

GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall
on Monday 21 July 2008 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs: Mrs J Davis, J Holroyd (Chairman), Mrs D Mitchell, Mrs A Hoad, Mr T Oakes, C Freeman, Mr T Bartlett and Dr J Townsend-Stojic,

In attendance: Cllr Mrs L Oliver (County Cllr), C Murfitt (District Cllr) Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk) and 4 members of the public including Mr D Perry and Mrs R Dolby (Phoenix).

Presentation from Cllr Davis on Mobile Warden Scheme

Cllr Mrs Davis reported and invited questions.

Comments and observations from members of the public and from the County & District Cllrs

Cllr Mrs Oliver reported:

- On parking at Odsey and extended an invitation to a meeting with neighbouring parish councils to discuss if the councils would like to contribute towards parking provision with some revenue return.
- that Trap Road Development is coming to a close
- a complaint she had been asked to raise regarding damage to her constituent's gravestone
- that bus service 127 has been re-tendered. Same service as at present but is to be revisited with the new owner of the route. Service 91 review date is as yet not known.
- The Post Office closures consultation
- That the CCC Audit Commission report showed sound financial practices and low sick leave levels
- The Transport innovation Fund bid
- NATS
- The Environment and climate change action plan.

Cllr Mrs Murfitt reported on:

- Post Office briefing meeting for the joint bid from Arrington and Orwell
- Boundary Review update and the impact on housing allocation
- LDF supplementary planning documents
- Housing futures – every tenant will receive a visit from a Housing Officer. Cllr Mrs Murfitt to put in Gamut if the information is received on time
- SCDC Magazine that has received another award

It was agreed that Cllrs Holroyd and Freeman would attend the Station meeting and report to the next meeting.

Cllr Mrs Oliver was asked to ask her constituent to write into the Council in accordance with Council policy about the alleged memorial damage.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

1.0 Apologies had been received from Cllr Barry Holme (out of parish).

1.1 Declarations of prejudicial interest were received from Cllr Holroyd as a friend of the applicant.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 12 May & the planning meeting on 16 June

2.0 On proposition from Cllr Dr Townsend-Stojic and seconded by Cllr Hoad the minutes of the last meeting on 12 May and the planning on 16 June 2008 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman following one amendment in item 31. of the 16 June Planning minutes Boundary Review.

Cllr Mrs Davis asked for it to be noted that she had reconsidered the way she voted at the planning meeting and she would have voted differently.

3. Matters arising from last or previous meetings carried forward for discussion/decision

3.1 Phoenix - update and proposed pathway

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Dolby to the meeting.

It was noted that work is to start this week with mounds to be removed and equipment cleared. The equipment is due to be installed on 11 August

On a proposition by the Chairman the meeting was adjourned to allow time to look at the proposed route of the path. The meeting reopened at 8:25pm.

On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis the path was been approved in principle subject to the removable bollard being relocated and also the Chairman and Clerk being shown and approving the:

- Specification
- Route – is it far enough away from the trees to minimise damage etc.
- Guarantee on the path

It was also agreed that the invoices for scheme could be paid between meetings subject to grant funding from the awarding bodies being received.

It was noted that the path to the rear of Bells Meadow was breaking up and agreed to report this to Dennis Vacher, Highway Supervisor.

3.2 (1.7) To inspect any deeds and trust instruments in the custody of the Council

The clerk reported on the title deeds, and trust documents. It was agreed that Cllr Freeman and Davis are to inspect the deeds and trust instruments at the Council's office rather than them being brought out to a meeting. It was noted that The Ruddery Pit should be formally registered with Land Registry.

3.3 (4.2) Doctors Surgery

Cllr Holroyd reported that that a date for a meeting is still outstanding but has been requested for by the end of August. The email from the Doctors Surgery to Steeple Morden Parish Council was noted.

It was agreed that the Parish Council believe that the level of service from the surgery is very good and that the complaint about charging is a completely separate matter.

3.4 (4.7.1) SCDC 'Housing Future'

Noted. Taken earlier.

3.5 (5.2) CCC- Proposed changes to Service 127

Noted. Taken earlier.

3.6 (1.5) To appoint representatives which the Council deems necessary

On a proposition by Cllr Oakes and seconded by Cllr Dr Townsend-Stojic it was agreed that Cllr Mrs Hoad would be the School Liaison Representative.

Odd Job Man is to be carried forward to the next meeting.

On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd and seconded by Cllr Dr Townsend-Stojic it was agreed that Cllr Hoad would take over the day to day running and updates of the website.

