** **Goudhurst Parish Council****

**AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a Meeting held on 19th August 2025 at 7.30pm in The Church Rooms, Back Lane, Goudhurst.

**PARTICIPANTS**

 Members of the Committee: David Knight, Suzie Kember, Ed Read-Cutting, Peter Rolington and Alison Webster.

 Officers: Rebecca Barden (Assistant Clerk)

 Ex-Officio: Phil Kirkby

# **APOLOGIES**

312/25 Received and accepted from Cllrs Mason (Family commitment) and Wareham (Holiday)

**TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

313/25 Cllr Knight was proposed as Chairman by Cllr Webster and seconded by Cllr Read-Cutting; the Committee unanimously agreed. Cllr Webster was proposed as Vice Chairman by Cllr Knight which was seconded by Cllr Kember and then unanimously agreed by the Committee. **Resolved: Cllr Knight and Cllr Webster to be appointed as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.**

**TO REVIEW THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE.**

314/25 The Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference dated 13 December 2021 and **resolved** to approve them for the upcoming year. **Action: Assistant Clerk to amend the date on the Amenities Committee Terms of Reference to document their approval.**

**DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

315/25 There were none.

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

316/25 The minutes from the meeting of 22nd April 2025, were approved and signed as a correct record.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

317/25 There were none.

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROPOSAL TO INSTALL PLAY EQUIPMENT AT LURKINS RISE**.

318/25 The Assistant Clerk gave a brief update on the situation. Cllr Kember asked when comments were required by. **Action: Clerk to finalise questionnaire, arrange printing and delivery.**

**TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE UPON THE PURCHASE OF 4 NEW BINS AND THE ASSOCIATED EMPTYING COSTS.**

319/25Assistant Clerk informed the Committee that requests had been received for the purchase and installation of 2 additional bins – one at Mile Lane and one for the new seating area at the Lower Glebe. Committee discussed the need for the bins and the associated costs, including their purchase, installation and emptying. **Resolved: to purchase 3 bins, to arrange their installation and appoint a contractor for emptying and maintenance. To monitor the need for a bin at the Lower Glebe picnic area and discuss at a later Committee Meeting. Action: Assistant Clerk to order 3 new bins, arrange for their installation and appoint a contractor for emptying and maintenance.**

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE WORK AT THE LOWER GLEBE, TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE UPON THE QUOTE FOR ROTIVATING AND SEEDING ALONGSIDE THE PATH AND RAISED BEDS.**

320/25Assistant Clerk explained the reasoning for the quoted work. The Committee discussed whether the work was required and questioned whether the timing was appropriate. **Resolved: To review the work in the Autumn/Spring. Action: Assistant Clerk to liaise with contractor and re-arrange the timings for the work.**

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SURFACE SKIMMER FOR QUARRY POND IN KILNDOWN.**

321/25 Assistant Clerk updated the Committee on the current situation.

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE REPAIR OF THE HANDWASHER/DRIER IN THE PUBLIC TOILETS AT BALCOMBES HILL.**

322/25Assistant Clerk gave an update and informed the Committee that the office was waiting for a date for the repair to be carried out.

**TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE UPON ACTION REGARDING THE MAINTENCE/UPDATING OF THE DOORS AT THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES ON BALCOMBES HILL.**

323/25Assistant Clerk provided feedback on the quotes for replacement/repair of the doors. It was decided that these costs were prohibitive and alternative options were discussed. **Resolved: To investigate the cost and feasibility of repainting the doors and affixing new metal protective panels. Action: Assistant Clerk to obtain costings and report back to Committee.**

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROPOSAL TO REVIEW AND UPDATE THE CCTV SYSTEM.**

324/25Cllr Rolington gave an update on his research and provided a spreadsheet highlighting the proposed phased roll out. Cllr Kember asked whether the new seating area could be covered by CCTV. **Resolved: Cllr Rolington to continue to investigate and obtain quotes. A sum of £9k be allocated for Phase 1. Action: Cllr Rolington to obtain quotes and report back to Committee. RFO to allocate £9k for phase 1.**

**TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE UPON THE FORMAT FOR THE “WHAT’S ON THIS MONTH” BOARD IN THE WINDOW OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE.**

325/25Cllr Wareham is due to prepare a format for the display board which will be trialled for one month. **Resolved: To carry out the proposed one month trial and feedback to Committee. Action: Cllr Wareham to prepare the format for the display board.**

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED TATTLEBURY TRIANGLE PROJECT.**

326/25Assistant Clerk gave an update on the project and informed the Committee that this was now being carried out by the Clerk. A further update will be provided at Full Council.

**TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE UPON THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PA SYSTEM.**

327/25 Cllr Kirkby discussed the need to replace the current PA system which is 10+ years old and outdated. The PA system gets a lot of use and is a community asset. The replacement system would need to be battery powered. **Resolved: To obtain quotes for the cost of replacing the system and compare to the cost of hiring. Action: Cllr Kirkby to obtain quotes and feed back to Committee.**

**TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE QUARRY CENTRE, KILNDOWN.**

328/25 Cllr Read-Cutting informed the Committee that the Quarry Centre was losing money, was very expensive to run and required an action plan. Cllr Webster asked whether a village survey would be helpful to identify what is required. **Resolved: Kilndown Councillors to discuss options with Lynda Shepherd. Action: Councillors to meet with Lynda Shepherd and report back to Committee.**

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE POND ON THE PLAIN.**

329/25 Assistant Clerk gave an update on the dye treatment and the repair/replacement of the fountain. **Resolved: to prepare a sign to be placed at the pond explaining the dye treatment. Action: Assistant Clerk to create a sign and place at the pond.**

**TO DISCUSS BUDGETS AND PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR.**

330/25 Cllr Knight outlined the current projects and asked for suggestions for any other work that was required/had been requested. Cllr Read-Cutting asked for the provision of another bin (with a lid) for dog waste bags in Kilndown near the entrance to the woods.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

331/25 Assistant Clerk spoke about the Mary Days’ garages and the need for the contract to be amended to include approved procedures to collect arrears. A former Councillor has offered to look at and amend the contract. The criteria for allocating garages were also discussed. **Resolved: To accept the offer of help from the retired Councillor. To offer available garage space to those living in closest proximity rather than a first come basis. Action: Assistant Clerk to forward the contract to the retired Councillor and seek their assistance. Assistant Clerk to offer the available garage to the next person on the waiting list who meets the allocation criteria.**

# **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Next Amenities Committee Meeting on Tuesday 21st October 2025

The meeting closed at 9.08pm

Rebecca Barden

Assistant Clerk

19th August 2025