

**GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall  
on Monday 22 January 2007 at 7.30pm.**

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

In attendance: Mrs C Murfitt (District Councillor), Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk) and Melanie Baker (Cambs ACRE).

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

None.

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

1.1 None as all members were present.

1.2 There were no declarations of interest at this point in the meeting.

**2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 11 December 2006**

2.0 On a proposition by Cllr Mr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis the minutes of the last meeting on 11 December 2006 were unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2.1 On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis the confidential minutes were unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman following one amendment to show that Cllr Saban was present and not Cllr Spall as stated.

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

3.1 (4.1.4) Parish Plan

Background to the village appraisal was provided. It was agreed that Melanie Baker is to supply a template that could be used help draw up an action plan. Ms Baker explained that now when published all action plans go to the Local Strategic Partnership. As the village has already undertaken the village appraisal Ms Baker is to check if ACRE can help with grant funding to turn the appraisal into a parish plan.

On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis it was agreed that Guilden Morden Parish Council is to formulate a Parish Plan based on the village appraisal for 2003. The vote was recorded as 6 for and 1 against.

On a proposition by Cllr Home, seconded by Cllr Holroyd it was also agreed that Parish Council members will review the report prepared by Cllr Mrs Davis and come to the next meeting prepared to discuss the matter further. It was also agree to have Parish Plan as an agenda item at the Annual Parish Meeting (APM).

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. Matter closed.

3.2.1 FP15 – It was confirmed that the fence has been removed but the wire posts are still in situ and that the pond is still encroaching onto the PROW. It was agreed to write again to John Cooper urging him to carry out the enforcement action indicated in CCC's letter to the resident.

3.2.2 Smelly Ditch – It was noted that this still has not been resolved and that the ditch is dark blue and very smell when last checked on Thursday. It was also noted that sewage around the road drain is seeping from the tarmac by the pumping station. The Environment Agency is to be notified and asked to take urgent action. Cllr Mrs Mitchell and Cllr Holme offered to meet with officers if required.

3.3 (4.1.6) Village drains

Concern was expressed that the request for plans and discussions with CCC about the village drains had not been resolved. It was agreed to send an e-mail to Cllr Mrs Oliver asking her to pursue. Dennis Vacher is to be informed that the roadside drain outside the Edward vii overflows into the pub's cellar.

3.4 Offer of donation of bench for the cemetery

The offer of a donation of a bench for the cemetery considered. On a proposition by Cllr Mrs Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Holme it was agreed to accept the kind donation and that the Parish Council agree to be responsible for the maintenance repairs for the life of the bench.

**4. To consider reports and members items**

4.1 District Councillor

Cllr Mrs Murfitt reported:

- On the Awards Communications Team – young communicator of the year for the best low budget campaign.
- On the The anticipated government funding will lead to redundancies.
- Council Tax - The Government assessment was for £200 Band: D the actual received was £97.
- On cuts in services. Concern was expressed at this. It was noted that residents want/expect the basics.
- that Environment Health and Planning are obliged to collect rubbish.
- That Mr Traverse-Healy (Steeple Morden) is a member of the Local Strategic Patnership.
- that plastic containers which have contained meat can not now be put in the plastic recycling point.
- That Sainsbury's are recycling/collecting batteries, mobile phones and ink cartridges.

Cllr Mrs Murfitt was asked if a consultation would take place on the District Council's budget.

4.2 County Councillor

Cllr Mrs Oliver's report was read in her absence.

Concern was expressed at the condition of the development site in Trap Road which needs urgent attention following the recent storms. The County Council and Cllr Mrs Oliver are both to be informed.

4.3 Allotments and the Craft

It was noted that the hedge was cut last week by Buchans and that the Rural Payments Agency did not pay for last year but that payment is due by the end of the month.

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

5.1 Milton Country Park proposed closure

It was agreed that Guilden Morden Parish Council support the endorsers to keep it open. Members can indicate their individual support on the 'Save Milton Country Park' website.

4.4 CALC, Cambridgeshire Acre & NHW

Cllr Murfitt reported on recent incidents and that he had contacted the Police on their mobile and that the PSCO had visited the village.

