

Goudhurst Parish Council



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL on Tuesday 12 March 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), Julia Kiggell, Phil Kirkby, Geoff Mason, Ed Read-Cutting, Paul Wareham and Alison Webster (arrived at 20.18 - working).

Officers present: Claire Reed, Clerk; Kat Hoyle, Deputy Clerk and Panetta Horn, RFO.

Others present: None

APOLOGIES

687/23 Apologies were received from Edward Hodgskin (unwell), Suzie Kember (unwell), David Knight (at Lamberhurst) and Caroline Richards (family emergency).

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

688/23 There were none.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

689/23 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 February 2024, 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

690/23 **County Councillor Sean Holden was not present. Borough Councillors David Knight and Alison Webster were also absent.**

ACCOUNTS

691/23 Council **noted** the summary of receipts and payments in February 2024.

Receipts UTB in February 2024

VAT reclaim	£17,228.35
Burial Authority	£145.00
Rental – Mary Days garages	£936.00

Receipts CCLA in January & February 2024

	£895.85
Total Receipts	£19,169.20

Payments in February 2024

UTB	£12,197.92
CCLA	£0.00
Total payments	£12,197.92

Cash Balances at Bank

UTB at 29 th February 2024	£106,556.63
CCLA at 29 th February 2024	£100,216.85
Total	£206,741.53

- 692/23 Council **resolved** to approve the payments for March 2024 as presented at the meeting and detailed in Appendix 1.
- 693/23 It was **resolved** that Cllrs Geoff Mason and Craig Broom would approve the electronic payments on UTB. **Action: RFO**
- 694/23 It was **noted** that the Bank Reconciliations for Q3 need to be checked and signed by nominated councillors. This will be actioned at the forthcoming Finance Committee meeting. **Action: RFO**
- 695/23 It was **noted** that UTB were awaiting proof of address from Cllr David Knight in order to be able to open a new deposit account. Once open, the account should accrue additional funds in the region of £400 a month. **Action: Cllr David Knight**

CORE VALUES

- 696/23 Council received an update on proposals for new core values for the council. It was **agreed** that the working group will consolidate suggestions and report back at the next meeting. **Action: Cllrs Edward Hodgskin, Ed Read-Cutting and Paul Wareham.**

RESOLUTIONS

- 697/23 Council **resolved** to establish a separate Staffing Committee and to appoint Cllrs Craig Broom, Edward Hodgskin, Julia Kiggell, and Geoff Mason (Chair) as members of the committee. It was **noted** that the Committee's Terms of Reference will be considered by the newly formed committee and a proposed Terms of Reference will be presented to Council for a decision at the next meeting. **Action: Staffing Committee**

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

- 698/23 Council resolved to adopt the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 27 February 2024 and noted the decisions made:
- The Millennium Walk leaflet to be scanned and added to the website with a new QR code to be added to the way markers.
 - To add composite decking to the base of the duck house to aid flotation.
 - To investigate the pond filtration system on Goudhurst Pond.
 - To repair the faulty external light at the public toilets and the indoor light in the Gents' Toilets.
- 699/23 It was noted that a group of volunteers had been assembled to organise Goudhurst Parish in Bloom 2024, Cllr Antony Harris will act as the Council liaison.
- 700/23 It was **noted** that there was an appetite for a village litter pick this spring. It was agreed that Cllr Geoff Mason would liaise with his contacts and supply the office with a proposed date. **Action: Cllr Geoff Mason/ Deputy Clerk.**

STAFFING COMMITTEE

- 701/23 It was **noted** that the Clerk has reduced her working hours to 30 hours per week, with her day off on Wednesday. The Deputy Clerk has increased her hours to 22 hours a week.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

- 702/23 **Recent planning Applications;** Please see Appendix 3.
- 703/23 Cllrs Craig Broom and Antony Harris fed back on the KALC Planning Conference that they attended earlier today.
- 704/23 It was **noted** that the Committee had submitted an objection, in support of Horsmonden Parish Council, to the large proposed development at Bassett's Farm in Horsmonden.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 705/23 Cllr Antony Harris Briefed council on:
- **Residents' Survey.** A number of responses have been received so far, it is expected that the final figure will be in the region of a 10% response rate.
 - **Closure of High Weald Academy.** There is a campaign for a new non-selective school. Flyers will be sent to local primary schools, less than 7 miles from Cranbrook. It is anticipated that Mascalls will be extended to 12 form entry.
 - **KALC Area Committee Meeting.** There are similar issues in other rural parishes, so it was agreed to coordinate action on common issues with TWBC and KCC.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

- 706/23 Cllr Alison Webster reported:
- Borough Ward.** The new Rural Tunbridge Wells ward is the biggest in the borough with 7,500 electors. It will be difficult for members to represent the whole ward.
- Road safety** – Goudhurst and Lamberhurst have the highest number of road casualties in the area, 45 in last year, however 43 occurred on the A21.

