

Goudhurst Parish Council



AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting held on 28 July 2020 via Zoom Conference Call

Present: Cllrs Chris Ditton (Chairman), David Boniface, Alan Foster, Antony Harris, Phil Kirkby, David Knight and Mrs Jayne Russell.

Apologies: there were none.

Declarations of interest: Cllr Phil Kirkby declared an interest in item 11.1 and Cllr Antony Harris in item 9.

Minutes: It was agreed that the minutes from the Amenities Committee meeting held on 26 May 2020 were a correct record.

4. Management of Legionella

It was **agreed** that further quotes should be obtained for the management of the Legionella risk in Council owned properties. **Action: Clerks to obtain further quotes.**

5. Quarry Pond

It was **noted** that the turf laid on the flooded area had made an instant impact and was very much appreciated by local residents. It was further **noted** that the contractor who has been appointed to clear weed from Quarry Pond has been unable to so far due to the weather

6. Dog Waste in Kilndown

It was **agreed** to approve the expenditure of approximately £80 to purchase a dog waste bag dispenser to be installed in West Road, Kilndown; (in further discussions it was proposed to purchase four bag dispensers; one for West Road in Kilndown, one for the Millennium Green, one for Goudhurst Village Green and one for the Plain at a total cost of £834.) **Action: Clerks.**

7. Village Green

7.1 Proposal to plant an avenue of trees along the path with grant funding from Sean Holden.

It was **agreed** that the trees planted should be a native species. It was further **agreed** that Parishioners, especially those living close to or regularly using the Green, should be consulted on the type of tree to be planted via a vote on the Parish Council website. This will be advertised via the website, Facebook page and via signs placed on the Village Green.

7.2 Proposal to install posts on the Green to prevent parking on the recently renovated area.

It was **noted** by Cllr David Boniface that the Friends of Goudhurst Village Green were against the proposal as identifying an area for parking cars is incompatible with the VG status of the land. However, Cllr Phil Kirkby countered that he understood the Friends were split over whether to reject or support the proposal. It was **agreed** that alternatives needed to be considered and Councillors were asked to send any suggestions to Clerks. It was further **agreed** that the Friends of the Village Green should be consulted on any proposal and that the Diocese, as landlords, should also be informed. **Action: Councillors.**

8. Ragwort in the Lower Glebe Field

It was **noted** that the Council's grounds contractor had been consulted and had suggested, due to the extent of the weed spread, that a specialist contractor was needed. It was **agreed** that Clerks would contact the Council's weed contractor. **Action: Clerks**

9. Duck House for Goudhurst Pond

It was **agreed** to recommend to Council that expenditure of £600 be approved for the purchase of a Hexagonal, floating Duck House. It was **noted** that Cllr Antony Harris offered to contribute £250 towards the cost and Cllr David Knight offered to contribute an unspecified amount.

10. River Teise Sub-group

It was **noted** that GPC had received and accepted an invitation from Kent High Weald Partnership to join a sub-group focussing on improving the River Teise Catchment area.

11. Items for information

11.1 Damp in the referee's room at the Chequer Pavilion.

It was **noted** that a quote had been received for the inspection and servicing of the extraction fans in the pavilion. It was **agreed** to proceed with the service of the fans at an approximate cost of £250 (ex VAT).

11.2 Balcombes Hill Toilets

It was noted that the cleaning contractor had alerted Council to cracks in the internal and external walls of the toilet block. It was agreed that Clerks should seek guidance from the insurers on what action to take.