

GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall
on Monday 11 December 2006 at 7.30pm.**

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

In attendance: Mrs C Murfitt (District Councillor), Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

1. To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllrs Kennedy (business) and Spall.

1.2 Cllr Murfitt declared a prejudicial interest in item: 3.1

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 30 October 2006

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

- Item: 7.15 'Odsey House' should read 'Odsey Grange'.
- Item 4.1 'Mrs Oliver' should read 'Mrs Murfitt'.

On a proposition by the Chairman it was agreed to vary the order of business and take the following item next:

4. To consider reports and members items

4.1 District Councillor

Cllr Mrs Oliver reported:

- On the delivery of South Cambs Magazines
- that Phoenix was given a substantial grant.
- The Services and Amenities document for omissions for the parish is to be reviewed. To be circulated and members are to give their comment to the Clerk.
- Christmas refuse collections.
- There will be redundancies for staff at South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).
- Odsey residents are being consulted on parking at the station.

Comments and observations from members of the public

Mrs Corser, 60 New Road reported on the meeting held with John Cooper of Countryside Services Team (CST). It was noted that a path diversion application has been sent to Cambridge County Council (CCC) and on her proposed application for a gating order.

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

3.1 (3.1) Letter Mrs Corser - requesting the Parish Council's formal agreement for them to close the gate on the PROW in New Road

Cllr Murfitt declared a prejudicial interest in item as relative of a possible objector. On a proposition by Cllr Mrs Davis, seconded by Cllr Saban it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council is content for the gate to remain with the proviso that it remains unlocked to enable the public to access to the public right of way at all times.

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

Carried forward until updates have been received from others.

3.3 (4.1.6) Village drains

It was agreed that this matter should be carried forward until Cllr Mrs Oliver was present and could report.

4. To consider reports and members items

4.1 District Councillor

This item was taken earlier.

4.2 County Councillor

Not present.

4.3 Allotments and the Craft

Cllr Holme reported that the Craft hedge has yet to be trimmed and that this needs to be done by the end of February.

4.4 CALC, Cambridgeshire ACRE & NHW

Cllr Murfitt reported on the recent CALC meeting he had attended which had discussed communications with SCDC.

4.5 Ruddery Pit & Vineyard

Cllr Holroyd reported on:

- The Vineyard is in good condition.
- Ruddery Pit - the problem with the rabbits is in hand. It was noted that the rabbits are selling for £2.

4.6 Village Hall

Cllr Baker reported that the Village Hall Committee had received a grant from WREN for £15k and another from HSBC for £500.

4.7 Welfare & Mobile Warden Scheme

Cllr Mrs Davis reported:

- That a system was being put in place to check all volunteers helping the scheme with the Criminal Records Bureaux.
- Following the Warden's accident volunteers had to provide cover.
- An article for Gamut has been written.
- A kind donations have been received from wheels for Martin.
- The Scheme's accounts had been independently examined.

4.8 Highways and Footpaths

Cllr Spall's report was noted in his absence. This included a report on the recent public meeting held to discuss the public rights of way in the parish

4.9 Burial Grounds

Cllr Mrs Mitchell reported that the work to be undertaken on the hedging and Yew Tree is still outstanding. It was agreed that a letter should be sent asking when it will be carried out.

4.10 Recreation Grounds

Cllr Saban reported:

- That Buchans had been asked for an extra cut however due to the weather this still has to be done.
- That he would make enquiries about the level of charges that clubs pay to use facilities in other villages. The Clerk is to advise on VAT implications.

On a proposition by Cllr Home, seconded by Cllr Davis it was unanimously agreed that if youth teams are set up there will be no charge.

4.11 Website

Cllr Home reported on the recent meeting with the webmaster and the problems with the hosting and the lack of up-to-date information being supplied by the village groups and organisations. On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis it was agreed to change the hosting from Portland to Objenix at a cost of £150pa.

4.12 Transport & recycling

Cllr Baker reported:

- On the reduction of train services and the new service recently introduced.
- Recycling. It was noted that the recycling banks at the Three Tuns are often full.

4.13 Tree monitoring reports

Reports on tree checks undertaken by members were noted. There was no urgent action identified for trees that are the responsibility of the Parish Council.

