

**GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall  
on Monday 20 February 2006 at 8.15pm.**

Present: Cllrs: Mrs. J Davies, B Holme, J Holroyd (Chairman), R Murfitt and Mrs D Mitchell.

In attendance: Mrs G. Stoehr (Clerk).

**Comments and observations from members of the public**

Noted the observations and comments made at the Parish Meeting held prior to this meeting regarding footway lighting and village parking.

**1. To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies - Cllrs: B Spall (ill), K Saban (work), K Baker (late), J Kennedy (overseas), Cllr Mrs C Murfitt and Cllr Mrs Oliver (District & County Cllrs).

Declarations of interest - Cllr Holroyd and Cllr Murfitt declared prejudicial interest in item: 5.1.

**2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 16 January**

On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Mrs Mitchell the minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters arising to note or carried forward for discussion/decision**

**3.1 (3.1) Encroachments Ashwell Road & on PROW adj to parish cemetery**

As Mr Vacher had still not met with the occupants of 1 Ashwell Road it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting

Mr Cooper has confirmed that there is encroachment on the cemetery path and that he is arranging for a meeting to take place.

**3.2 (3.2) Village Hall including vesting of lease in the Official Custodian**

It is the lease which is to be vested and not the land. A copy of the lease has been sent to Mr Baker, Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee.

**3.3 (3.4) Quality Council application including to consider comments from the panel**

Guilden Morden Parish Council was pleased to hear that it had been awarded Quality Council Status. The comments of the accreditation panel were considered. It was noted that declarations was now already included on the agenda and the Parish Council would respond fully on all planning applications in future.

**3.4 (4.1) SCDC Footway lighting & parking - to consider the outcome of the parish meeting**

Further to the parish meeting held earlier this evening the Parish Council considered the background correspondence from South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC), CALC and Allianz Cornhill on this matter and also the recommendation from the Parish Meeting that the SCDC should be retained and that the Parish Council should endeavour to ensure that the utility provision should be developed upon the most efficient, cost effective and environmentally friendly lines.

On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Mrs Mitchell it was resolved that the Parish Council would take over the maintenance and running costs of the SCDC footway lighting following clarification/assurance from SCDC in writing of one the following that:

- SCDC confirms that it is willing to retain the ownership of the lighting columns and will be prepared as the need arises in the future to be responsible for any repairs and replacement falling outside the maintenance contract that the Parish Council will enter into with Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC).

Or

- SCDC formally passes the ownership of all its lighting columns in the parish to the Parish Council and provides written clear delegation of the power to turn off or remove the footway lighting to the Parish Council. As the Department for Transport is uncertain if the District Council can delegate this power or if it has to come directly from Cambridgeshire County Council SCDC should check into this and arrange the appropriate authority to give that written assurance.

It was agreed to enter into a contract with CCC for the electricity and maintenance of the lights from 1 April 2006.

The letter from Allianz Cornhill regarding insurance was noted and it was agreed that no property damage cover was required.

- 3.5 (7.1.1) Gatrill-Smith, Croft House, High Street tree works – reply from SCDC  
Ash Tree – A response from SCDC dated 3 February 2006 informing the Parish Council that the tree is to be removed was noted.
- 3.6 (4.1) SCDC magazine delivery complaint – reply from SCDC  
The reply from SCDC apologising and explaining that it intended to go back to the previous company for future deliveries was noted. It was agreed to reply seeking further clarification of the logistics of future deliveries.
- 3.7 (4.1) Litter collection complaint – reply from SCDC  
The reply from SCDC was considered and it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting to allow the matter to be discussed with Cllr Mrs C Murfitt. It was also agreed to consider the possibility of recycling plastics at a future meeting.
- 3.8 (6.1.1) RoSPA checks on recreation ground  
It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting as Cllr Saban was not present. Members who are unable to attend meetings are to be asked to provide written reports.
- It was agreed to contract RoSPA for the annual play equipment checks.
- 3.9 (8.1 & 8.5) Fly-tipping near Hooks Mill & erosion of grass in New Road  
It was noted that Cllr Spall has met with Mr D Vacher. It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting to enable Cllr Spall to provide a report on the meeting.

#### **4 To receive the report of the County and District Councillors**

Cllr Mrs Murfitt's report considered in her absence covered lighting (it was noted that this was taken in the earlier parish meeting) and she also had included report on behalf of Cllr Mrs Oliver who was also unable to attend tonight's meeting on the Crime and Disorder Partnership which might be able to provide funding for lighting.

#### **5. To consider correspondence/communications received including**

##### **5.1 Taffs – variation of condition 2 on planning permission S/0390/F 30 Dubbs Knoll Road**

Cllr Holroyd having declared a personal and prejudicial interest left the meeting while the matter was discussed. Cllr Holme assumed the chair.

A letter from Mrs. Taffs enclosing a copy of the application submitted to SCDC for change of condition 2 was considered. It was also noted that a formal copy of the application had not as yet been received from SCDC. On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Murfitt it was agreed that as that as the condition was imposed to protect the amenities enjoyed by the occupiers of 'Paigles' due to the proximity of that property to the application premises, as long as the new owners of the 'Paigles' have

no objections, the application should be recommended for approval. It was also agreed that when the application arrives there is no need to reconvene and that this response may be sent.

