

GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall
on Monday 19 January 2009 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs: T Bartlett, J Davis, A Hoad, B Holme (Chairman), J Holroyd, D Mitchell and T Oakes.

In attendance: Cllr Mrs L Oliver (County Cllr), Cllr Mrs C Murfitt (District Cllr), Georgina Butcher & John Howes (South Cambridgeshire District Standards Committee) Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk) and one member of the public,

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

Cllr Mrs Murfitt reported on:

- South Cambs Directory of Services – Helping those affected by Domestic Abuse.
- The South Cambs Magazine delivery
- South Cambs support for those affected by the economic downturn
- Cold Harbour Barn planning application which is to go to the Committee in February.
- Police Neighbourhood Panel and that the scope of panel is to be extended.
- New Communities' Liaison Act.

Cllr Mrs Murfitt was asked to look in to the Mobile Warden Scheme's grant as this is not going to be extended as previously indicated.

Cllr Mrs Oliver reported on:

- Mobile Warden Scheme funding.
- The Audit Commission report
- The Council Tax prediction.
- Crime – There have been 13 incidents in the area.
- Morden's Bus – There is an agreement from officers and a requirement that the Parish Council write formally agreeing to fund the bus.
- Broadband speed – There was a consensus that connection speed was very poor Cllr Mrs Oliver will take the matter up with BT.
- Station parking - It was agreed that Cllrs Bartlett and Oakes would attend the meeting on 29 January 2009 and that they should report to the next meeting. Concerns were expressed at the lack of information prior to the meeting. Cllr Mrs Murfitt reported that she had asked Mr Fordham for a business plan and that she would try to get that to members, via the Clerk before the meeting.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr Mrs Oliver for her assurances that the conditions that it agreed at the last meeting and as detailed in its letter dated 25 November would be met in full. It was agreed that another letter should be sent to the Cambridgeshire County Council via Cllr Mrs Oliver detailing the Parish Council's agreement to pay £520 at end of the 6 month trial period. The Parish Council emphasized that it wished to receive a contract agreeing to the points in the letter by return.

The Parish Council expressed their thanks to the County Council for keeping the roads gritted during the recent bad weather. A letter is to be sent to Mr Vacher.

- Georgina Butcher and John Howes from the Standards Committees' were welcomed to the meeting and there followed an open discussion on the remit, membership and work of the Committee. Guilden Morden Parish Council when pressed indicated that it

thought the current code is an improvement on previous codes. Ms Butcher and Mr Howes were thanked for attending the meeting and invited to remain and observe the meeting.

1. To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Cllr Townsend-Stojic (out of parish) and Cllr Freeman who had recently resigned.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 17 November 2008 & the planning meeting on 15 December 2008

On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Oakes, the minutes of the last meeting on 17 November 2008 and also the minutes of the planning meeting on 15 December 2008 were approved as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

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

3.0.1 Housing Needs Survey – The survey is being completed and will be ready in approximately two months.

3.0.2 (3.0.2) Affordable Housing Bidwells – There is no further information.

3.0.3 (3.1) Morden Bus – Taken earlier.

3.0.4 (4.5.2) Ruddery Pit – It was noted that the Clerk has not received a specification.

3.0.5 (5.3) Burial Ground – As the rates had not been received on a proposition by Cllr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davis it was agreed that the rest of the cemetery fees be brought in line with the Church of England fees published January 2009. It was noted that it had already agreed that these would now be increased annually in line with the Church of England fees.

3.0.6 (8) Tree quotes – It was highlighted that the Ash Tree on the Recreation Ground fell over and the Chairman arranged for removal. Two quotes for work to the two trees to the rear of trap Road had been received and as agreed at the last meeting the cheapest that of M Fathers £600 had been accepted.

3.1 (4.5) Ruddery Pit reply from Wildlife Trust re management

The reply from the Wildlife Trust indicating that the site met their criteria and that it would be put forward for Wildlife Site designation as was considered. The Parish Council agreed that all the statements were correct but that it should seek clarification on its obligations should the site be so designated.

3.2 (5.1) Tree Maintenance/Tree Warden

It was noted that Mr Paget-Wilkes had now retired and is no longer the Tree Warden. On a proposition by Cllr Holme, seconded by Cllr Hoad it was agreed to ask Cllr Townsend-Stojic to become Tree Warden.

3.3 (4.9) Earth Mound Cemetery

It was agreed that The Chairman and Cllrs Mrs Mitchell assisted by the other members if available should arrange the removal of the spoil.

4. Financial, procedural and risk assessment matters

4.1 Finance report and to approve the payment of bills

The financial report was received and considered and checked by a member against the invoices and statements before the cheques were signed. On a proposition by Cllr Oakes, seconded by Cllr Bartlett, it was agreed that the payments as listed in the financial report for November should be paid, plus: LGS Services £444.13 and Buchans £97.15. Payments between meetings for play equipment scheme were noted; SMP (play equipment) £6,193.42, SMP (play equipment) £4,3992.19, SMP (play

equipment) £24,097.69, Greyhound Leisure (groundworks, bins & benches) £12,398.60,	
Greyhound Leisure (installation)	£3203.05
SMP (tarmac arena)	£7344.93
Kompan (play equipment)	£2042.15
Objeniix	£423.00
Steve & Sandra Scott (Buxtons Lane & The Vineyard)	£19.47
Buchans (grass cutting)	£1089.86
Information Commissioner (DPA)	£35.00
LGS Services (admin support)	£618.44
LG Stoehr (salary)	£307.84

Credits received since the last meeting including vat reclaim, plot purchase, play equipment grant funding and bank interest were noted.

