

# Goudhurst Parish Council

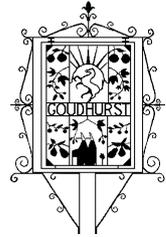


## Meeting of the Parish Council 10th March 2026

MEETING  
10 March 2026 19:30 GMT

PUBLISHED  
5 March 2026

# Goudhurst Parish Council



To: Members of Goudhurst Parish Council

I summon you to Meeting of Goudhurst Parish Council on Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> 2026 at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start in The Church Rooms, Back Lane, where business detailed on this agenda will be discussed. At 7.15pm, members of the public are invited to speak with Councillors, but the meeting will officially start at 7.30pm.

Members of the Public and the Press are welcome to attend this meeting and to ask questions or raise issues of local interest during the 7.15pm to 7.30pm session. 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina Hoyle', written in a cursive style.

Katrina Hoyle  
Clerk to Goudhurst Parish Council  
5<sup>th</sup> March 26

Parish Council Office – 3 Fountain House, High Street, Goudhurst, KENT. TN17 1AL  
01580 212552 | <https://goudhurst-pc.gov.uk>

Quorum for Council: 4 Members

# Agenda

Location	Date	Time
The Church Rooms, Back Lane, Goudhurst.	10 Mar 2026	19:30 GMT

Item	Page
7.15pm - prior to the start of the meeting. Questions and comments from members of the press and public.	-
This is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or raise issues of local interest. 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)).	-
1 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given.	-
2 Declarations of Interest	-
3 To approve and sign the minutes, as a correct record the Parish Council from the Meeting held on Tuesday 10th February 2026	5
Members are reminded that only issues relating to material accuracy can be discussed.	-
4 To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors (limited to 10 minutes in total).	9
5 RFO Report	-
5.1 To resolve to approve payments for February 2026	10
5.2 To appoint two Councillors to authorise payments online	-
6 Resolutions	-
6.1 To resolve to appoint the contractor for cleaning Chequer Field Pavilion, based on the two quotes	13
6.2 To resolve to agree the material for the bench on Plain and agree the direction moving forward	16
6.3 To resolve to agree the meeting dates for 2026-27 and locations	18
7 To confirm a meeting date for the staffing working group to discuss amended policies	-
8 To discuss the options for village upkeep walk around and maintenance scheduling monitoring	-
9 To discuss options for a parish litter pick and agree any action to be taken	-
10 To receive an update from the Emergency Plan Working Group	-
11 To receive an update on the Local Government Reorganisation and any KALC news	-
12 Council to note the minutes of the following Committees and the decisions made	-
13 Amenities Meeting held on February 16th 2026	20
14 Projects Committee 24th February 26	23

**Item**

**Page**

Note: the strategic plan, as in the Projects Minutes, has been updated since this meeting. It will be brought to full council after finance. This is a working document

15	Planning Decisions	39
16	Chairman's Report	-
17	Clerk's Report	-
18	Correspondence	40
19	Items for information	-
20	Date of next Meeting , 14th April start at The Church Rooms.	-

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 held at the Church Rooms, Back Lane

Open Session was held between 7.15 to 7.30pm. No members of the public in attendance.

### PARTICIPANTS

**Councillors present:** Phil Kirkby (Chairman), David Knight (Borough Councillor), Peter Rolington, Craig Broom, Paul Wareham, Suzie Kember, Caroline Richards

**Others present:**

**Officers present:** K Hoyle Clerk

### APOLOGIES

584/25 Apologies were received from Ed Read Cutting (work commitments) Helen Yeo (working) and Geoff Mason (away in London) accepted by Full Council

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

585/25 There were none.

### MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

586/25 It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025, were approved.

### REPORTS FROM COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

587/25 Cllr David Knight, confirms elections should be still happening in May. Some Councillors went to the opening of The WineMakers Pub, offering support. There was a bad fire in Kilndown, highlighting an issue around parking, which has been addressed. The Borough and Police have been repeatedly informed regarding escaping ponies in Kilndown and recent meetings took place with the head of planning regarding ongoing planning enforcement throughout the parish.

588/25 The Council noted the report from Cllr Claudine Russell, as referenced in the appendices

### **Resolutions**

RFO Report

589/25 It was **resolved** to approve the payments for January 2025 as listed below

		Budget	YTD Balance	Reasoning
5106	Office Cleaning and Maint	1500	2337	Remedial electrical work of £1235 and redecoration of £385 were unbudgeted but necessary expenditure
5109	The Plain Utilities	1040	2662	£1600 additional electricity for pond pump following upgrade.
5111	Office utilities	2700	4796	Late receipt of Electricity Bill resulted in incurring charges for period Sept 24 to Mar 25 in this years costs. Additional large bill taken on direct debit for £1796 due to mix up with estimated meter reading. Refund expected.
5161	Minor Expenses	500	685	£50 non slip chair mats to counteract slopping floor. £164 staff name badges. £60 on new keys following replacement lock, plus spares. £52 summer and winter planting of window boxes.£107 Installation of signage in village. £165 window display boards in office.
5170	Office Loan Repayment	8593	9763	Estimated repayment cost was set too low.
5180	Maps. Leaflets and Publicity	100	165	Flyers for Lurkins Rise survey
5201	Training	1500	1604	CiCLA training for all staff approved which was unbudgeted.
5300	Plain	1000	2364	Electrical works and meters £587 and siltex £870
5350	GF grounds Maint	9645	15559	Additional work required to meet with the sports grant criteria
5351	CF Pavilion Maint	2000	2667	£419 spent on replacement hand drier unbudgeted £134 spent on unblocking toilet unbudgeted £318 spent on electrical work - unbudgeted
5360	KD Quarry Pond Maint	0	2667	Floating lake skimmer unbudgeted.
5388	CCTV Maint	600	1005	£467 spent on cable work at GVH, work planned for 26/27 but brought forward whilst scaffolding was in place
5394	Parish Bins	0	643	Project planned for 2026/7 with £1600 budget, purchased early.
5915	Christmas Tree and lights	500	537	Purchase of new lights for Church £37

