

GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 18 November 2019 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllrs: B Holme (Chairman), N Buckland, G Dellar, G Harper, R Newman, J Davis-Roach, M Chapman and K Lock.

In attendance: 5 members of the public including Andy Tanser and representatives of Climate Conversations, County Cllr Sebastian Kindersley, District Cllr Heather Williams and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Comments and observations from members of the public and from the County and District Councillors

The representatives of Climate Conversations proposed that Guilden Morden declare a Climate Emergency and arrange a village meeting. They offered assistance to the Parish Council. A resident requested that the Parish Council look at planting additional trees. The Council invited a representative of Climate Conversations to join the Parish Council to fill the casual vacancy.

County Cllr Sebastian Kindersley's previously circulated written report was noted. He reported on:

- His attendance at a meeting with North Hertfordshire County Council regarding transport, buses and the future of services 1991 and 127, as well as an extension to Letchworth station, but not to Ashwell and the Mordens. The 202 service commuter bus from Ashwell to the station was a morning and evening service only. Cllr Kindersley has suggested approaching Steeple Morden and Guilden Morden for a circular route.
- The A505 Litlington junction proposals and the Slip End to station junction. In a ANP survey only one vehicle was going the wrong way down the dual carriageway.
- East-West Rail and CamBed RailRoad – further developments are awaiting the end of purdah. They are continuing to fundraise but there are issues with timing for Judicial Review.
- The MOD site at Bassingbourn. 2000 people were being relocated to what will be a confidential site.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner had resigned. There would be no by-election.
- Primary health services were being delivered from a surgery in Hertfordshire. There were cross border issues. Cllr Kindersley will put an article on Facebook and is seeking feedback. Cllr Kindersley left the meeting.

The issues relating to the bus service will be placed in Gamut.

1. To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

1.1 To receive written apologies and reasons for absence
Cllr Williams had apologised for anticipated lateness.

1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda
None.

1.3 To receive written requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any) and to grant any requests as appropriate
None.

2. To approve the minutes of the September and October meetings

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 16 September be approved and signed by the Chairman. (Prop NB, 2nd GH, carried with 1 abstention)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 21 October be approved and signed by the Chairman. (Prop KL, 2nd MC, carried with 2 abstentions)

3. Matters arising

3.1 (4.6) To consider MVAS costs

RESOLVED to purchase 3 additional brackets at £45.00 each. The purchase of the MVAS equipment still being subject to the approval of Andi Caddi of CCC and SCDC if the sign is to be placed on their street lights. RESOLVED that Cllr Lock should seek SCDC's and Andi Caddi's approval; the Clerk will then place the order. (Prop KL, 2nd GH, unanimous)

3.2 (4.9) Webmaster – to consider volunteer's offer and if to appoint

RESOLVED to appoint Sally Rogers as webmaster and to contract James Lungley for one hour's training at a cost of £45.00. Cllr Davis-Roach will liaise with the new webmaster and James Lungley regarding the training (Prop JD-R, 2nd GD, unanimous)

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied to take items 3.3 and 6.6 together.

3.3 (6.4) Zero Carbon Scheme – to consider report and consider the next steps

6.6 Climate Conversations request that the Parish Council declare a Climate Emergency

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Buckland to work with Climate Conversations to draw up a plan of action for the Parish Council and bring this to the January meeting. (Prop BH, 2nd JD-R, unanimous)

3.4 (7.6) SCDC Housing Trajectory and five year housing supply

RESOLVED to note that the deadline for responses had now passed.

3.5 (10) Parking opposite Silver Street and by the junction, and parking by any junction

RESOLVED to note that the Police were already aware of the problem, and that inconsiderate parking was widespread in the village.

RESOLVED that the Neighbourhood Watch group should point out issues to the local Police.

RESOLVED to ask Murfitts if a "No parking" sign can be affixed to their fence opposite Silver Street, and if so, that Cllr Newman should install it. (Prop BH, 2nd MC, unanimous)

District Cllr Williams is following up on telephone numbers on street lights.

3.6 (10) Guilden Morden Primary School SATs and letter from CCC

RESOLVED to write to the School following its recent Ofsted report. The hope was expressed that this would lead to increased numbers.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no objections to placing a banner on the Recreation Ground railings, but the School should use discretion if publicising elsewhere.

3.7 Village Hall insurance – response regarding noting the Parish Council's interest on the policy

RESOLVED that the information be sent to Cllrs Buckland and Chapman.

4. Financial, procedural and risk assessment matters

4.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED that the financial report be received and considered, having been checked by a member against the invoices and bank statements before the cheques were signed at the end of the meeting, and that the payments as listed in the financial report (below) should be paid, plus Guilden Morden Parish Council (New account

opening balance) £500.00, Carter Jonas (rent) £350.00, and Shaw and Sons (Register of graves book) £201.60. (Prop GH, 2nd GD, unanimous)

Salaries	£213.20
St Mary's Church (Floodlights electricity)	£150.00
Village Hall (Room hire)	£108.00
Foxcotte Fencing (Mower service)	£62.88
LGS Services (Admin support)	£801.17
LGS Services (Admin support)	£868.79
Buchans (Grass cutting)	£755.76
Buchans (Grass cutting)	£1430.99

Credits, including allotment rents, cemetery fees, investment interest, fundraising and receipt of the precept, were noted.

RESOLVED to close the accounts with Barclays Bank and open an account with Unity Trust Bank.

4.2 Risk assessments including play inspections and tree reports

RESOLVED, given that there was tyre damage by Morden Magpies supporters that Cllr Dellar should speak to Morden Magpies about this.