Tim Kinns' and Georgina Boost's kind offer to help with rabbit control at the Ruddery Pit was gratefully accepted and Cllr Townsend-Stojic is to liaise with them.

3.7 (8.1) Metal work preventing unauthorised access to the Steeple Morden end of Buxtons Lane

Flytipping at the end of Buxtons Lane has been reported. A green manhole cover in Potton Road near Little Green is to be reported to Cambridge Water.

4. To consider reports for info only

4.1 Website

Cllr Anna Hoad has taken over the running of the website. Cllr Hoad reported that she was finding it difficult to get some information from various clubs and groups. Cllr Oakes offered to help her liaise with the sports clubs.

4.2 Transport and finance

It was noted that these two items should be separated on the next agenda.

Cllr Bartlett indicated that he had nothing further to add on transport matters and Cllr Freeman reported that he had started looking strategically at the budget and the Council's finances.

4.3 Allotments and the Craft

Cllr Mrs Hoad reported that there is only one vacant allotment which is full of brambles. It was agreed that she should meet with Buchans to discuss the Craft contract generally and also to ask them to quote for the allotment clearance.

4.4 CALC & Cambs Acre

Nothing to report.

4.5 Ruddery Pit & Vineyard

Carried forward to next meeting to arrange tree area responsibilities.

It was noted that an email has been received from Ms Richardson, Tree Officer at SCDC regarding Miss Flint wanting trees with Tree Preservation Orders on the Vineyard trimmed. It was agreed that Cllr Dr J Townsend-Stojic would attend and report to the next meeting. Buchans are to be asked to quote for the

4.6 Village Hall inc Village Hall Project Group

Cllr Oakes reported that the Village Hall Committee is in good order and outlined the content of the Village Hall Maintenance programme 2008 which is being organised by the Committee.

The Guilden Morden Village Hall discussion paper was considered. It was noted that there was no appendix A or B included.

On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd and seconded by Cllr Oakes it was agreed to accept the recommendation that the Council should drop any thoughts of refurbishment of the building and instead it should actively pursue a replacement building.

Cllrs Oakes, Bartlett and Holroyd plus Alan Boyd and Judith Davis were formally appointed to the Steering Group and asked to draw up a brief for the architects to tender against. The Parish Council also agreed that up to £5,000 of the village hall fund could be used to enable the project to get underway and the tender document and architects brief to be commissioned. The Steering Group was asked to report to each Council meeting.

- 4.7 Welfare & Mobile Warden Scheme
Taken earlier in the meeting.
- 4.8 Highways and Footpaths
An article is to be put in Gamut asking residents to trim back any hedging and overhanging vegetation.
- 4.9 Burial Grounds
Nothing to report at this time.
- 4.10 Recreation Grounds
Taken in Cllr Holme's absence. It was noted that a meeting is being arranged with all the Sports Clubs.
- 4.11 Parish Plan
The report was taken as read. An action plan is to be drawn up. Carried forward to the next meeting.
- 4.1.2 Police & NHW
Cllr Freeman reported that he is arranging a meeting and will have a stand at the Village Show. It was noted that a caravan was stolen out of a yard.
- 5. Members item for discussion and decision**
- 5.1 Proposal for goal posts & rugby posts removal
On a proposition by T Oakes and seconded by Cllr Dr J Townsend-Stojic it was agreed that the posts are beyond economical repair and are a health and safety hazard so should be disposed of by someone with the appropriate insurance and licence.
- 5.2 Background of Parish Plans in the documentation pack
Noted.
- 5.3 Burial fee and Regulations Review
On a proposition by Cllr Freeman, seconded by Cllr Holroyd it was agreed that the cemetery fees should be brought in line with the Church fees and that they be linked so that there is an appropriate annual increase. It was agreed that the other fees and regulations are to be carried forward to the next meeting.
- 6. To consider correspondence/communications received**
- 6.1 BT - Phone Box Closures
On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd and seconded by Cllr Bartlett it was agreed that there was objection to the removal of both BT boxes.
- 6.2 SCDC - Consent Streets Consultation
This was noted and it was agreed that the Parish Council support the proposal in the Consent Street Consultation.
- 6.3 CCC - Cobbs Lane proposed works
Noted.
- 6.4 September Show Committee – Request to use the Recreation Ground and The Craft
On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis permission to use the recreation ground for the September Show was granted subject to the following conditions:
- If age restricted products are available as raffle/tombola prizes the Parish Council requires these restrictions to be enforced.

