

Goudhurst Parish Council



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

on Monday 11 April 2022 at 7.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors Mrs Caroline Richards (Acting Chairman), David Boniface, Chris Ditton, Alan Foster, David Knight, Barry Noakes and Guy Sutton.

Anthony Farnfield, Deputy Clerk & RFO and Mrs Panetta Horn (Observer).

Mr Nayland Smith, a resident of the Parish.

APOLOGIES

001/22 Were accepted from Cllr Craig Broom (family illness), Antony Harris (COVID), Phil Kirkby (COVID) and Mrs Alison Webster (Ukraine refugee working group). Borough Cllr Dr Linda Hall (Injury).

It was noted that the Clerk was away on annual leave.

ABSENT

002/22 Cllr Mrs Jayne Russell.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

003/22 There were none.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

004/22 It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 14 February 2022 and 14 March 2022 copies of which had been previously distributed to Members via Board Intelligence, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

005/22 *The Shared Areas in Goudhurst High St.* Mr Nayland Smith expressed his strongly held view that the 'shared area' in Goudhurst High St that is used equally by through traffic, parked cars and pedestrians. He had experienced near misses due to having to step out into the road because of having to walk around a car parked on the 'pavement'. He added that he rarely saw an elderly or physically limited person on the High Street and he now planned to shop elsewhere.

Council explained that the scheme had been introduced in the mid-1990s and at that time the highway surface for vehicles took the full width of the High St. The situation has been a problem for many years and that it was worsening due to increasing vehicle use. There have been many complaints. The Parish Council has sought advice from Kent Highways on several occasions. At Council's December 2018 meeting, Kent Highways, as the responsible legal authority, agreed to develop a parking control arrangement for the High Street to tackle this and other traffic problems. The plan was agreed in 2019. However, implementation has been held up due to lack of alternative parking places for the parked cars that would be

displaced. Subsequently the volume of traffic had increased substantially. High St traders strongly resist parking restrictions as that will significantly adversely affect their trade.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

006/22 There was no report from our County Member.

007/21 Borough Cllr David Knight reported:

The Tunbridge Wells Amelia Scott Cultural Centre opens on 28 April 2022.

Tunbridge Wells Town Hall. The Borough Council is reducing the amount of office space it will use in the future. Spare office space in the Town Hall will be leased to local businesses.

Crime in Tunbridge Wells Borough. It was **noted** that the latest crime statistics show a reduction of 2%. This makes our Borough one of the safest places to live in Kent.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS.

008/22 Following Minute 353/21 of 14 March, it was **noted** that Council had written to The Boundary Commission. Council has received an acknowledgement.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Cllr Chris Ditton reported.

009/22 *Kilndown Quarry Pond.* It was **resolved** to agree expenditure of up to £700.00 to install power to the Quarry Pond pump as part of the scheme to improve the water quality and to control the weed invasion. **Action: Chairman Amenities Committee with the Clerk.**

010/22 *Kilndown Fishing Club.* It was **agreed** to suspend membership subscriptions until further notice as the condition of the pond is not conducive, at present, to good fishing.

011/22 *High Weald Joint Advisory Committee.* It was **noted** that on 01 April 2022 Cllrs Chris Ditton (Amenities Cttee), Mrs Caroline Richards (Burial Authority) and the Clerk had held a site meeting at St Mary's Churchyard, the old Cemetery, the Burial Grounds and the lower Glebe. Mr Tobias Jackson, Land Management Project Officer of the High Weald Joint Advisory Committee and Cheryl Mason, an interested local resident also attended. This followed earlier advice in recent years from the AONB team and a survey with recommendations on the management of the Lower Glebe in particular.

Following this site visit, Mr Jackson produced a comprehensive report dated 07 April 2022. This covered feedback, suggestions and advice on the management of St Mary's Churchyard, meadow creation in the old Victorian Cemetery, ivy management, the laurel hedge at the north end of the current burial ground, the use of pesticide and how grass around Memorial headstones might be managed, the management of the lower Glebe Field pasture and Goudhurst Pond. It was **noted** that grant funding may be available through the Sussex Lund grant fund.

