

Goudhurst Parish Council



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

on Monday 08 August 2022 at 7.30pm in Goudhurst Village Hall

PARTICIPANTS

Councillors Jill Andrew, David Boniface, Craig Broom, Chris Ditton, Antony Harris (Chairman), Phil Kirkby, David Knight (Borough Councillor), Barry Noakes, Mrs Caroline Richards and Mrs Alison Webster. County Councillor Seán Hold and Borough Councillor Dr Linda Hall. Claire Reed, Clerk; Anthony Farnfield, Deputy Clerk and Panetta Horn, RFO.

APOLOGIES

140/22 Were accepted from Cllrs Alan Foster (Fete Committee meeting) and Guy Sutton (holiday). It was **noted** that Cllr Barry Noakes was not present.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

141/22 Cllr Jill Andrew disclosed an interest in item 143/22.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

142/22 It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 July 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

143/22 Mrs Pam Stubbs, Chair of the Friends of St Mary's, asked council if a decision had been made about who was going to be responsible for organising the stalls on The Plain for this year's Christmas shopping event. It was **noted** that a decision could not be made at this meeting but an extraordinary meeting would be called so that a timely decision could be made. **Action: Chairman and Clerk**

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

144/22 Borough Cllrs Dr Linda Hall and David Knight reported:
Boundary Commission recommendations. Under the published proposals, the parish will be split over two new, larger wards. The north of the parish, including Goudhurst village, will become part of a ward with Brenchley, Matfield and Horsmonden. The south of the parish, including Kilndown village, will become part of a ward with Hawkhurst, Benenden and Sandhurst. The Boundary Commission had previously said they would avoid splitting parishes. It is felt the new arrangements will favour large political parties who have the ability to contest elections over large, multi-parish wards. The proposals will disadvantage rural wards where communities are centred around the parish structure, this isn't the same in the town so these wards should be split instead as there isn't the same loss of link with the local representative and community.

Cllr Dr Linda Hall left the meeting.

145/22 County Cllr Seán Holden reported:
Bus subsidies. £2.2m in Bus subsidies will be withdrawn by KCC. However, bus companies have used this as a vehicle to remove another 86, non-profitable services, and blame the loss on the County Council. One issue is the closure of the High Weald Academy. Students living more than 3 miles away from their local (non-selective) school are entitled to free travel. This could end up being more expensive for KCC than paying the subsidies.

Cllr Mrs Alison Webster and Mrs Panetta Horn left the meeting.

Changes to the boundaries for borough elections. Cllr Holden tabled his support for the Parish Council in objecting to the Boundary Commission proposals. He believed the proposals were made without the consideration of Community.

Cllr Mrs Alison Webster and Mrs Panetta Horn re-joined the meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

146/22 The chairman, Cllr Antony Harris reported:
Council's Budget for 2022-23. The chairman has been working alongside the Clerk and RFO to resolve budget issues, streamline the reporting of accounts and to update the Financial Regulations, for approval at this meeting, to reflect the delegation of authority to standing committees.
Boundary Commission. The Parish Council need to decide on their objections and make a powerful submission to the proposals. Is the objection just the splitting of the parish or should the council also fight to maintain a smaller, possible one-member ward to maintain the community link? It was proposed that a working group be established to research the proposals, Cllrs Jill Andrew, Craig Broom and Alison Webster agreed to join. Council will appoint the working group and members at the extraordinary meeting.
Action: Clerk

CLERKS REPORT

147/22 ***Incorporation of Village Hall.*** The Clerk has produced plans of Council owned cables that cross village hall land for the purposes of the easement. The incorporation is likely to be completed in the coming months.
148/22 ***Staff Contracts.*** Following minutes 133/22 and 134/22. Cllr Jill Andrew is amending the Clerk's and RFO's contract to add additional clauses as agreed at the meeting of Council on 11 July 2022. The revised contracts will be agreed by the Staffing Committee at their meeting on 06 September under delegated authority. **Action: Cllr Jill Andrew and the Staffing Committee.**
149/22 ***Love Where You Live Awards 2022.*** The Clerk reminded Council that nominations are now open for the 2022 awards.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

150/22 It was **resolved** to appoint Cllr Jill Andrew to the following Committees; Business and Communications, Finance, Policy, Staffing, Youth and Housing.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Council received the minutes of the Amenities Meeting on 26 July 2022.