4.1.1 Cambridge ACRE Membership

It was agreed to remain only with the basis ACRE membership and not to subscribe to the Playing Fields Association at this time.

4.2 To review budget for FY 2009

The Budget detailing receipts and payments to date and reserve funding was considered. It was noted that it was broadly in line with anticipated.

4.3 To approve budget for 2010 and to set precept

The baseline budget detailing the year on year receipts and payments based on agreed contracts and regular works was noted. Reserve funding and any under spend anticipated by the end of the year was considered. It was agreed to start a parish plan fund with the contingency of £1600 and that the Parish Council would consider if further funds could be made available once the Working Group had some firm proposals. Funds for parking at Ashwell Station is to be considered further when specifics are known.

On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Mrs Hoad it was agreed that the amount required by the Parish Council to balance its budget is £23435 and it was agreed that this should be demanded from the District Council.

4.4 P3 scheme FY 2009 work review and FY 2009 grant application

Cllr Holroyd reported on outstanding work i.e. kissing gates and FP 4/6 kissing gates which is to be carried forward. On a proposition by Cllr Holroyd, seconded by Cllr Oakes it was agreed to put in a grant application for £200. Cllr Holroyd is to meet with Andrew Simpson CCC on 29 January to discuss FP 4/6 and the Millennium Wood. Cllr Holroyd was asked to raise the outstanding problem with the path from the side of the cemetery to the Potton Road where it crosses the open ditch.

4.5 Tree reports

It was noted that work is required to the tree adjacent 23 Pound Road. It was agreed to ask Matthew Fathers to do the work when he is at the Recreation Ground for the other two trees.

5. Members item for discussion and decision

Nothing to report.

6. To consider correspondence/communications received

6.1 SCDC - aims, approaches and actions for 2009/10 consultation

Noted.

6.2 Miss Flint re rabbits at The Vineyard

The Chairman reported that he had visited the site with Cllr Townsend-Stojic and that there were rabbits present including some from the adjacent Ashwell farmer's land. It was agreed that Cllr Townsend-Stojic would continue to liaise with the rabbit catcher and monitor the situation. Miss Flint is to be thanked for her letter and she is to be informed of the action being taken.

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

7.1 Planning applications received

7.1.1 S/2029/08/F Burns Barn 5 Cold Harbour Farm Ashwell Road – Extension and alterations

It was noted that this application was going to Planning Committee and agreed that Cllr Holroyd would attend the meeting to represent the Parish Council.

7.2 Decisions

None received.

8. To consider reports for info only

8.1 Police & NHW

Chris Freeman's report regarding local incidents was considered. It was agreed that someone should be appointed at the next meeting to take on this role Agenda item.

8.2 Transport

Nothing further to report.

8.3 Allotments and the Craft

Nothing further to report at this time.

8.4 CALC & Cambs Acre

Nothing further to report at this time.

8.5 Ruddery Pit & Vineyard

Cllr Townsend Stojic report was considered.

8.6 Village Hall inc Village Hall Project Group

Cllr Oakes reported that three tenders had been received for the architect and that the Project Group would be considering and comparing these further and hoped to bring a firm recommendation to the next meeting.

8.7 Welfare & Mobile Warden Scheme

Cllr Davis reported that the Mobile Warden Scheme had just become a registered charity. Thanks were expressed to the hardworking committee members. It was noted that two new committee members have been recruited - Brian Spall from Steeple Morden and Debbie Brown of Litlington. Cllrs Davis and Mitchell are to update their Register of Interests' forms.

8.8 Highways and Footpaths

It was agreed that Cllrs Holme and Holroyd would liaise with Mr Ingrey so that he could undertake the annual clearance of the Twitchell. D reported that the kerbing of the High Street has been delayed. A letter of appreciation is to be sent to Mr Vacher for the refurbishing of the pavements and gritting of roads as a good job has been done.

8.9 Burial Grounds

Thanks were expressed to the Chairman for helping empty the green bin which had been filled with earth at the cemetery.

8.10 Recreation Grounds

The following was noted:

- Keys for the bins by the play area are with the Chairman.
- The Chairman is to have a meeting with Buchans to discuss th health of the grass.
- Photos of the play equipment are to be taken by the Chairman assisted by Cllr Holroyd and added to the assets register.
- The annual ROSPA inspection is still to go ahead.
- Litter Bins – These are full. The Chairman to discuss with Buchans.
- Cigarette butts from the smoking shelter at the Edward vii are being thrown on to the recreation ground. A letter is to be sent to the publican.

8.11 Parish Plan

Cllr Mrs Davis reported that the Parish Plan group is organising a public meeting on Feb 26th, where Alan Hampton, a representative of ACRE, will discuss the f Parish Plans. Funding of the event will be taken from the grant received for the purpose.

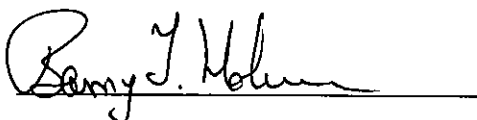
8.12 Website

It was reported that residents are pleased with the up-to-date website. It was noted that the WI Scrapbook increased hits. Cllr Mrs Hoad was thanked for her efforts. This is to be a standing agenda item.

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

- 9.0 Anglian Water Potton End flooding from the pumping station just after Christmas was reported. The Environment Agency had been called by the Chairman and they had insisted that Anglian Water attend. All problems are to be reported.
- 9.1 SC4A High Street and CCC1 near Church Street are not working and are to be reported.
- 9.2 Quotations for the refurbishment / painting of the village sign are to be obtained.
- 9.3 A letter is to be sent to CCC to find out what is happening with the development by Trap Road.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed  dated 16-03-09