012/22 *Balcombes Hill Lavatories – Ceiling repairs.* Following Minute 248/21 of 13 December 2021. The contractor, having removed the old ceiling, discovered woodworm in the joists. Cllr Chris Ditton inspected the area with the contractor and decided that woodworm treatment would fix that problem with a couple of bits of appropriate timber beside anything rotten and the introduction of some venting. It was **noted** that the project budget of £1,3000 will be overspent as a result but the extra works are a necessity.

BURIAL AUTHORITY

Cllr Mrs Caroline Richards reported.

- 013/22 *Unapproved Items on Graves.* Deputy Clerk reported that he plans to take action this month against a grave owner who has not removed certain items having been given ample notice to do so. **Action: Deputy Clerk**
- 014/22 *Memorial Headstone Safety Testing.* Deputy Clerk reported that he sought 3 quotes. He had received 2 bids but a third had decided not to quote. He aims to bring a clear proposal to Council for approval in May 2022. **Action: Deputy Clerk**
- 015/22 *Removal of the Laurel hedge at the north curtilage of the Burial Grounds* to be replaced by a native species hedge. Following the report under Minute 011/22, Deputy Clerk was briefed to obtain quotes for Council's approval and to implement the project at the appropriate time of the year

BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- 016/22 *Jubilee 2022 Celebrations.* Following Minute 352/21. It was **resolved** to approve expenditure of £2,500.00 (plus an addition sum for fireworks to be confirmed). Subsequently, Deputy Clerk informed Mr Vinton that this sum has been approved so that planned printing can go ahead.
- 016/22 *Classic cars event on the Village Green as part of the Jubilee.* Some Members expressed concern that the Village Green turf might be damaged. After some discussion for and against it was agreed to leave any decisions about allowing classic vehicles on the Village Green on the day should be decided between Council in consultation with the organisers of this event in light of the weather conditions.
- 017/22 *Mowing the Lower Glebe.* Deputy Clerk was instructed to arrange a full mow of the Lower Glebe with risings removed followed after a suitable period for the bottom half of the Glebe to be cut to facilitate car parking for those attending the Jubilee celebrations. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Highways Committee, Cllr David Boniface reported:

- 018/22 *Electric car charging points.* Following Minute 363/21 it was **noted** that the Electric car charging points at Balcombes Hill were switched off on 11 April pending the facility being equipped with new connecting cables that will allow users to pay for the energy used.
- 019/22 *Major traffic disruption in Goudhurst between 4th and 8th April 2022.* Chairman, Highways Committee, presented a verbal report relating to serious traffic delays around Goudhurst in early April. It was agreed that Council will **write** to Kent Highways detailing chaotic scenes largely created by allegedly very poor traffic diversion arrangements. **Action: Deputy Clerk**
- 020/22 *Automatic Traffic Counts.* It was **noted** that the Highways Committee has organised surveys of traffic speed, frequency and type on A262 east of Goudhurst village (Iden Green) and at the area of the Market Place (adjacent to the former Green Cross Inn). The resulting data showing the mean and 85th percentile speeds support the Parish Council applications for reduced speed limits in these areas.

ACCOUNTS

The Deputy Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) reported:

021/22 *Accounts for Council's April 2022 meeting:*

Unity Trust Bank Receipts in March:	
Burial Authority	£6,515.00
Dynamos FC	£1,000.00
Mary Days Garages rent (x8)	£1,179.00
Reclaimed VAT Oct 20 – Mar 21	£10,677.48
Reclaimed VAT Apr 21 – Sep 21	£9,651.39
Total:	<u>£28,887.87</u>

CCLA Receipts in March	£5.16
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Payments in March 2022:	
UTB	£19,456.51
NatWest	0.00
CCLA	0.00
Total:	<u>£19,456.51</u>

Cash balances at Bank on 31 March 2022:	
UTB	£67,693.96
NatWest	£33,773.03
CCLA PSDF	£20,586.16
Total	<u>£122,053.15</u>

These reconciled figures of Receipts, Payments and Cash Balances to the end of March were presented to Council by Board Intelligence (BI) software and supported by full reconciliation documentation with Bank Statements and Council's entries in the Rialtas accounting software.