- 590/25 It was **resolved** for Cllr Phil Kirkby and Cllr Craig Broom to authorise the online payments via Unity Bank
- 591/25 It was **agreed** for Cllr Caroline Richards and Alison Webster to become the Trustees of the Dorothy Bathurst Charity
- 592/25 It was **agreed** for the next Amenities to be held at the Quarry Centre, as a trial run to allow further availability for residents. It was further agreed for a Full Council Meeting to be held in the Kilndown Village Hall in September for the same reason.
- 593/25 Councillors noted the draft meeting schedule and will feed back any comments to be resolved in March.
- 594/25 It was **noted** Councillors had, or were in the process of, completing the GDPR Training

#### EMERGENCY PLANNING WORKING GROUP

- 595/25 The meeting took place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm in the Parish Office and Peter Rolington will share a draft when possible.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

- 596/25 Cllr Antony Harris updated the council on Local Government Reorganisation, the latest proposals with the number of unitary authorities dropping to a possible two. It was also

noted suggestions given at the KALC meeting regarding the role of parish councils in the new authority and encouraged for the Clerk office, and councillors to share any views. It was noted many parishes were also having issues around Planning Enforcement action.

597/25 Council noted the Chairman's Report which included confirmation of the precept has been submitted.

598/25 Council **noted** the Highways Committee resolutions and decisions.

- Following an online meeting with MP Mike Martin, satnav providers are updating HGV routing, a "Name and Shame" reporting initiative is being launched, and Cllr Rolington has an app that could support Lorrywatch
- It was noted that KCC has cleaned the interceptor; Cllr Russell will follow up with KCC on the potential asset handover and on the repeatedly reported blocked High Street drains.
- HIP scheme submission is ready for Tunbridge Wells grant application. The Clerk will ask whether a second scheme may also be submitted, given the cost being under funding availability
- Following correspondence from a local resident it is agreed to explore the option of upgrading the path around the Upper Glebe to improve access
- Parishioners continue to report issues on Chequers Road, all fed back to KCC; residents are advised to document any crashes, and the Clerk will work with KCC to add this section to the HIP as the next safety priority
- Committee noted the response regarding a possible one-way system in Goudhurst

599/25 Council **noted** the Planning Decisions made. It was **noted** following the discussions with Bethany School in relation to the opening to the public of performing arts centre, and swimming pool, Parish Councillors have been invited to view the facilities. Dates to be circulated by Cllr Harris.

#### CHAIRMAN REPORT

600/25 Chairman reminded Councillors regarding the date of the IT Training being held by Cllr Craig Broom. Councillors were also invited to attend a "walk around" the village amenities and would share dates.

#### CLERK REPORT

601/25 Council noted the following report:

Mole activity has reappeared on the Glebe and the contractor will return to carry out further treatment. The bench on The Plain has deteriorated beyond repair and a full replacement is recommended, with options for a new hardwood or composite/metal bench to be brought forward once the existing unit is removed. The church gates are scheduled for replacement this week, with the existing hardware being reused as agreed with the Vicar. Approval is requested to undertake the project-management webinar series (11:00–12:00) at a cost of £113. Groundworks for the new bins are being completed this week, and the annual leave diary will shortly be updated on the Councillor Portal. Members are asked to consider any actions or expenditure required before the end of the financial year. Revised Financial Regulations will be presented to Council in March.

### Correspondence

602/25 It was noted Dynamos wrote a letter of thanks for the painting of the pavilion  
It was noted the correspondence from Bewl Water requesting  
It was noted the correspondence regarding enforcement over the Balcombes Hill  
Development

### Items for information

603/25 Cllr David Knight reminded members of the Kilndown Recipe Book

Date of next meeting: *10 March 2026*

### Meeting

K.Hoyle.  
Clerk and Proper Officer  
13<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## KCC Members Report for Parish Council – Cllr Claudine Russell

March 2026

### **Council Overview**

The budget was set at 3.99%, rather than my thoughts on this the S151 officer compiles a section 25 assurance statement which is published along with the budget and contains the following:

“This approach does not come without significant risks with the risk on adult social care now considered to be on a par with the risk on special education needs (SEND) spend as the highest risks. The decision to raise the council tax household charge below the level permitted without a referendum poses a long-term financial risk as a result of the council tax income forgone.”

### **Cranbrook Division**

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS FOR TWBC £25k – I know that this process has been disappointing in various ways across the patch. I have been trying my best to act as the go-between, demanding meetings and responses to short timescales and meanwhile trying to persuade Rob Wormington at TWBC to have a second round of bidding. Unfortunately he will not enter in to a second round of bidding and I’m afraid I don’t know where the balance of the funds will be directed – it will be a question for the TWBC Cllrs to find out. The main HIP process will still exist after this and I will be asked officer for reviews over the summer to see where we are with the schemes and how we will achieve the next steps.