151/22 **Bench for Chestnut Tree.** Following minute 121/22. It was **resolved** to approve the expenditure of £2,300 for a replacement bench to be sited around the chestnut tree on The Plain. **Action: Cllr Alison Webster.**

Cllr Alan Foster joined the meeting.

BURIAL AUTHORITY

152/22 Council received the minutes of the Burial Authority Meeting on 19 July 2022.

Cllr Antony Harris left the meeting.

BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

153/22 Council received the minutes of the Business & Communications Meeting on 12 July 2022.

154/22 **Additional Signage for The Plain.** It was **noted** that the committee is considering a new schematic map for The Plain, marking the main shops and attractions of Goudhurst. This will be done in conjunction with the Amenities Committee who are planning improvements to The Plain. **Action: Business & Communications Committee**

155/22 **Parish Emergency Plan – fire.** This item was not considered.

HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

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

156/22 **A21 Safety Improvements.** Following minutes 128/22, 083/22 and 056/22. It was **noted** that information has been received from National Highways confirming that safety improvements will be going ahead. A locally organised petition (Stonecrouch) calling for a reduction in speed to 40mph has reached over 1000 signatures.

Cllr Antony Harris returned to the meeting. Cllr Craig Broom left the meeting.

157/22 **EV points.** Following minutes 085/22, 055/22 and 363/21. It was **noted** that council are awaiting a site visit by PodPoint so that a quotation can be prepared for replacement charging points.

158/22 **Highways Improvement Plan.** Following minutes 086/22 and 057/22. Priorities have been updated and are to be approved at the next committee meeting. The first priority is a speed reduction on the A262 in Iden Green.

159/22 **Downgrading of the A262.** Council's previous application to downgrade the road was refused; Goudhurst Traffic Action Group have now taken up the campaign and plan to submit a fresh application using new traffic data.

160/22 **Membership of the Committee.** It was **noted** that Oliver Tinkler had been invited to join the committee. Mr Tinkler was a candidate for the casual vacancy.

Cllr Craig Broom returned to the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

161/22 **Budget for 2022-23.** It was **resolved** to approve the revised budget for 2022-23.

162/22 **Amendment to the Financial Regulations.** It was **resolved** to amend section 4.1b which now reads: *A Committee may incur expenditure on behalf of Council where an item has already been specified and approved in the annual budget. The RFO shall report all such*

expenditure to Council as soon as practicable thereafter. Any expenditure in excess of the Committee's overall budget or above £1000 and without budget provision, requires a resolution of council.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

- 163/21 **Recent planning Applications;** Please see Appendix 1.
- 164/22 **22/01611 Paygate, Winchet Hill.** It was **noted** that the application for an equestrian sand school at the property has been called into committee by Cllr Dr Linda Hall. Both Cllr Hall and GPC have raised concerns regarding the safety of the proposed materials.

YOUTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

- 165/22 **Drainage at the Chequer Field.** Following minutes 088/22 and 064/22. It was **noted** that the Clerk and Cllr Phil Kirkby had met with the contractor, Pete Bamford, to discuss the enhanced maintenance recommended in the report from the Grounds Maintenance Association. It is planned to suspend use of the field between 27 March and 06 May inclusive (weather permitting) for essential maintenance and new top dressing. The committee is awaiting a quote for the additional works. It is proposed that the £6000 received from TWBC following the transfer of the land to GPC be used for these works.
- 166/22 **Chequer Pavilion.** Following minutes 089/22 and 065/22. It was **noted** that the pavilion was deep cleaned at the end of July. The committee are awaiting quotations for improved ventilation before repainting takes place. **Action: Clerk**

GOUDHURST VILLAGE HALL

- 167/22 It was **noted** that the future of Goudhurst Village Hall was identified as a top priority for the parish at a meeting of the Policy Committee on 04 July 2022. The Council is considering ways to support the hall trustees. It was **noted** that Cllr Antony Harris was appointed as Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 09 May 2022; minute 031/22 refers. **Action: Clerk to write to Goudhurst Village Hall Committee to formally notify it of the appointment.**