A complete list of all receipts and payments made by Council in March 2022 follows as a supplementary page in Appendix 2.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

023/22 There were none.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

024/22 This will be the Parish Council Annual Meeting to be held on Monday 09 May at 7.30 pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

The meeting closed at 20.30 hrs

Anthony Farnfield, Deputy Clerk

Appendix 1 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 11 April 2022

Recommendations and Decisions March 2022

Application	Address	Proposal	GPC	TWBC
22/00159/RE M	Land At Triggs Farm, Cranbrook Road	Approval of Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout, and scale) following outline permission for 17/02765/OUT and amended by 21/02855/FULL - Demolition of the property known as Kestral, Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst and erection of a new access road and twelve detached dwellings.	Approve: The Parish Council welcome the clarity given in the application for the residents bordering the development. The Council wish to confirm the status of the Section 106 monies available to the Parish as per the original agreement.	Permitted
21/04235	Smugley Farm, Bedgebury Road	Erection of two replacement dwellings with associated landscaping (amendments to planning permission 18/03451/FULL).	Approve: Goudhurst Parish Council request clarification around the use of the railway line as access to the dwellings as per application 18/03451 and would like to see this as a condition of planning permission.	Permitted
22/00074	Little Horden Cottage Husheath Hill	Proposed erection of single storey rear extension and new front porch, proposed weatherboard cladding to existing elevations, and proposed erection of detached garage.	Approve: The Committee felt the applicant should have the option to maintain the tiles, should they wish to do so.	Withdrawn
22/00322	Grange Garden Cottage, Chequers Road	Erection of two storey side extension to west, erection of two storey extension to north. Alterations to Balcony. Addition of Solar Shading Component to the north, west and south elevations. Replacement of	The Committee are supportive of the development in principle however raise concerns over the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The necessity of a driveway which takes up so much of the garden; • If the current access is not suitable then it should 	

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		existing tile hanging with vertical timber cladding, rendering over existing brickwork. Addition of extra roof lights, removal of dormer to north, addition of dormer to south. Removal of existing garage. Erection of detached two storey garage. New additional access track onto B2079 (North Road) with alterations to existing driveway and associated parking and landscaping. Addition of outdoor pool.	be closed. However, if the existing access is retained, sightlines should be assessed and improved; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for a bathroom in the garage. If planning is sought at a later date to convert the garage, this would not be supported by the Parish Council. • The Committee would like to see the retention of the tile hanging – please see the design section of our recently approved NDP 	
21/04182	Crowbourne Farm, Smiths Lane	Provision of an outdoor swimming pool	Approve	Permitted
22/00349	The Green Cross Inn , Station Road	Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans), 3 (Prior Planning Permission for External Alterations) and 4 (Vehicle parking space, garages and turning) and Removal of Condition 6 (Landscaping Scheme) of 20/03713/FULL (Change of use and conversion of Public House A4 use (at ground floor) into Residential C3 Use to create a single dwelling with the residential unit above.) - Alterations to include amendments to internal and external layout, altered	Approve	Permitted