CRANBROOK – The meeting with the cabinet member for education and the KCC officers went well and there are some positive next steps to take. The pavement parking meeting was also productive and it was interesting to listen to what the other authority members such as the police are doing about the ongoing situation. I have asked KCC highways officers if they will organise another HIP meeting for Cranbrook in May/June time.

GOUDHURST – Nothing new to report this month – I am still chasing a number of outstanding drainage queries with KCC.

HAWKHURST – I am still awaiting the outcome of the Ombudsman review into the 4<sup>th</sup> pedestrian crossing and I have updated my case file with site photographs of the recent emergency works that laid a 4<sup>th</sup> temporary pedestrian crossing in the exact same place that the crossing used to be.

BENENDEN – Nothing new to report this month.

FRITTENDEN – The meeting with KCC officers, a TWBC cllr and a parish council representative was held and a number of future steps have been outlined. I took minutes of the meeting which have been agreed by all that were present and have passed these to the parish council. I visited Frittenden Primary School and the headteacher kindly gave up some of her day so that I could understand school budgets and organisation from their side of things, this will be invaluable for my work on the childrens, young people and education committee.

Please email me for help on any issues: [Claudine.Russell@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Claudine.Russell@kent.gov.uk)

# Goudhurst Parish Council

## RFO report to Council

Accounts to 28/02/2026

These figures will be presented to Council at the March 2026  
Council meeting.

### Receipts UTB in February 2026

Burial Charges	825
	<hr/>
Garage Rent	186
	<hr/>
	<b>991</b>

### Receipts Instant Access in February 2026

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0

### Receipts CCLA in February 2026

Dividend payment	TBA
	<hr/>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>991</b>

### Payments February 2026

UTB	18,290
	<hr/>
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>18,290</b>

### Cash Balances at Bank as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026

UTB	10,337
CCLA (as at 31.1.26)	184,888
	<hr/>
Instant Access	32,413
	<hr/>
<b>Current Balances</b>	<b>227,638</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>

**Accounts Payable to 05.03.2026 for authorisation**

Code	Payee	Description	Gross	Net
	Salaries	Staff pay and HMRC	6,127.96	6,127.96
27379	Veolia	bin emptying burial ground Feb	44.98	37.48
27380	F&C	Cleaning services to 12/2	757.20	631.00
27382	Greenaway	Install Litterbins and office hanging system	164.44	164.44
27383	Goudhurst Village hall	Contribution toward electricity for Pond	200.00	200.00
<b>27385</b>	<b>Pearsons</b>		<b>1,820.62</b>	
		Feb Plain Maint	235.62	196.35
		Mar St Marys Maint	1,280.00	1,066.67
27386	Abigail Horn	15 hours Burial Digitisation	225.00	225.00
27387	Perinda Skilton	Feb office cleaning	80.00	80.00
<b>27389</b>	<b>SLCC</b>		<b>454.60</b>	
		Project Management Course	138.60	115.50
		Clerks Membership	316.00	316.00
27390	Rialtas	Rialtas Webb Support	484.80	404.00
<b>27391</b>	<b>Tate</b>		<b>4,550.04</b>	
		Balance of Cemetery gates	2,090.88	1,742.40
		50% deposit for Church Gates	2,459.16	2,059.30
27392	Kay Bowles	Refund of duplicate payment	409.00	409.00



# Pandas pristine cleans



*Perinda Skilton*

25 Whitepost Wood Lane  
Aylesford  
Kent  
ME20 7NU

## QUOTATION

DATE: 02/02/2026

**TO:**  
Goudhurst Parish Council

**FOR:**  
Commercial cleaning services

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	RATE PER UNIT	AMOUNT
Monthly clean at The Pavilion, Beaman Close  Vacuuming throughout Mopping of all floors Wet clean two shower rooms including disinfecting Cleaning and disinfecting all toilets Removal of cobwebs. Washing windows and mirrors Wiping skirting boards, door frames, wall furnishings, sensors and changing benches and pegs.  Price per clean		20	100

		TOTAL	100.00

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide a quotation for the cleaning of the Goudhurst Pavilion.

We fully understand the requirements and are pleased to offer the following service:

Monthly Deep Clean of the Pavilion, including:

- Vacuuming, sweeping, and mopping of all floor areas
- Dusting and disinfecting of all hard surfaces, including the kitchen area
- Cleaning and disinfecting of toilets, sinks, and mirrors
- Dusting of skirting boards, door frames, and radiators
- High-level cleaning (e.g. sensors, clocks, pictures, and door frames)

Price: £200 + VAT per clean

We trust this meets with your approval and assure you of our best attention at all times.

Kind regards,

Ollie

F&C Cleaning Services Ltd

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The circular bench around the large tree on the Plain is damaged due to rot. During discussions at full council, and at Amenities three options have been raised for replacement:

- 1) Recycled plastic (from £1542)
- 2) Metal (budgetary figure of around £5k for one with a back and £3k for one without inc dipping and installation)
- 3) Hard wood (We are waiting on a quote for hard wood, but previously it was around £5-6K)



https://www.recycledfurniture.co.uk/Benches-and-Seating/Benches-and-Seats/Jersey-Bench?utm\_source=google&utm\_medium=product\_feed\_or\_listings&pl=STD&ccv...

