

GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall
on Monday 30 October 2006 at 7.30pm.**

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

In attendance: Cllr Mrs L Oliver (County Cllr) and Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk),

Comments and observations from members of the public

None.

1. To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

1.1 Satisfactory apologies were received from Cllrs J Kennedy, K Baker, K Saban (work commitments). Apologies were also received from Cllr Mrs C Murfitt (District Cllr).

1.2 Cllr Murfitt declared a prejudicial interest in items: 7.1.3 + 7.1.4 – 77 High Street as adjacent landowner.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 18 September 2006

On a proposition by Cllr Mrs Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Holroyd the minutes of the 18 September were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman after the following amendments:

- Item: 1.2 – ‘as adjacent landowner’ should read ‘as a relative’.
- Item: 3.4 + 4.1 - should read ‘lighting columns’ and not ‘lighting’.
- Item: 4.1 – the last ‘bullet point’ should be deleted.
- Item: 4.3 – last sentence the following should be added ‘if filled by the Parish Council’s contractor’.
- Item: 4.4.1 – first bullet point the following should be added at the end of the sentence ‘for Quality Council’s’.
- Item: 4.7 ‘disappointing’ should read ‘disappointingly’.
- Item: 6.1 – ‘Cllr Mrs Murfitt’ should read ‘Cllr Mrs Mitchell’.

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

3.1 (3.1) Proposed diversion to footpath 35 in New Road. – Correspondence and report on site meeting

It as noted that:

- The ‘Senior Footpath Officer’s meeting with Mrs Corser at 60 New Road and that he has told them that they will have to unblock the path. A resident has expressed concern that the aesthetic nature of the area has changed. South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) has stated that planning permission is required for the CCTV.
- The recent letter from Mrs Corser to the Ramblers Association was noted.
- The Parish Council expect to be kept informed.

3.2 (3.2) O/s matters - Damaged verge in New Rd, Footpath between The Bells and the Church, encroachment path 15 nr cemetery and smelly ditch

3.2.0 Damaged verge – It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting pending information from Matthew Pickering.

3.2.1 Footpath between The Bells and the Church encroachment path 15 nr cemetery and smelly ditch

Cllr Holme reported that he had met with Mr D Vacher who said that the path is not the County Council's. Given the two opposing comments from CCC officers it was agreed to follow up to ascertain which was correct before the residents started to pursue an expensive definitive map order. Carry forward to the next meeting.

Cllr Mrs Mitchell reported that the Environment Agency has indicated that the matter is now in hand. Concern was expressed that the ditch could become dangerous in poor light. Cllrs Mrs Oliver reported that the matter was in hand.

3.3 School Governor Appointment & reply from School

It was noted that there has been no response to the article placed in Gamut and that if a member of the Parish Council felt they had the time to put them selves forward this would be welcomed.

4. To consider reports and members items

4.1 District Councillor

Cllr Mrs Oliver reported on:

- Fire Service - Fire prevention information for thatched cottages has been published. Cllr Mrs Davis is to count the number of thatched cottages within the village and pass on the numbers to Cllr Mrs Oliver.
- That the School had received a superb Ofsted report.
- Cambridge County Council (CCC) Performance for the average number of sick days taken each year by employees.
- There has been a good indication of the financial settlement however there will still be a need for redundancies.
- Consultations' including 'Treated Waste' – the Government's directive is that 26% of London's waste is to be handled by CCC.
- Recycling – Cambridgeshire is top in the Country.

It was agreed to vary the order of business and take item: 4.16 here.

4.16 Village ditches, drains

Concern was expressed at the recent flood at the junction of Swan Lane and Pound Green. Local investigations appear to have pointed to the lack of clearance of land drains and when they were subsequently cleaned the flooding eased also the erections of houses/buildings in the area have damaged some of the land drains. Cllr Mrs Oliver was asked if these could be reinstated. It was noted that effluence had also come from the Stables.

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Oliver is to ask Mr D Vacher to look at the site and the problems and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

4.2 County Councillor

This was given under item: 3.1.

4.3 Allotments and the Craft

Cllr Holme reported that the rents had been received.