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		openings and retention of pea gravel surface.		
22/00418	The Omega , Beaman Close	Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of 19/02338/FULL (Proposed loft conversion, addition of upper floor side window and, roof lights to the front and rear roof slopes.) - Altered size to roof windows	Approve	Permitted
22/00250	Chicks Farm Chicks Lane	Conversion of redundant agricultural building to a single residential dwelling with a detached garage, installation of sewage treatment unit, ADDRESS: Chicks Farm, Chicks Lane, Kilndown, Cranbrook	Approve	Permitted
22/00497	2 Hillside , Clayhill	New dormer in catslide roof at the front of the property	Approve	Permitted
22/00404	1 South View Terrace, Tiddymotts Lane	Single storey side extension and first floor rear extension	Approve subject to the views of the Conservation Officer.	Permitted
21/04234	Cloud Cottage, North Road	Erection of a two storey extension to the north elevation, first floor extension to the south elevation and addition of rooflights and associated roof alterations.	Approve subject to conditions The development is acceptable to GPC. However, there is a concern expressed by neighbours over the capacity of existing shared drainage facilities. The proposed addition to Cloud Cottage contains a number of bathrooms which will likely have an impact on the disposal of waste water. Current	Refused

Appendix 1 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 11 April 2022

Recommendations and Decisions March 2022

			facilities appear to be inadequate and cannot support the size and scale of the proposals. Suitable conditions should be imposed to ensure this issue is resolved before the commencement of development. The property owner should consider installing their own, independent drainage system to mitigate this issue. The Committee were disappointed by the inaccuracies in the design and access statement namely the misspelling of the village name, adjacent property, postal town and Planning Authority.	
22/00573/LBC	The Vine , High Street	Listed Building Consent - Partial demolition and rebuild of chimney	Approve	
22/00500	Mayfield House , Maypole Lane	Erection of first floor side extension to enlarge existing family bathroom	Approve	Permitted
22/00487	Walled Garden, Bedgebury Pinetum,	Expansion of car park and installation of new foot path	Approve	
22/00493	Royal Oak Garage, London Road	Clearing and levelling of existing unused ground and creation of a new earth bund and parking (part retrospective)	GPC Recommendation: Refer to the environmental and conversation officers. Comments: The Committee find it difficult to approve this application when the concerns raised in the refused application 18/00644/FULL have not been addressed.	
22/00707	Yew Tree Oast , Colliers Green Road	Retrospective planning application for construction of pond, including	Refuse. The Committee cannot support this application	

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Recommendations and Decisions March 2022

		associated landscaping and ecological works	until the reservations of the Landscape and Biodiversity Officer have been addressed.	
22/00252	Garden View, North Road	Replacement of the existing double garage door with 2 x Anthracite UPVC Opaque Glazing Panels, 1 x Anthracite UPVC Door, studwork and cladding to close remaining opening and change of use from garage to playroom / study / gym.	Defer pending additional information.	

Goudhurst Parish Council



FINANCE

The Finance Officer's Report to Council on the March 2022 Accounts
These figures will be presented to Council at the April 2022 Council meeting

Receipts UTB in Mar 2022:

Burial Authority	£6,515.00
Dynamos FC	£1,000.00
Mary Days Garages rent (x8)	£1,179.00
Reclaim VAT Oct 20 – Mar 21	£10,677.48
Reclaim VAT Apr – Sep 21	<u>£9,651.39</u>
Total	£28,887.87

Receipt CCLA in Mar 22 £.5.16

Payments in Mar 2022:

UTB	£19,456.51
NatWest	0
CCLA	<u>0</u>
Total:	£19,456.51

Cash balances at Bank on 31 Mar 2022:

UTB	£67,693.96
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CCLA PSDF	<u>£20,586.16</u>
Total	£122,053.15

ARBF.