0800 1777 052

What are you looking for? e.g. Picnic Tables, Benches, Planters

Login 0 item(s), £0.00

- Next Day Despatch
- Express Despatch
- Picnic Tables
- Benches and Seating
- Table and Chair Sets
- Planters and Raised Beds
- Bins and Bollards
- Fencing
- Accessories and Spare Parts
- Disabled Access Furniture
- Captain's Range
- Winawood Collection
- Memorial Furniture & Plaques
- Early Years and Junior
- Outdoor Play Furniture
- Trimtrail Sets

✓ FREE delivery to all UK Mainland addresses with this product

Description

Specifications

Colours

Benefits

- Manufactured from 100% recycled plastic
- Free plaque:** Promote your sustainability credentials with this bench, featuring a FREE plaque detailing how many plastic bottles were recycled to make it!
- Will never rot, splinter or corrode
- Fits into any environment
- Ideal for use in any outdoor area
- Made to withstand weather conditions all year round
- Lasts up to 5 times longer than timber!
- Completely maintenance free
- Available in bespoke size options, with or without backs - Call for a quote
- Free Delivery to all UK Mainland\* addresses**

Operations and Maintenance Manual

Request a Quote

Include VAT in prices

Product Code	Description	Dimensions	Colour	Weight	1+	Quantity
RFPY940	Jersey Round Bench	H425 x W1397 x D1397mm	Brown	150kg	£1524.00	1



# Goudhurst Parish Council

## Parish Council Meeting Dates 2026-27 (subject to change)

Meetings take place in the Church Rooms unless specified otherwise stated.

Agendas can be found at <https://goudhurst-pc.gov.uk>.



Month	Council Meeting	Planning Committee	Amenities Committee	'Highways' Committee	Projects Committee	Finance Committee	Burial Authority
<b>April</b>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>  7.30pm	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm			
<b>May</b>	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> 7pm  APM 21 <sup>st</sup> 6.30pm for 7pm start  Village Club	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm			Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  Fountain House	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm  Fountain House	
<b>June</b>	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> 6.30pm		Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm  (7.00pm for PP)		Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm  Fountain House	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> 6.00pm Fountain House
<b>July</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> 6.30pm	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 7.30pm				
<b>August</b>	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm			Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm		
<b>September</b>	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> 6.30pm		Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm (7.00pm for PP)		Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm  Fountain House	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> 6.00pm Fountain House

Month	Council Meeting	Planning Committee	Amenities Committee	'Highways' Committee	Projects Committee	Finance Committee	Burial Authority
<b>October</b>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm				
<b>November</b>	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm			Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm  Fountain House	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm  Fountain House	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> 1.00pm  <b>Council Office</b>
<b>December</b>	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm					
<b>January 2026</b>	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm		Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.00pm for PP)	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> 6pm Fountain House		
<b>February</b>	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> 6.30pm	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm				
<b>March</b>	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm (7.15 pm for PP)	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm  Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> 6.30pm				Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> 1.00pm  <b>Council Office</b>

**PP = Public Participation**

**Version Updated 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7.30pm in The Quarry Centre, Kilndown.

### PARTICIPANTS

Members of the Committee: Cllrs David Knight, Peter Rolington, Paul Wareham, Alison Webster and Phil Kirkby (Ex- Officio).

Officers: Rebecca Barden (Assistant Clerk)

Members Of The Public: Four members of the public were present.

### APOLOGIES

604/25 Received and accepted from Cllr Read-Cutting (Work Commitment), Cllr Kimber (work commitment) and Geoff Mason (Health issue).

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

605/25 There were none.

### QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

606/25 A member of the public asked for some weatherproof dog fouling signs for Kilndown. The Assistant Clerk informed them that there was a supply in the office and the Chairman stated that he would collect them from the office and deliver them. A Kilndown resident also asked whether the Parish Council would consider contributing towards a new bench for the woodland area in Kilndown where work was taking place. Cllr Kirkby advised them to apply for a grant which would be considered at the next Finance Meeting.

### MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

607/25 The minutes from the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025, were approved and signed as a correct record.

### TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PURCHASE OF 3 NEW BINS AND THE ASSOCIATED EMPTYING COSTS.

608/25 Assistant Clerk provided an update and stated that the concrete bases for the bins had been installed and that the bins would be put in place once the concrete had set. They also informed the Committee that the bin for Kilndown had been ordered and would be installed as soon as possible. The emptying of the bins has been arranged. **Resolved: To install all 4 bins. Action: Assistant Clerk to continue to liaise with the contractors regarding installation and emptying.**

### TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE QUOTES FOR CLEANING THE PUBLIC TOILETS.

609/25 Assistant Clerk informed the Committee that to ensure that the Council was obtaining value for money, two further quotes had been sought for this service. Both quotes were higher than the current service provider. The Committee were informed that comments had been received that the toilets were not as consistently clean following the reduction of cleaning from 6 days a week to 5 days a week. **Resolved: Assistant Clerk to investigate. Action: Assistant Clerk to speak to the contractor and seek their feedback.**

### TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE WORK AT THE LOWER GLEBE.

610/25 Assistant Clerk gave an update on the proposed work at the Lower Glebe and informed the Committee that the Pre-School had offered to take over the planting of the raised beds and

the contractor had been informed of this. The weeding and re-seeding will take place in March as agreed.