CLERK'S REPORT

- 707/23 It was **noted** that £25 will be donated to the Hospice in the Weald as requested by the owner of the organ which entertained visitors to the Christmas Fair 2023.
- 708/23 There has been a rapid increase in the number of interments in Goudhurst. They have increased from an average of 12 a year in 2019 to 27 in the current tax year.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 709/23 A letter of thanks has been received from Kilndown Village Trusts following the maintenance grant.
- 710/23 A local business owner has written to the council regarding the purchase of a new Parish Office.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 711/23 There were none.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- 712/23 Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 09 April 2024 at 7.00pm for **7.15pm** in the Church Rooms.

The meeting closed at 9.24pm

Claire Reed
Clerk

Appendix 1 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 12 March 2024

Accounts Payable March 2024

Payment Ref	Invoice Number	Supplier	Description	Gross	Net	VAT Code	VAT	Authorisation Ref
24028	2459	F&C	Cleaning of Balcombes Toilets	796.80	664.00	s	132.80	Contract
24029		Ann Millward	Burial Digitisation 12 hours @ £15	180.00	180.00	z	0.00	Contract
24030	42372 42373	Envirocure	Monthly L8 checks	106.00 18.00	88.33 15.00	s	17.67 3.00	Contract
24031	4483	HugoFox	Years subs for Planning tracker support	144.00	120.00	S	24.00	Contract
24032	35719	Iden Signs	Artwork for Millennium walks sign	30.00	5.00	s	25.00	Contract
24033	2459	F&C	Toilet Cleaning	796.00	664.00	s	132.80	Contract
24034	264	Signature Plants	Replace and maintain tree at sports field	936.00	780.00	s	156.00	Amenities
24035	70406810	PHS	Annual sanitary services	902.11	751.76	S	150.35	Contract
24036	9073792619	KALC	2 Places Annual Planning Conference	168.00	140.00	S	28.00	Council
24037	28816	Grounds Management	2 places on Football Grounds Maint contracts	92.00	76.66	s	15.34	Clerk
24038	140974	Pear Technology	Parish Map with PROW	114.00	95.00	S	19.00	Clerk
24039		Richard Greenaway	Base for bench in play equipment	312.68	312.68	Z	0.00	Clerk

Appendix 2 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 12 March 2024

Recommendations and Decisions February 2024

Application	Address	Proposal	GPC	TWBC
24/00048	Bedgebury Cross Stables Bedgebury Road Goudhurst Cranbrook Kent TN17 2RD	Conversion and extension of existing stable building into a single dwelling house, with associated garden land, parking, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements.	Approve with the following conditional, sand school removed and return to pasture before building work commence.	
24/00095/LBC	Riseden Cottage, Ranters Lane, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 1HJ	Listed Building Consent -Replacement extension and conservatory with 2 storey extension to rear/side, replacement porch, alterations to dormer with associated landscaping and internal reconfigurations.	Refuse, due to size and scale and design appearance and materials considered. It is noted the proposed elevations are not complimentary to the existing listed building	
24/00094	Riseden Cottage , Ranters Lane, Goudhurst, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 1HJ	Replacement extension and conservatory with 2 storey extension to rear/side, replacement porch, alterations to dormer with associated landscaping.	Refuse, due to size and scale and design appearance and materials considered. It is noted the proposed elevations are not complimentary to the existing listed building	
24/00180/SUB	May Farm Chicks Lane Kilndown Cranbrook Kent	Submission of Details in Relation to Condition 4 - (Landscape scheme) of 23/02881/FULL.	Approve	
24/00266/AGR IC	Royal Oak Farm London Road Flimwell Hawkhurst Kent	Prior Notification of agricultural/forestry development - Erection of portal framed building to replace timber structure.	Approve, subject to TW recommendations	

Appendix 2 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 12 March 2024

Recommendations and Decisions February 2024

24/00357	May Farm Chicks Lane Kilndown Cranbrook Kent	External hard landscaping associated with new residential development approved under application ref:22/03361/FULL	Approve subject to appropriation communication and signage regarding the temporary closure of the public right of way.	
24/00388	Stable Cottage Cranbrook Road Goudhurst Cranbrook Kent TN17 1DY	Removal of flat roof and reinstating catslide roof. Erection of an outdoor kitchen structure. (part-retrospective)	Approve, although noted many retrospective have been submitted recently	
24/00266/AGR IC	Royal Oak Farm London Road Flimwell Hawkhurst Kent	Prior Notification of agricultural/forestry development - Erection of portal framed building to replace timber structure	Approve, subject to TW recommendations	
24/00357	May Farm Chicks Lane Kilndown Cranbrook Kent	External hard landscaping associated with new residential development approved under application ref:22/03361/FULL	Approve subject to appropriation communication and signage regarding the temporary closure of the public right of way.	
23/03286	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.	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.	Approve

Appendix 2 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 12 March 2024

Recommendations and Decisions February 2024

23/03487	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.	Approve
----------	---	---	---	---------