- Licences are obtained as appropriate and copies of these are to be forwarded to the Parish Council.
- The Recreation Ground should be left tidy after the event and any surface damage reinstated as soon as possible.

It was noted that Natural England had agreed to the Craft being used subject to:

- the repair of any damage to the green cover as soon as possible after the event.
- And should it rain on the day before or on the day of the event the Craft may not be used for the event.

6.5 CCC – proposed Post Office closures

The Parish Council supported the proposals as detailed.

6.6 SCDC – youth participation

In response it was agreed that written information would be useful and that an officer be invited to attend a future meeting.

7. To consider planning and tree works applications and decision notices received since the last meeting

7.1 Mid Beds DPD Issues and options Consultation

Noted.

7.2 Planning applications received

7.2.1 S/1050/08/F – 11 New Road – Extension

On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd and seconded by Cllr Oakes the application was recommended for as long as it does not impinge on anyone else to the rear of the building.

7.2.2 66 High Street

On a proposition by the Chairman the meeting was temporarily adjourned to allow Cllr Holroyd to make representations on the application as a member of the public under Paragraph 12 (2) of the Code of Conduct. Cllr Holroyd then left the meeting and Cllr Mrs Davis chaired the item in his absence.

On a proposition by Cllr Dr Townsend-Stojic, seconded by Cllr Mrs Hoad it was agreed recommend that the application is approved with the proviso that they move the store room to the other side so it matches the footprint of the existing sheds and is less obstructive.

Cllr Holroyd rejoined the meeting.

7.2.3 48 Church Street – Amended

Noted.

8 Finance and procedure

8.1 To receive the financial report and 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 Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Holroyd the following payments were approved for payment:

Expenditure for approval	
CALC (affiliation fee)	£254.49
Playsafety Ltd (ROSPA Report)	£88.13
Village Hall (Room Hire)	£49.60
Buchans (Grass Cutting)	£1909.87

LGS Services (Admin Support)	£651.31
Buchans (Grass Cutting)	£1668.23
SCDC (Election Fee)	£90.00
JMS (Village Hall Survey)	£293.75
LGS Services (Admin Support)	£446.00
LG Stoehr (Salary June & July)	£245.18
Moore Stephens (Audit)	£334.88

Noted:

- Both the internal & the external audits have been completed and everything found to be in order. A notice advertising the end of the audit will be displayed on the notice board.
- No notification of the annual pay award for the clerk has as yet been received from NALC/SLCC
- It was agreed that St Marys Church should be asked to seek prior authorisation before any repairs are undertaken. The Council has a spare mower which might be more economical to use than keep repairing an older mower also the Council could reclaim VAT on its purchases and also monitor its budget better

8 Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting was declared closed at 11.06 pm

Signed _____ dated _____

GUILDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Planning meeting held in the Village Hall
on Monday 18 August 2008 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Barry Holmes (Chairman), Joe Holroyd, Jane Davis, Chris Freeman, Doreen Mitchell, Tim Bartlett, Anna Hoad, Janet Townsend-Stojic and Tony Oakes

Comments and observations from members of the public

None

1 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Cllr Holroyd declared a personal and prejudicial interest S/1263/08/LB and S/1317/08/F 66 High Street.

2 To consider planning applications received since the last meeting**2.1 S/1263/08/LB 66 High Street - Internal & external alterations****2.2 S/1317/08/F 66 High Street – Extension**

Internal changes seem necessary to bring the property up to a modern habitable standard. External changes are not visible from adjacent properties

The Parish Council welcomes the renovations that would make the property habitable.

The Parish Council does not object to the applications, assuming that the Conservation Officer agrees with the proposed changes

2.3 S/1350/08/LB Odsey House Baldock Road Odsey– Internal and external alterations**2.4 S/1353/08/LB Odsey House Baldock Road Odsey – Alterations**

The Parish Council applauds the efforts that the applicant is making to renovate the property and restore original features.

The Parish Council does not object to the applications, assuming that appropriate architectural heritage specialists (e.g. English Heritage) support the planned works

2.5 S/1361/08/F 1 Church Lane– Extension

Concerns were expressed that the structure may affect visibility for traffic entering or leaving the lane

The proposed extension extends beyond an apparent building line or boundary for houses in the development

The Parish Council does not object to the development but asks the planners to consider whether there may be a restrictive covenant related to the building line and open spaces around the properties which would adversely affected by the application. If permission is granted the developer needs to take measures to ensure that the footpath and access road are not hindered, given that the lane is already narrow and there is no suitable

3. Closure of meeting

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed _____ dated _____