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ACTION REGARDING THE MAINTENANCE/UPDATING OF THE DOORS AT THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES ON BALCOMBES HILL.**

611/25 Assistant Clerk informed the Committee that they had received a quote for the painting of the doors. It was noted that this work was significantly less than the cost of replacing the doors. **Resolved: To agree the quote and arrange for the work to be carried out when the weather is better. Action: Assistant Clerk to inform the contractor.**

**TO DISCUSS THE WHAT'S ON BOARD AND THEIR USE TO PUBLICISE EVENTS RUN BY LOCAL BUSINESSES.**

612/25 Cllr Knight gave an update. **Resolved: To use the window to publicise events run by local businesses. Action: Assistant Clerk to include an article in the next e-newsletter regarding this facility.**

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

613/25 Cllr Rolington gave an update on the CCTV project. He is awaiting a third quote and will produce a matrix which he will report to Full Council. The need for a camera in Kilndown was raised and will be discussed at the next Kilndown Hall meeting. **Resolved: Cllr Rolington to continue liaising with contractors and document findings. Action: Cllr Rolington to report to Full Council.**

**TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE UPON THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SEAT AROUND THE TREE ON THE PLAIN**

614/25 Committee discussed the options for the material of the replacement bench. **Resolved: To bring this issue to Full Council for a decision. Action: Add item to Full Council agenda.**

**TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL FOR COUNCILLORS TO BE ASSIGNED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND PERFORM REGULAR REVIEWS.**

615/25 Assistant Clerk outlined the reasoning behind this, and it was agreed to bring this to Full Council. Cllr Knight stated that a tour of the Plain identified that two fencing posts needed to be replaced and that the village sign and finger posts required cleaning. **Resolved: To discuss at Full Council and assign areas of responsibility to all Councillors and obtain quotes/arrange cleaning. Action: Assistant Clerk to add this issue to Full Council agenda and obtain quotes for the posts and arrange the cleaning.**

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PA SYSTEM.**

616/25 Cllr Kirkby talked about the need to purchase a good quality system that will last a good length of time. It was suggested that the RFO should be consulted to identify the budget. **Resolved: RFO to be consulted to establish the available budget. Action: Assistant Clerk, RFO and Chairman to liaise to establish budget, identify and purchase the chosen PA system.**

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

617/25 There were none.

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Next Amenities Committee Meeting on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 in the Church Rooms, Goudhurst.

The meeting closed at 20.25pm

Rebecca Barden  
Assistant Clerk  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2026

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## PROJECT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 in the Parish Office

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs Alison Webster (CHAIRMAN), Phil Kirkby, Caroline Richards (VICE CHAIRMAN), Antony Harris.

Present: Cllr David Knight

Officer – Kat Hoyle Clerk (Minute Numbers TBC)

### APOLOGIES

/25 Cllr Craig Broom due to holiday. The Committee accepted his apologies.

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

/25 It was resolved to accept the Terms of Reference as referenced in the appendices.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

/25 There were none.

### PLAY EQUIPMENT ON LURKINS RISE

/25 The Committee noted the report as shown in the appendices. It was agreed to move forward with create a project brief to send out to tender.

### STRATEGIC REVIEW

/25 The Committee noted the strategic review, and objectives and asked for tweaks to the budget. This will be fed back into the Finance Committee and brought to Full Council.

### SHED IN PLAYGROUND

/25 It was agreed to add this to the projects objectives, to look at specs and quotes

### COMMITTEE UPDATES

/25 Cllr Richards updated on the Burial ground gate works which had taken place. Cllr Webster updated the CCTV unification was remaining with Amenities

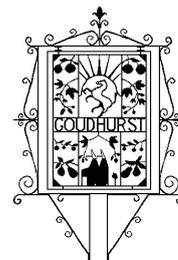
### ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

/25 There were none

### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Kat Hoyle  
24<sup>th</sup> February 2026

# Goudhurst Parish Council



## Projects Committee

### Terms of Reference

#### Purpose

The Projects Committee is responsible for the initiation and delivery of identified projects, including the management of larger schemes funded through external grants or Section 106 agreements. The Committee shall ensure regular reporting from committees delegated with control over projects within their remit. It shall monitor project progression, establish accountability mechanisms, and intervene with support as necessary to facilitate successful delivery.

Identified projects shall be outlined by each committee prior to the budget-setting process, with each project incorporated into the budget alongside defined delivery targets. Proposals for additional new projects must be scoped by the originating committee and submitted to the full Council for approval of additional budgetary allocations. Upon approval, such projects shall be placed under the oversight of the Projects Committee but managed operationally by the proposing Committee.

Furthermore, the Projects Committee shall oversee the administration of the Section 106 agreement between Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Goudhurst Parish Council, and relevant housing associations, specifically concerning the allocation of affordable housing within the Parish and the application of Section 106 funds to proposed projects.

#### Meetings

The Committee meets every two months (or as required) on a Tuesday. The required notice will be given to members via Board Intelligence.

#### Decision Making

The Clerk will advise members whether a particular item under discussion is within the Committee's delegated powers. If it is within delegated powers, the minutes will record the decision as RESOLVED. If not, then the minutes will record the decision as RECOMMENDED and it will then be brought to the attention of the Council for decision.

## **Enhancing Leisure and Play Spaces**

### **1. Introduction**

This report summarises the findings of the community engagement exercise undertaken to understand how residents currently use Lurkins Rise Field and suggestions for improvements. The consultation received responses from a broad range of age groups and reflects a diverse set of views regarding the future of the field.