4.14 Parish Plan

Cllr Davis reported that she had made a start on prioritising using the following categories; low, medium and long term. It was agreed that the meeting papers should be circulated with the agenda and that this would be discussed further at the next meeting when Melanie Baker from Cambs ACRE would attend.

4.15 Chairman

The Chairman reported that a resident had expressed concern at the condition of the trees on District Council land between Thompson's Meadow and Church Lane.

5. To consider correspondence/communication received

5.1 Standards Committee Code of Conduct training

In response to the letter from Fiona Macmillan at SCDC it was agreed that the Chairman and one other member should attend the training session. The preference was for either a Tuesday or a Thursday evening if possible and the Council agreed to pay the suggested £20 per person. The Parish Council was also willing to join Comberton Parish Council for an in-house session if arranged.

5.2 CCC Consultation on Registration Service

In response to the consultation concern was expressed at the cost implication and the use of public money.

5.3 NALC - White Paper Summary

This is to be circulated.

5.4 HCV Newsletter

This is to be circulated.

5.5 S106 Agreements & Mutual Exchanges - SCDC consultation

The recent letter from SCDC was considered. It was agreed to respond that SCDC and any residents wishing to move should be required to contact the Parish Council who hold

details on persons looking for housing who have strong village connections with the village. It was also agreed that the suggested three months was too short and that this should be 6 months.

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

6.1 Planning

There were no new planning applications for consideration.

6.2 Tree works

None received.

6.3 SCDC decisions

The following were noted:

- SCDC approvals
 - 47 High Street – Listed Building.
 - 60 New Road – Conservatory.
 - 77 High Street – Listed Building.
- SCDC Refusal
 - Odsey Grange – (refused) Listed Building + Full application.
- Amendment
 - 17 Church Street – Information only.

7. Financial, procedural and risk assessment matters

7.1 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 before the cheques were signed. On a proposition by Cllr Holme seconded by Cllr Murfitt the following payments were approved for payment plus, Information Commissioner £35 Data Protection registration renewal.

Buchans Landscapes (grass cutting)	£584.88
B Spall (wine reimbursement)	£25.04
Morley Manufacturing (gate repairs)	£99.87
CCC (kissing gates)	£306.00
LGS Services (admin support)	£492.72
S Scott (grass cutting)	£47.00
Precision AG Consultants (VH gate)	£99.88
LG Stoehr (salary)	£106.67

On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Holroyd a S137 donation of £450 was granted to the Mordens & Litlington Mobile Warden Scheme which the Council considered was in the best interests of the village and proportionate with benefit.

7.2 Data Protection & Freedom of Information review

The cost implications of providing recent requests for information from residents and the County Councillor was considered. Implications of banking cash and administering the scheme (copying and postage not time) was considered. On a proposition by Cllr Holme seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis it was agreed that requests for information outside the publication scheme should be charged for at cost if over £5 and that payment should be received before the papers are released.

7.3 Budget review & suggestions for special projects for the draft budget FY ending 2008

Receipts and payments to date versus the budget including the % variance was received and considered. Members are to consider any special projects which they would like considered in the draft budget and inform the Clerk. Cllrs Spall and Murfitt are to consider the draft figures as supplied by the RFO and bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

7.4 Clerk & LGS Services Annual Review

At approximately 10pm on a proposition by the Chairman, carried unopposed, in accordance with S1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that is the Council considering the Clerk's Annual Review the Clerk was temporarily excluded from the meeting and was instructed to withdraw.

The meeting was reopened at approximately 10.15pm.

It was agreed that Cllr Holme would draft the confidential minutes. It was noted that LGS Services contract would be in line with the Clerk's contract.

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

8.0 Donation of seat for the Cemetery. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

8.1 The difference between the quality of information from the Cambridgeshire Police and the Herts Police was noted and it was agreed to invite the Police to attend the next meeting.

8.2 Following a complaint about a van parking in Canons Close it was agreed to monitor the situation. It was noted that the parking area has been increased to the rear of Canons Close.

9. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting was declared closed at 10.27pm

Signed _____ dated _____