4.4 CALC, Cambridgeshire Acre & NHW

Cllr Murfitt reported on:

- NHW – there has been attempted distraction burglaries in Worboys Court. It was noted that the Police attended very quickly.
- Nottingham Knockers – this was reported to the Police.
- Police meeting and presentation by the Fire Service – it was agreed that an article should be placed in Gamut.

4.5 Ruddery Pit & Vineyard

Cllr Holroyd reported on:

- The Vineyard – everything was in order.
- Ruddery Pit - the problem with the rabbits is mainly outside the pit. The Parish Council agreed that the Warden should arrange a cull. Traps are to be set to ease the numbers and the number of rabbits caught is to be reported to the Chairman.

4.6 Village Hall

Cllr Holroyd reported on the presentation given by a representative of Comberton Village Hall Trustees on their costs of building a new Village Hall. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

4.7 Welfare & Mobile Warden Scheme

Cllr Mrs Davis reported on:

- Mobile Warden Scheme's members' lunch at Waresley Garden Centre.
- In response to the complaint mentioned at the last meeting two letters had been received and the ensuing meeting was useful.
- Proposed clarity status –this is in hand. It was agreed to carry this matter forward to the January/February meeting of the Parish Council.

4.8 Highways and Footpaths

Cllr Spall reported:

- that the footpaths leaflet has been printed and is in circulation and that the launch evening is to be arranged for the 13 November 2006. The leaflets have been circulated to the school, dentist, library and shop etc by Cllr Spall. It was agreed that Cllr Holme would arrange for a laminated copy to be placed on the notice board.
- On the Morden Hall, Rectory Farm site meeting with Chris Tucker – Details are being arranged with the owner of the land near Thatchways FP11.
- That information is required on the landowners near the PROW at the back of Swan Lane. Members are to help if known.
- Highways – There is a deep 10” rut in Steeple Morden parish which Steeple Morden Parish Council is to report this to the Highway department.
- Graffiti on the road signs is to be reported.

4.9 Burial Grounds

Cllr Mrs Mitchell reported that Buchans are doing the Yew tree and hedges.

4.10 Recreation Grounds

It was noted that additional cuts had been required due to the weather this year and that this should be considered again when the budget for next year is set.

On a proposition by Cllr Mrs Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Holroyd it was agreed that the Football Club should be charged for its use of the recreation ground.

- 4.11 Website
Cllr Holme reported that he had briefly looked through the information received via the Clerk and that he would discuss the options with the webmaster. It was noted that much of the site is out of date due to the lack of information being submitted by the Clubs and organisations and that he would report on this further at the next meeting.
- 4.12 Transport & recycling
No report had been received.
- 4.13 Tree monitoring reports
Tree check reports were received and it was noted that one tree in Trap Road required urgent attention. On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Murfitt it was agreed that the Clerk is to seek 3 quotes within 5 days and that the Clerk and Chairman have delegated powers to approve the contract.
- 4.14 Communications outside meetings
The advice from CALC was noted.
- 4.15 Gamut
Concern was expressed that the Council's submission to Gamut had been edited. This now had been resolved. It was noted that no response had been received to the Parish Council's grant to Gamut.
- 4.16 Village ditches, drains
This item was taken earlier.
- 5. To consider correspondence/communication received**
- 5.1 Phoenix play equipment project update and request to move the earth mound
An email from Mrs Dolby giving information on the fundraising to date and requesting that the mound be moved was considered. It was agreed that a site meeting should be arranged and that this would be discussed again when more information was known as to where the mound was proposed to be relocated to.
- 5.2 Complaint from resident surrounding a barn construction at Cold Harbour Farm and reply from SCDC – to note
Noted.
- 5.3 Complaint about the memorial tree on Pound Green
Guilden Morden Parish Council agreed that the Chairman should liaise with the Tree Warden and the complainant to seek a cheap and amicable solution to the problem.
- 5.4 Melanie Baker Cambs ACRE – Village appraisal/parish plan
The e-mail from M Baker enquiring about Guilden Morden's plans for a Parish Plan was noted and considered. It was agreed to invite M Baker to attend the January Parish Council meeting. Cllr Mrs Davis offered go through the village appraisal and draw up an action plan to be considered at a future meeting.
- 5.5 SCDC Gypsy & Travellers Plan
In response to the consultation the Parish Council welcomed the opportunity to comment. The process appears appropriate however the local views should be paramount.
- 5.6 Cambs Minerals & Waste Plan
Noted.