### **2. Demographic Overview**

Responses were received from a wide age range, with the majority falling within:

- 25–40 years
- 41–60 years

Additional contributions came from:

- Under 12s
- 17–24s
- Over 60s

This distribution indicates strong engagement from families, working-age adults, and older residents.

### **3. Frequency of Field Use**

Respondents reported varied levels of use:

- Daily users: Primarily dog walkers and families with children.
- Weekly/Occasional users: A significant group using the field for dog walking, informal play, and general leisure.
- Rarely/Never users: A smaller cohort, often citing concerns about parking, traffic, dog mess, or a preference to preserve the field's natural state.

### **4. Current Uses of the Field**

The field is used for a range of informal activities, including:

- Dog walking – the most frequently cited use.
- Playing with children – informal play and ball games.
- Sports activities – football, frisbee, running.
- Walking and relaxing outdoors – general leisure and wellbeing.

### **5. Desired Equipment and Facilities**

Respondents identified a variety of potential improvements:

#### **5.1 Children's Play Equipment**

- Swings
- Slides
- Climbing frames

## 5.2 Sports Facilities

- Football goals
- Basketball hoops
- Trim trail

## 5.3 Leisure and Community Features

- Picnic tables and benches
- Community garden or flower beds
- Walking or jogging track
- Nature play area (logs, boulders; mixed views on sandpits)

## 5.4 Dog-Related Facilities

- Secure perimeter fencing
- Dog waste bins and poo bag dispensers
- Enclosed dog exercise area

## 5.5 Additional Suggestions

- Outdoor gym equipment
- Skate park
- Bike track or ramps
- Zip line
- Lighting
- Improved access paths
- Seating for older residents
- Buddy benches
- Toilets (raised by a small number)

## 6. Key Themes in Written Comments

### 6.1 Maintenance and Cleanliness

A strong theme across responses:

- Requests for rubbish bins and dog poo bins
- Concerns about dog mess preventing safe play
- Calls for regular maintenance, including grass cutting and bin emptying

### 6.2 Safety and Access

Respondents highlighted:

- Need for secure fencing to protect dogs and children
- Gates that cannot be lifted off hinges
- Improved footpaths for accessibility

### 6.3 Parking and Traffic Concerns

One of the most significant issues raised:

- Lurkins Rise is already heavily congested
- Fears that new facilities will attract additional vehicles
- Some residents suggested parking permits, driveways, or even converting part of the field to parking
- Strong concerns from residents who already struggle to park near their homes

#### **6.4 Preservation of Natural Beauty**

A vocal group expressed a preference for minimal intervention:

- Desire to keep the field “as it is”
- Concerns about ecological impact on hedgerows, trees, and wildlife
- Fears of increased antisocial behaviour if equipment is installed

#### **6.5 Community and Ecology**

Several respondents supported:

- Community gardens
- Fruit trees and wildflower areas
- Educational nature projects (e.g., mushroom logs, foraging sessions)
- Protecting habitats for birds of prey and other wildlife

#### **6.6 Inclusivity**

Requests included:

- Facilities for older children, not just younger ones
- Disabled-friendly access and seating
- Buddy benches to support social inclusion

### **7. Divergent Views**

The consultation revealed two clear perspectives:

#### **7.1 Pro-Development**

Primarily families and younger residents:

- Support installation of play equipment, sports facilities, and leisure amenities
- Believe the field is underused and could better serve the community
- Emphasise benefits for children living on Lurkins Rise and surrounding streets

#### **7.2 Anti-Development**

A smaller but strongly expressed group:

- Oppose changes due to ecological concerns, antisocial behaviour, and loss of natural beauty
- Some residents paying estate maintenance fees object to wider village influence over the field
- Concerns about financial waste and prioritisation of other village issues (e.g., central Goudhurst parking)

## **8. Conclusion**

The community is divided between those seeking enhanced facilities and those wishing to preserve the field's natural character. However, there is clear consensus on several points:

- Improved maintenance and cleanliness
- The installation of play equipment and sports equipment
- Better dog waste management
- Installation of rubbish bins
- Desire for ecologically sensitive improvements

## **9. Recommendations**

Based on the consultation findings and best practice in community park design, the following recommendations are proposed:

### **9.1 Develop a Balanced Multi-Use Space**

- Combine formal play equipment (swings, slides, climbing frames) with natural play features (logs, boulders).
- Provide sports facilities such as football goals and a basketball hoop.
- Install picnic tables and benches to support family use.

### **9.2 Strengthen Dog-Friendly Infrastructure**

- Install dog waste bins and poo bag dispensers.
- Explore a small enclosed dog area if supported by residents.

### **9.3 Prioritise Safety, Access, and Maintenance**

- Fit secure gates that cannot be lifted off hinges.
- Improve footpaths for accessibility.
- Consider low-impact lighting where appropriate.
- Commit to regular maintenance, including grass cutting and bin emptying.
- Retain hedgerows and mature trees.

### **Proposed next steps:**

Using the above summary, three companies to be approached, to conduct a survey and design an option for the field. The designs will be taken to the community through via a physical consultation, where the most popular will be voted, along with any additional suggestions.

In addition, the clerk will reinstate the change of use as the one in place has lapsed.