As to the second point in the resident's letter regarding the change of use. It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider 'change of use' this when it is formally consulted by SCDC as this will very much depend on the availability of alternative dental facilities in the area.

5.2 CCC – request for a reference for S Scott contractor

It was agreed to reply to Hertfordshire County Council that the Parish Council's knowledge of the contractor was not extensive enough to be able to complete the form but including that Mr. Scott has undertaken basic grass cutting of two grass lanes in Guilden Morden for approximately the last four years. His work has always been satisfactory and the Parish Council has never had a cause to take issue with his work. The Parish Council is unable to comment much on the condition of his equipment. Given the basic nature of the grass cutting his mower has had no problems with the work.

5.3 Guilden Morden Townlands Charity – accounts and payment to Parish Council

The Townlands Charity accounts were noted. Beneficiaries' details are withheld under DPA.

5.4 Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Waste Management Plan

It was noted that members would be making individual responses.

5.5 Land Registry – Voluntary First Registration of Title

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

**6. Financial, procedural and risk assessment matters**

6.1 Tree monitoring reports

Reports on tree checks undertaken by members were noted. There was no urgent action identified. It was agreed to remind absent members that they should submit a tree report each month at the meeting or if they are unable to attend to the Clerk.

6.2 Finance report and to approve the payment of bills

The financial report including details of the bank balances and credits received was considered. Invoices for payment and supporting papers were checked by a member before payment. On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Mrs Mitchell the following payments were approved for payment:

Expenditure for approval	
Comberton PC (local council review)	£4.00
RNID (hearing loop)	£84.97
CALC (association of burial authorities)	£55.50
L G Stoehr (salary)	£188.97
LGS Services (admin support)	£451.55
Carter Jonas	£207.50

It was noted that:

- SCDC recycling credits of £207.49 have been received.
- Allianz Cornhill (Bus Shelter) = £400.00.
- Townlands Charity = £1949.80.
- A grant of £1365 has been awarded by awards for all to enable the footpaths leaflet planned under the P3 Scheme to go ahead.

In response to the letter from the Ruddery, Pit Assistant Warden asking if the Parish Council will apply for a grant to SCDC to enable the grass to be cut by a contractor twice a year and for a new strimmer, it was noted that quotes had been obtained. These

were considered and on a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Holroyd it was agreed to progress a grant application with SCDC for grass cutting by a contractor for a period of 3 years and also for the purchase of a new Husquevana strimmer.

6.3 Date of next meeting – 27 March 2006

It was agreed that the next meeting would be changed to 27 March. Absent members are to be notified.

**7. To consider planning and tree works applications received/considered since the last meeting**

7.0.1 S/1160/05/LB & S1661/05/F Greenstein 53 High Street – amendment

Although the garage had been moved forward by 600mm it was thought that the foundations of the garage will severely damage the tree and its roots which is an important part of the village. The Parish Council therefore recommended that the application should be refused and that the garage is moved to prevent damage to the tree. It was noted that there was a boundary dispute but that this was not a material planning consideration.

7.0.2 S/0073/06/F Keil, 27 Pound Green – extension

On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Holroyd the application was recommended for approval on condition that there is always hard standing space for two cars on the property.

7.1 Tree works

7.1.1 Sharpe, 61 High Street

No objections to the work.

7.2 SCDC decisions

7.2.1 S/0004/06/F, 27 Ashwell Road Guilden Morden – Extension reply from SCDC

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting to allow time for the responses to be received.

7.2.2 S/2255/05/F Greenlaw, 77 High Street – approved by SCDC

Noted.

**8. Gamut**

Tribute was paid to Mr John Curtis, Editor of Gamut who had recently died. It was noted that Geoff Reeve, Pam Scott, and later John Curtis started Gamut and that it had always operated independently of the Council. The Parish Council expressed a desire that it continued as an independent village newsletter with continued financial support from the Council if required. It was agreed to accept the kind offer from Cllr Holroyd that he would, after having checked with Mrs Curtis, arrange the publication and circulation of the next two additions whilst an editor/s could be found. Existing deliverers would be used wherever possible. He would also check if Johnson Matthey is willing to undertake the printing. It was agreed to carry this time forward for further discussion/consideration at the next meeting in the hope that residents would offer to continue the publication of the Gamut.

**9. Councillors' items for the next agenda and closure of meeting**

9.1 Village Hall bins – It was noted that bin No: 254965 is missing.

9.2 Circulation of last meetings correspondence had not been returned and included the only copy of the Council's Quality Council Application. It was agreed to write to absent members to remind them to circulate all papers promptly.

9.3 Mobile Warden Scheme is to be an agenda item for the next meeting. It was noted that there is a waiting list because the warden is at capacity.

9.4 Pet Watch – It was agreed to place this item on the agenda for the next meeting,

9.5 It was noted that there was had been a burglary in Thompson's Meadow.

9.6 The Flag Pole had now been installed. Mr Huffer, as the oldest village resident is to formally open the flag pole. The arrangements are kindly being co-ordinated by the Church Floodlight Committee.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.20 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_