ACCOUNTS

The Responsible Finance Officer, Mrs Panetta Horn, reported:

- 168/22 **Accounts for Council's August 2022 meeting:**

Receipts in July 2022

Burial Authority	£900.00
Rental – Mary Days garages	£651.00
Total	£1,551.00

Payments in July 2022

UTB	£16,550.85
Natwest	0.00
CCLA	0.00
Total	£16,550.85

Cash Balances at Bank on 31st July 2022

UTB	£105,274.95
Natwest Current Account	£33,773.03

CCLA PSDF (31.05.22)	£20,604.91
Total	<hr/> £174,652.74

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

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

169/22 **Internal Auditor's Report.** The draft report from the internal auditor has been received. The Clerk has answered the auditor's queries and we await the final report which will be brought to Council once received.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

170/22 Parish Council Meeting, Monday 12 September 2022 at 7.30 pm in Goudhurst Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.30 hrs

Claire Reed
Clerk

Appendix 1 to Minutes of a Council Meeting held on 08 August 2022

Recommendations and Decisions July 2022

Application	Address	Proposal	GPC	TWBC
22/00821	May Farm , Chicks Lane,	Conversion and partial demolition of an agricultural buildings to a single dwelling, wider landscaping enhancements.	Approve conditional on a design that doesn't use fossil fuels for heating as per Goudhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan policy D3. Materials should be reviewed and supported by the Conservation and Environment Officers.	Permitted
22/01113	Stone Villa , Church Road, Kilndown	Erection of detached two bay garage and store.	Approve	Permitted
22/01354	School Cottage , Rogers Rough Road	Installation of 5 x white timber windows	Approve. Although there were concerns that the visual appearance of the windows cited as examples did not match the design representation in the design statement. Our approval is contingent on the design being equivalent to the current installation and is subject to the agreement of the conservation officer.	Withdrawn
22/00914	Nursery Farm Oast , London Road	Erection of three bay cart style garage/implement store and log store	REFUSE The Committee confer with the Conservation Officer.	Withdrawn
22/01459	Sherenden , Curtisden Green Lane	Erection of single storey extension to front elevation	Approve	Permitted
22/01348	Paygate, Winchet Hill	Erection of single storey rear extension, erection of conservatory to rear.	Approve. If the conservatory is to be used as living space, it should be heated without the use of fossil fuels.	Permitted

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22/01779	Paines Farm House Ranters Lane	Amendment to condition 2 of approved application 21/01972/LBC (Staircase and Hallway alterations to allow for fire escape route).	Approve subject to the views of the Conservation Officer.	
22/01814/LBC	Finchcocks Stables , Blue Coats Lane	Proposed internal alterations and removal of modern fabric. Scope of works to include; Erection of stud partition wall to reduce size of existing en-suite bathroom along with alterations to sanitary ware layout. Removal of modern ceiling within existing en-suite to vault space, matching with the associated bedroom. Removal of upper section of modern studwork wall to expose historic timber roof timbers.	Approve subject to the views of the Conservation Officer.	
22/01611	Paygate , Winchet Hill	Change of use of land to Equestrian and provision of 40M x 20M Equestrian Sand School with Silica sand and rubber chip topping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Restricted to Private use only. *To use an alternative to the rubber chipping surface. GPC is concerned by the environmental impact. *The Sand School would be better situated a few yds. further from the adjoining hedgerow to limit the impact on neighbours. *GPC request a condition preventing the installation of lighting, flood lighting or the use of temporary lighting. See NDP policy L8. *Any permission should be conditional on the complete removal of the sand school 	