# Goudhurst Strategic Plan 2026 2027 (Project Specific)

## Purpose of the Strategic Plan

The purpose of this one-year Strategic Plan is to support Goudhurst Parish Council in making informed decisions that enable it to achieve its aims and objectives, all of which are focused on improving the quality of life for the community it serves. The priorities and planned activities set out within this document have directly shaped the Council's budget and precept for the 2026/27 financial year.

This Plan provides a structured framework to deliver the aspirations of the residents of Goudhurst (taken from the survey and recent consultations) within an agreed budget and timeframe. It is a 'live' document that will continue to evolve through ongoing community engagement, ensuring that it remains responsive to local needs and reflective of the Council's statutory responsibilities. As a dynamic working document, the Strategic Plan will be monitored and updated regularly to demonstrate progress and to assist Councillors in making decisions that are in the best interests of the parish.

## Opportunities for Community Involvement Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council has an element for Public Participation. All council meetings, including committees, are open to the public and time is set aside, prior to the commencement of the meeting, for members of the parish to make comments or to ask questions. An Annual Parish meeting is held in May each year giving residents the opportunity to have a say on local issues, find out what the parish council has been doing, and residents are given the opportunity to share their opinions on the services delivered by the council.

**To ensure that this Strategic Plan adequately represents the best interests of the parish, members of the local community were invited to participate in its development by way of surveys at face-to-face consultation.**

## **Goudhurst Parish Council: Strategic Plan: Main Aims and Objectives – April 2026 to March 2027 (Project Committee Specific)**

CATERGORY	AREA	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	TIMESCALES	BUDGET
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<b>Projects</b>	Lurkin's Rise Recreation Ground Upgrade	To design a cohesive and inclusive community space that meets the needs of all demographics within the St Mary's Estate, incorporating a balanced range of facilities such as children's play equipment, a dedicated sports area, a secure dog exercise space, and an environmentally responsible compostable dog-waste solution.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Using the survey results, create a tender brief and to send to three companies to quote for.</li> <li>2) Hold a public consultation showing the plans and for them to choose</li> <li>3) Seek the correct change of use, and planning permissions</li> <li>4) Book in works</li> <li>5) Create a scope of works, risk assessments and possible phasing due to budget restriction</li> <li>6) Research grants</li> <li>7) Program works to start</li> </ol> <p>Side: ensure budget for Rospa inspections, add to insurance and allocation sinking fund for future repairs</p>	<p>April 2026</p> <p>June 2026</p> <p>July 2026</p> <p>Sept 26?</p>	<p>£35K – 50% from S106</p> <p>Hopefully additional grants can be found.</p>
	Play Tables	To install three interactive play tables—a ping-pong table, a foosball table, and a games bench—to create opportunities for social interaction, intergenerational play, and community bonding.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Create a detailed drawing as to where the tables will go specifically on the Upper Glebe</li> </ol> <p>Seek permission from the Diocese, including the spec of the tables and precise location</p>	May/June 2026	£8000. From the 2026-27 budget/precept

		<p>Update the community, create the risk assessment, and organise the delivery</p> <p>Update asset register</p> <p>.</p>		
CCTV Unification	<p>To upgrade the existing village CCTV system to one, system, rather than two ensuring compliance with all the necessary GDPR regulations, CCTV governance and completing any blind spots within the village. Working the Police and a specialist company, the PC hope to improve coverage and to continue to support the community, particularly incidents on the roads.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Create a brief, summarising the number of cameras and the current supplier</li> <li>2) Upgrade the urgent camera to overlook the new Pavilion on the green to ensure coverage.</li> <li>3) Approach three different companies, for tender</li> </ol> <p>Implement, ensuring any new cameras have gone through the correct CCTV consultation and the policy is up to date. Update asset register</p>	<p>Already done</p> <p>Project will be phased due to the magnitude and cost implications.</p> <p>Phase one May 2026</p> <p>Phase two – by the December 2026</p> <p>Phase three 2027-28</p>	<p>Phase one and two £15,000 as in 2026-27 budget/precept</p>
Upgraded Christmas Lights	<p>Upgrade the festoon Christmas Lights on the Plain</p>	<p>Remove the broken lights and replace with new ones. Consider extending the lights onto the adjacent trees and village hall</p>	<p>To be completed by the Christmas Fair, end of November .</p>	<p>Costs allocated within Amenities budget</p>

Rubber Matting for Upper Glebe	Exploring the Option for the installation of Matting on the Upper Glebe	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Map out the area for potential matting on the upper Glebe to allow for parking.</li> <li>2) Explore the costing options, including installation and long term maintenance</li> </ol>	Tbc	This has not been budgeted for in this financial year.
New shed for the playground	Installing a new shed in the Upper Glebe Playground to store the football equipment and possible table and chairs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Explore options for size and base options</li> <li>2) If concrete is required, approval from Diocese.</li> <li>3) Work with Amenities to ensure the new fence works with the shed</li> </ol>	TBC	This has not been budgeted for in the next finance year.