Anthony Farnfield
Deputy Clerk & RFO
08 Apr 2022

Unity Trust Current A/c

List of Payments made between 01/03/2022 and 31/03/2022

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
02/03/2022	Scrapco Skip Hire	U1106	282.00	X	Skip Hire Mary Days
09/03/2022	NEST	DD	228.18	X	GPC contrib Clerk's Pension
14/03/2022	Lloyds Bank - UTB	DD	231.54	X	Debit card payments
17/03/2022	Capel Ground Care	U1107	1,380.74	X	Grounds maint contract
17/03/2022	Tenterden Twilight Commercial	U1108	756.19	X	Cleaning ontracts
17/03/2022	Pearson's Landscapes	U1109	111.60	} xx	The Plain maint Feb
17/03/2022	Pearson's Landscapes	1109	111.60		The Plain maint Feb
17/03/2022	Microshade Business Consultant	U1110	288.62	X	Citrix Inv 15800
17/03/2022	Robert Hillier	U1111	400.00	X	Hop Bine rent Mar
17/03/2022	HugoFox Ltd	U1112	144.00	X	Planning Tracker software
17/03/2022	Envirocure Ltd	U1113	106.60	X	Cheq Pav Legionella
17/03/2022	Richard Greenaway	U1114	99.98	X	Misc minor maintenance
17/03/2022	Ann Millward	U1115	96.00	X	Digitise Burial Records
17/03/2022	Kent Assoc of Local Councils	U1116	60.00	X	AVBF Audit Workshop - AGAR
17/03/2022	TWBC	U1117	48.70	X	Mem'I Tree Green Canopy
17/03/2022	Adlor Garage Door Services	U1118	1,926.00	X	Mary Day's Garage Maint
17/03/2022	Royal Images	U1119	187.20	X	Royal Images
17/03/2022	EE	DD	12.54	X	Clerk's business SIM card
17/03/2022	Southern Electric	DD	129.95	X	Energy Cheq Field Pav Qtr 4
17/03/2022	Pearson's Landscapes	1109	-111.60	} xx	The Plain maint Feb
17/03/2022	Pearson's Landscapes	U1109	-111.60		THE Plain maint Feb
21/03/2022	Managed Technology Corp Ltd	1120	156.00	X	Photocopier service
21/03/2022	Living Forest Ltd	U1121	921.60	X	Tree work at Mary Days
21/03/2022	Envirocure Ltd	U1122	300.00	X	Cheq Pav Legionella Mar
21/03/2022	Envirocure Ltd	U1123	218.40	X	Cheq Pav Legionella Mar
21/03/2022	HFF Construction Ltd	U1124	2,196.00	X	Kdown & G'hurst Pond maint
23/03/2022	Buss Murton Law	U1125	1,338.00	X	Mary Days garages legal advice
24/03/2022	Pearson's Landscapes	U1109A	11.60	X	<i>special note</i> The Plain maint Feb (part pay)
28/03/2022	AVB Farnfield	U1126	2,801.20	X	Deputy Clerk salary Mar
28/03/2022	AVB Farnfield	U1127	70.25	X	Expenses Jan - Mar 22
28/03/2022	CL Reed	U1128	1,948.67	X	Clerk salary Mar 22
28/03/2022	CL Reed	U1129	25.07	X	Clerk's expenses Mar 22
28/03/2022	HM Revenue & Customs	U1130	1,992.14	X	PAYE NI Mar 22
28/03/2022	Kent Assoc of Local Councils	U1131	60.00	X	Panetta Horn Audit workshop
28/03/2022	Panetta Horn	1132	480.00	X	Accounts support
30/03/2022	VEOLIA Environmental Services	DD	142.87	X	Burial Grounds bin
30/03/2022	Infinity Technology Solutions	DD	141.35	X	Office phones and broadband
30/03/2022	Envirocure Ltd	U1133	61.00	} xx	Cheq Pav Legionella Mar 22
30/03/2022	Envirocure Ltd	U1133	-61.00		Cheq Pav Legionella Mar 22
31/03/2022	NEST	DD	237.32	X	GPC Contrib Clerks pension
31/03/2022	Unity Trust Bank	DD	1.20	X	Manual Credit Handling charge
31/03/2022	Unity Trust Bank	DD	36.60	X	Service charge

Total Payments 19,456.51