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Recommendations and Decisions July 2022

			and restoration of the field when no longer required for the proposed purpose.	
22/01842/LDC EX	The Lodge Triggs Farm	Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of The Lodge as a self-contained dwelling	REFUSE Permission was never granted for the use of the building as a residential dwelling. The committee is disappointed that the application seeks to use a technical loop hole when the change in use could have been managed via the proper channels.	
22/01906	Pinehurst Barn West Road	Proposed conversion of part of integral garage to study, porch canopy and additional fenestration.	Approve	
22/01401	Land Adjacent Garden Cottage Blind Lane	Retrospective application for a change of use of land into a private allotment (Use Class Sui Generis) erection of log store and a cabin, and site access improvements.	REFUSE The committee question whether the original, now replaced, shed was ever granted planning permission. The Committee also note the change of use of the land from agricultural to amenity use without permission. The log store in no way supports the use of the land. Additionally, the site was cleared without consideration for the environmental impact. The applicants were aware that they didn't have permission for the buildings that they have constructed. The committee recommend that the owners now remove the buildings and restore the land and habitat to the approval of the landscape officer.	

Date: 05/09/2022

Goudhurst Parish Council Current Year

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Time: 10:53

Bank Reconciliation up to 01/08/2022 for Cashbook No 4 - Unity Trust Current A/c

<u>Date</u>	<u>Cheque/Ref</u>	<u>Amnt Paid</u>	<u>Amnt Banked</u>	<u>Stat Amnt</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Cleared</u>	<u>Payee Name or Description</u>
01/07/2022	SO	342.62		342.62		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Microshade Business Consultant
01/07/2022	SO	600.00		600.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Hillier
01/07/2022			135.00	135.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt(s) Banked
04/07/2022	BACS	61.00		61.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Envirocure Ltd
04/07/2022	BACS	69.00		69.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	IC Brindle
04/07/2022	BACS	192.00		192.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Collins
04/07/2022	BACS	1,391.54		1,391.54		R <input type="checkbox"/>	GroundsCare & General Services
04/07/2022	BACS	780.00		780.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Panetta Horn
04/07/2022	BACS	67.00		67.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	marian sargeant
04/07/2022	BACS	196.93		196.93		R <input type="checkbox"/>	PHS Group
04/07/2022	BACS	480.00		480.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Woodberry
04/07/2022	BACS	1,499.98		1,499.98		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Richard Vinton
07/07/2022	SO	1,739.19		1,739.19		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Capel Ground Care
08/07/2022	DD	233.17		233.17		R <input type="checkbox"/>	NEST
08/07/2022			450.00	450.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt(s) Banked
11/07/2022	DD	79.78		79.78		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Lloyd Bank Multicard
15/07/2022			45.00	45.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt(s) Banked
18/07/2022	DD	16.90		16.90		R <input type="checkbox"/>	EE
18/07/2022	SO	61.00		61.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Envirocure Ltd
18/07/2022	BACS	520.00		520.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	John Fermor
18/07/2022	BACS	787.34		787.34		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Tenterden Twilight Commercial
18/07/2022	BACS	1,062.00		1,062.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Living Forest Ltd
18/07/2022	BACS	375.00		375.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	goudhurst parish hall
18/07/2022	BACS	180.00		180.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Pearson's Landscapes
18/07/2022	BACS	250.00		250.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Risk Medical Rescue
18/07/2022	BACS	4.71		4.71		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Royal Mail
19/07/2022	DD	285.80		285.80		R <input type="checkbox"/>	BT
19/07/2022			168.00	168.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt(s) Banked
19/07/2022			168.00	168.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt(s) Banked
22/07/2022	CREDIT	-48.70		-48.70		R <input type="checkbox"/>	TWBC
25/07/2022	BACS	1,939.78		1,939.78		R <input type="checkbox"/>	C L Reed
25/07/2022	BACS	1,389.42		1,389.42		R <input type="checkbox"/>	A H Farnfield
25/07/2022	BACS	1,392.79		1,392.79		R <input type="checkbox"/>	HMRC
27/07/2022	DD	233.17		233.17		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Nest
27/07/2022			450.00	450.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt(s) Banked
28/07/2022	DD	151.92		151.92		R <input type="checkbox"/>	VEOLIA Environmental Services
28/07/2022			135.00	135.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt(s) Banked
29/07/2022	DD	155.51		155.51		R <input type="checkbox"/>	Infinity Technology Solutions
01/08/2022	DD	62.00		62.00		R <input type="checkbox"/>	TWBC
		<u>16,550.85</u>	<u>1,551.00</u>				