# Goudhurst Strategic Plan 2026 2027

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**To ensure that this Strategic Plan adequately represents the best interests of the parish, members of the local community were invited to participate in its development by way of surveys at face-to-face consultation.**

CATERGORY	AREA	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	TIMESCALES	BUDGET
Parish Council Governance and Communication	Policies	Ensure all polices are up to date, and re adopted by the Full Council. Ensure all relevant legislation is includes and compliant with AGAR assertion 10	1) Continue to check all through all existing policies for re-evaluation dates.  Create a spreadsheet documenting all policy deadlines by moth and year.	Create the spreadsheet by April 26. Policies to be adopted throughout the year.	n/a
	Website	Ensure it is compliant with the Website Accessibility Regulations	1) Continue to monitor legal compliance with the regulations and implement	Ongoing	n/a
	Website	Ensure it is compliant with the Data Transparency Code	1) Clerk to ensure compliance with the code and update documents as required.  If not compliant, Clerk to continue working with Cllr Broom to implement changes.	Quarterly and annually	None required
	Village Calendar	To ensure up to date, and continue to encourage groups to publish on it	1) Assistant Clerk to make a note of all activities throughout the months  Publish on both the website and 2) newsletter	Monthly	None required
CATERGORY	AREA	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	TIMESCALES	BUDGET

<b>Amenities</b>	Village Events	Provide/support community events and encourage tourism in the local area.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Arrangements for the provision for a village Christmas trees</li> <li>2) Support the village with community events with admin support for road closures and risk assessments</li> </ol>	Annually	Costs within the agreed budget.
	New Bins	The installation of new bins	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Four new bins to be installed, and a private company to empty regularly</li> </ol>	Ongoing	Costs within the agreed budget.
	Playground Fencing	Upgrading the play fencing around the play ground	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Previously signed off, upgrading the wooden fencing with metal and extending out to the carpark area</li> </ol>	6 month – needed extending due to the possibility of the new shed	25/26 budget
	Village Pond	Continue to maintain the provision of fountain, and water treatments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Continue to pay the for annual maintenance costs of the pond</li> <li>2) Forewarn the community and explain the algae treatment, turning the pond blue.</li> </ol>	Annual	Costs within the agreed budget
	The Plain	Replacing the Bench around the tree	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Quotes for hard wood, recycled plastic, or metal</li> </ol>	To be completed asap	25/26 left over amenities budget
<b>Planning</b>		Ensure the balanced and overall interests of the village are reflected in comments made on planning applications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Continue to respond to planning applications review representing the views of the local community.</li> </ol>	Ongoing	None
<b>Burial</b>	Renovation works on the Victorian Cemetery	To upgrade the path, create additional space for memorials and the internment of ashes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To place reinforcements on the gates to keep the existing ones, but support them</li> <li>2) To relay the existing path to improve accessibility</li> <li>3) To ensure the curb of the path is wide enough to allow for memorial plaques.</li> </ol>	<p>April 26 for the gates</p> <p>May- June for the renovation work but weather dependant</p>	£8000 from the 2026/27 budget/precept .

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4) To allocate and document the additional ashes interment spots at the back end of the site</li> <li>5) To complete a general tidy up of the site, backfill holes, and remove any invasive shrubs</li> <li>6) To create wildflower meadow, cultivated with complementing pollinating plants and a bench for reflection.</li> </ol>		
<b>Highways</b>	Highways Improvement Plan	To continue to serve the residents working with Kent County Council Highways to improve the road network and key projects. The top three, are the signage improvements on Summer Hill and Winchett Hill	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The final drawings have been submitted by Highways and waiting for approval from their team</li> <li>2) The Plan to be shared with the communities and the grant application to be submitted</li> </ol>	ASAP after April. TBC by Highways	£25K as per the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Highways Grant.
<b>Projects</b>	Lurkin's Rise Recreation Ground Upgrade	To design a cohesive and inclusive community space that meets the needs of all demographics within the St Mary's Estate, incorporating a balanced range of facilities such as children's play equipment, a dedicated sports area, a secure dog exercise space, and an environmentally responsible compostable dog-waste solution.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Using the survey results, create a tender brief and to send to three companies to quote for.</li> <li>2) Hold a public consultation showing the plans and for them to choose</li> <li>3) Seek the correct change of use, and planning permissions</li> <li>4) Book in works</li> <li>5) Create a scope of works, risk assessments and possible phasing due to budget restriction</li> <li>6) Research grants</li> </ol>	<p>April 2026</p> <p>June 2026</p> <p>July 2026</p> <p>Sept 26?</p>	<p>£35K – 50% from S106</p> <p>Hopefully additional grants can be found.</p>

			7) Program works to start  Side: ensure budget for Rospa inspections, add to insurance and allocation sinking fund for future repairs		
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## Planning Decisions for February 2026

Application	Address	Proposal	GPC	TWBC	Decision
25/02422/FULL	Torvalla North Road Goudhurst Cranbrook Kent TN17 1AS	Variation of Conditions 2, 8 & 13 of Planning Permission 25/00512/FULL - (reorientation & reduction of surface area of swimming pool; landscaping alterations; updated site levels & biodiversity plan)	Approve	Approved	16/01/2026

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From: Kent Police via Neighbourhood Alert <alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk>  
Sent: 04 March 2026 14:03  
To: Kat Hoyle <clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk>  
Subject: Speed checks [#629676161]



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## Speed checks

Good afternoon,

Today I have been in Goudhurst conducting speed checks around the village and speaking to local residents.

Today, most drivers were abiding by the limit but if caught exceeding the speed limit, drivers can be issued points on their licence and fines.

Please remember that the speed limits are exactly that, limits, not targets.

I will continue to conduct speed checks in the area so please be mindful of the speed limits.

I also try to be out and about in Goudhurst as much as I can so please do come and chat to me if you see me.

Regards

Kady

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