4.5 Ruddery Pit & Vineyard

Cllr Holroyd reported that there had been no response on the request for a cull and also that no trees suffered during the recent storm. It was agreed that Cllr Holroyd would discuss the cull again with Mr Dellar.

4.6 Village Hall

Cllr Kennedy reported that there has been no meeting. Details of the Surveyor are to be sent to the Chairman.

4.7 Welfare & Mobile Warden Scheme

Cllr Mrs Davis reported that several members are or have been in hospital recently and also due to a donation, all Litlington members get their membership free.

4.8 Highways and Footpaths

Cllr Spall reported:

- On the work being undertaken to the Trap Road ditch
- That a tree is down in Church Lane near the turn which is blocking the PROW
- That the waymaking has been completed
- On the complaint letter received from The Ramblers
- A P3 grant application is to be drafted for kissing gates to complete the works for the inner village, the continuation of the proposed diversion, FP 15 works to reinstate the boundaries and the maintenance of Buxtons Lane. All other PROW are to be included in CCC's cutting programme. Also a TRO for Cobbs Lane is to be discussed with John Cooper.

4.9 Burial Grounds

Cllr Mrs Mitchell reported that the works on the Yew Tree still has not been done despite Buchans assurance that it had. This is to be taken up with Buchans.

In clarification of how 'bone fide' resident was to be measured on a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Holroyd it was unanimously agreed that the deceased should be on the electoral register at the time of their death.

4.10 Recreation Grounds

Cllr Saban reported that it has been too wet to do the outstanding cut.

4.11 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.

4.12 Chairman

The Chairman reported that the King Edward vii had donated £110 to Gamut.

**5. To consider correspondence/communication received**5.1 Milton Country Park proposed closure

This item was taken earlier.

5.2 Go East proposed changes to regional plan consultation

Noted.

5.3 CCC Community Transport

This is to be circulated.

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

6.1 Planning

6.1.0 S/0024/07/F Connolly 11 New Road – Extension

On a proposition by Cllr Spall, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis the application was recommended for ‘Approval’ as the extension visually enhances the current structure and will provide symmetry with the adjacent dwelling with no loss of parking.

It was noted that the neighbour had contacted the Chairman stating that this application will have no immediate effect on them.

6.2 Tree works

None had been received.

6.3 SCDC decisions

SCDC approval for S/1928/06/F 17 Church Street was noted.

**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 Spall, seconded by Cllr Holme and carried unanimously the following payments were approved for payment:

LGS Services (admin support)	£416.91
Morley Manufacturing (gate repairs VAT o/s)	£14.87
Cambs ACRE	£25.00
LGS Services (admin support)	£429.71
LG Stoehr (salary)	£106.67

7.2 To approve the budget for FY 2008

Further to the last meeting the report by Cllrs Spall and Murfitt was considered. On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Davis it was agreed to approve the budget as drafted.

A review of the reserves was undertaken and it was agreed that they should all continue to be earmarked and that none could be used to support the budget for FY2008. It was noted that a survey was commissioned and a Village Hall fund is required. It was agreed to charge the sports clubs that use the recreation ground £10 per match and that Cllr Saban let the Clerk have all the clubs fixture lists so that the Parish Council may invoice

7.3 To set and demand the Precept for FY2008

On a proposition by Cllr Murfitt, seconded by Cllr Holme and carried it was agreed to demand a precept of £19,600 which is the amount required by the Parish Council to balance its budget.

7.4 Appointment of Internal Auditor

It was agreed to re-appoint Dick Lynch as the Internal Auditor.

7.5 Dates of future meetings & the APM

On a proposition by Cllr Mrs Davis, seconded by Cllr Mrs Mitchell it was agreed to amend standing orders and that in future the Parish Council meeting would be held on the third Monday of every other month starting in March with a planning meeting being held on the alternate months, again on the third Monday if business requires.

The APM is to be held on the third Monday in May. The Parish Council meeting will either be held before it or following it depending on the amount of business on that agenda.

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

8.1 Cllr Kennedy reported that, in absence of the Parish Council nominating someone as a community governor he would provide the liaison. He also reported that the Land Registry title shows there is no encroachment at 80 High Street.

There was no further business and the meeting was declared closed at 10.30 pm

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