RESOLVED that all members should bring their tree reports to the next meeting.

The Chairman had reported the damaged railings over Hook's Mill to CCC.

District Cllr Heather Williams arrived and was invited to report. Her report covered:

- Follow up on dog waste bins – as still not installed she will pursue this if the information is sent to her again.
- The Zero Carbon Grant Scheme had ended and applications would be assessed shortly.
- The Cabinet had held a closed session on organisation review.
- John Koch, who was due to return to the Parish Council on a planning decision for land adjacent to 11 Dubbs Knoll Road, had now retired. The Parish Council expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of information from the Planning Department. RESOLVED that Cllr Lock is to provide information to be passed on to Cllr Williams.
- The Local Plan trajectory will be tested.
- Residents were encouraged to apply for postal votes as soon as possible.

Cllr Williams left the meeting.

4.3 To note actions taken under Clerk's delegated powers

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk used her delegated powers for the sale of two exclusive rights (Plots K33 and K34 and an interment in Plot K33), and to purchase a Register of Graves ledger for the Cemetery at a cost of £201.60.

4.4 Grass cutting contract renewal – to consider if any changes need to be made to the current specification before tenders are sought

RESOLVED to alter the frequency of verges cuts to three, representing a 25% reduction. (Prop KL, 2nd NB, unanimous)

5. Members, Working Groups items for discussion and decision

5.1 Proposal that the Parish Council considers request from Gamut for printing

The Parish Council's previous decision covered the period from May to May. RESOLVED that Cllrs Holme and Davis-Roach should discuss the matter and the Council's previous decision regarding reduced printed copies with Mike Allton and report back to the next meeting. The Clerk advised against the Council settling invoices itself on behalf of a third party.

- 5.0.1 Assets List
RESOLVED that the Assets List be checked and items updated and photographed by Cllrs Chapman and Dellar.
- 5.2 Proposal that the Parish Council orders free litter picking kits from SCDC
RESOLVED to order litter picking kits.
- 5.3 Proposal that the Council agrees to the request from the Floodlights Trust that the Council that the Council releases Trust funds to cover the cost of changing the floodlights to LED lights
RESOLVED to delegate the power to place all orders and authorise payments for all floodlight matters to the Clerk, together with the Trustees as the Council is acting as banker only for the Floodlight Fund.
- 5.4 Proposal that the Parish Council considers appointment of Trustee for the Mobile Warden Scheme
RESOLVED that Cllr Chapman be appointed as the second Trustee, and that Cllr Harper should notify the Scheme.
- 5.5 Allotment holders' meeting report
RESOLVED in response to the suggestion of a sign not to erect a sign.
RESOLVED to note that item 11 should read "Allotments" not "Craft" and to inform Anna Hoad.
- 5.6 CAPASP – Invitation to join the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership
RESOLVED to join the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership.
(Prop JD-R, 2nd NB, unanimous)
- 5.7 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan submission
RESOLVED that members should take a look and send their thoughts to the Clerk who is delegated to submit a response if necessary.
- 6. To consider correspondence/communications received**
- 6.1 Resident – grass cutting frequency for roadside verges
Taken under item 4.4 above.
- 6.2 St Mary's Church – request to create a wild flower meadow
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no objections as long as it remains in its present location and that it should be cut once a year and kept relatively tidy. (Prop BH, 2nd NB, unanimous)
- 6.3 Buchans request that the Parish Council purchase a new bin liner – to consider options
RESOLVED to order a Topsy bin once Cllr Newman has advised the Clerk on the required fittings and that Cllr Newman should install this and remove and dispose of the old bin. (Prop BH, 2nd GD, unanimous)
RESOLVED, noting that bins around the village needed repair, that members should give information to the Clerk in order to report these to SCDC.
- 6.4 SCDC – LED upgrade to South Cambs footway lights
Noted.
- 6.5 CCC – Operation London Bridge
RESOLVED to await more information and to note that the Clerk will be attending a webinar.
- 6.7 Climate Conversations request that the Parish Council declare a Climate Emergency
Taken earlier.

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/3485/19/FL – 33 Church Street – Erection of a timber garage

RESOLVED to support the application subject to the comment that the application for the garage was shown on the drawing as a workshop, and that a condition should be included that it be used as a garage only. (Prop BH, 2nd GD, unanimous)

7.1.2 S/3482/19/FL – Hooks Mill, Potton Road – Provision of an outdoor horse riding arena for private use

RESOLVED to support the application as it is not visible from the road and will not impinge on anyone else. (Prop BH, 2nd KL, unanimous)

7.2 SCDC Decisions and appeal notifications

7.2.1 S/2584/19/FL – Dovecote House, 32 Church Street – Internal alterations, erection of a glazed link side extension, alterations and conversion of outbuildings and associated landscaping – Permission granted.

7.2.2 S/2585/19/LB – Dovecote House, 32 Church Street – As above, listed building application – Permission granted

7.2.3 S/3030/19/PA – Barn 2, Rectory Farm, New Road – Prior approval for a proposed change of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development – Permission granted.

8.3 Tree works applications

None.

9. Gamut items

RESOLVED to include items on: volunteers for winter gritting; views on the bus service; support for the Anti-scam organisation; and the Climate and Environment appointment to work with Climate Conversations. Anyone interested should contact Andy Tanser.

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

RESOLVED to note that the seat in the cemetery had been moved and looked good.

Items for the next agenda are to include:

Proposal for a grant to the Mobile Warden Scheme.

The budget – members are to put in bids in advance of the meeting.

The Village Hall – damage to ceilings and root damage to a sewer and drain.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.56 pm.

Signed _____ dated _____