5.7 Local Works - Sustainable Communities Bill

In response to the letter received seeking the Parish Council's support it was agreed to write to the Andrew Lansley MP asking him to support the early day motion.

5.8 Forthcoming Meetings

Members are to attend the following meetings if they so wish:

- Community Mediation invitation to meeting on 17/11
- CCC Cambridgeshire Congestion - invitation to meeting 14/11

6. Financial, procedural and risk assessment matters

6.1 Finance report and to approve the payment of bills

The financial report was received and considered. Invoices for payment and supporting papers were checked by a member. On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd seconded by Cllr Mrs Mitchell the following payments were approved for payment plus Buchans £986.85 and CCC (street lighting) £1043.52 (part payment).

Village Hall (room hire)	£46.00
E Simpkins (mower repair)	£29.37
LGS Services (admin support)	£425.30
LG Stoehr (salary)	£106.67
Akalat Publishing (footpath leaflet)	£386.00

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

7.1.1 S/1928/06/F Bear Cottage, 17 Church Street – Extensions

A copy of objection from 15 Church Street sent to SCDC was noted and considered. Guilden Morden Parish Council recommended that the application is approved:

- The applicant has made every attempt to reduce the scale of the extensions to meet the reasons for the refusal of their previous application.
- This application has reduced impact on the street scene over the previous application.

7.1.2 S/1923/06/F 46 Church Street – Extension

The letter from the adjacent resident to SCDC was noted and considered. Guilden Morden Parish Council recommended that the application is approved as this application has no impact on the neighbours or the aesthetics of the village.

It was agreed to take the following two items together.

7.1.3 S/1911/06/LB 77 High Street – Alterations – flue liner

7.1.4 S/1815/06/LB 77 high Street – Alterations – timber joists etc

Cllr Murfitt declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item as an adjacent landowner and left the room while the matter was being discussed.

Guilden Morden Parish Council recommended that the application is approved for internal works with the proviso that the listed buildings officer is satisfied with the proposals.

Cllr Murfitt re-join the meeting.

7.1.5 S/1786/06/F Odsey Garage, Baldock Road – Extensions, Tennis Court and Double Garage

The Parish Council recommended that the application is approved. The proposals do not impact significantly on the property or on adjacent properties provided that the Listed

Buildings Officer is content with the details of the proposal and that the garage does not impact upon the aesthetic aspect of Odsey House and the adjacent parkland.

7.1.6 S/1785/06/LB Odsey Garage, Baldock Road – Alterations and Extension

The Parish Council recommends the application is approved providing that the Listed Buildings Officer is content. The proposed extensions and additions do not appear to change significantly the aspects of the property.

7.1.7 S/1717/06/F 60 New Road - Conservatory

Cllr Murfitt declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item as a relative of the applicant and left the room while the matter was being discussed.

Guilden Morden Parish Council recommended that the application is approved.

Cllr Murfitt re-joined the meeting.

7.2 Tree Works

7.2.1 16 Pound Green

It was agreed to accept the Tree Warden's recommendation that whilst the tree was inappropriate for the garden the requested works should be 'approved' with a comment that the branches overhanging the neighbour's garden should be removed.

7.3 SCDC decisions

67 High Street – refused by SCDC.

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

8.1 The Enforcement Officer is to be asked to take a look at the new development at Rectory Farm, New Road and decide if it is permitted development or if it requires planning permission.

8.2 It was agreed to send a letter to the Police regarding the Police trick and treat poster received by ECOPS which had been produced and circulated to the village too late. The Hertfordshire Police Newsletter is also to be sent as an example of what level of information the Parish Council and village would find useful.

9. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting was declared closed at 10.40 pm

Signed _____ dated _____