pethrick, Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 1DP	Demolition of existing rear extension and partial demolition of garage. Erection of single storey side and rear extension. Alterations to external appearance of whole house.	Approve subject to resolution of boundary dispute with neighbour.	
23/03454/FUL L	The Stables, Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 2QR	Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a detached dwelling with associated landscape and ecological enhancement works, including removal of hardstanding and menage and partial change of use of paddock to garden curtilage.	Refuse, based on size and scale of the proposal, along with being detrimental to the landscape and neighbouring properties within the conservation area. In addition, the suggestion materials proposed are also against the characteristics the other surrounding dwellings. The Council noted and repeat the comments made by the Conservation Officer.	
23/03487/FUL L	Lidwells Stables , Lidwells Lane, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 1JJ	Conversion of stable building to dwelling with extension, external alterations and landscape enhancement.	Approve based on considerations to potential light pollutions for properties over the road.	