

**GULDEN MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL****Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 16 November 2020 at 7.30 pm  
Held remotely via Zoom due to the current pandemic**

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

In attendance: County Cllr S Kindersley and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

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

County Cllr Sebastian Kindersley spoke to his previously circulated report, covering:

- He asked whether there were any objections to Herts County Council putting tags on bus stops and to the Parish Council funding repairs or replacements in future. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Cllr Buckland arrived at 7.33 pm.

- The ditch outside the driveway to Grove House was due to a blockage under the road due to the difference in heights. It was likely that the ditch was the riparian owners' responsibility but he would press Simeon Carroll the Highways Supervisor to take steps to rectify the problem.

Cllr Lock raised on a resident's behalf concerns at mud from Berry Lane Farm which was not only deposited on Swan Lane but was being spread throughout the village. Cllr Kindersley suggested that this be repeatedly reported on the CCC website but if it was dangerous and residents were concerned about the risk of an accident, they should report it to the Police via the 101 number. CCC has the power to give notice to a polluter to remove the mud. The best route was to engage with the landowner.

**1. To receive apologies for absence, declarations of interest and applications for co-option**

1.1 To receive written apologies and reasons for absence  
Apologies were received from Cllr Dellar (out of parish).

1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda  
Cllr Chapman declared an interest in items 5.3 and 5.4 as a member of the Village Hall Committee.  
Cllr Buckland declared an interest in items 5.3 and 5.4 as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.  
Cllr Harper declared a pecuniary interest in item 5.1 as Treasurer of the Mobile Warden Scheme.

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

1.4 To consider applications for co-option  
Deferred to the January meeting.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 21 September be approved and signed by the Chairman after adding that two members of the public were present. <sup>(Prop JD-R, 2nd MC, carried with 1 abstention)</sup>

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 19 October be approved and signed by the Chairman. <sup>(Prop GH, 2nd JD-R, unanimous)</sup>

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

3.1 (3.3) To consider recommendation on replacement tree for Recreation Ground  
RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting when Cllr Dellar would be present.

3.2 (6.3) CCC – Roadside verges management  
RESOLVED to respond that the Parish Council would be interested in a trial when the current grass cutting contract ends at the end of 2021.

3.3 Operation London Bridge – update report and if the Parish Council needs to take any other actions at all

RESOLVED that the Parish Council website page will be turned black by James Lungley Websites and that he should be sent a photograph for the website at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED and to order a photo frame to go with the condolence book which has already been purchased.

RESOLVED that the Chairman should make a proclamation at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED that the Floodlight Trust should consider if the floodlights should have purple filters or not as that is its responsibility.

**4. Financial, procedural and risk assessment matters**

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

RESOLVED, given that Buchans had made 5 additional cuts of the Cemetery and three additional cuts at the Recreation Ground, to write to them asking that they keep to the contracted number of cuts next year but should any additional cuts be required, to seek the confirmation of the Clerk beforehand.

RESOLVED to ask Buchans to copy Cllr Dellar in when invoices are submitted.

RESOLVED that the financial report be received and considered, and that the payments as listed in the financial report (below) should be paid. <sup>(Prop GH, 2nd KL, carried with 1 abstention)</sup>

Salaries	£213.20
Cambridge Water (Cemetery water)	£50.00
Buchans (Grass cutting)	£740.52
Buchans (Grass cutting)	£406.32
LGS Services (Admin support September)	£821.83
LGS Services (Admin support October)	£804.11
RESOLVED to note the following payments made between meetings:	
Salaries	£174.38
SSE (Streetlight electricity) (DD)	£125.42
Morelock (MVAS)	£3114.00
SSE (Streetlight electricity) (DD)	£129.59

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

4.2 Risk assessments including play inspections

RESOLVED that there were no trees requiring any attention.

4.3 To note actions taken under Clerk's delegated powers

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk has used delegated powers as follows:

- The Clerk and Cllr Harper using delegated powers contracted Opus Energy to supply the energy for the unmetered streetlights.

- Following consultation with Cllrs Holme, Chapman and Harper the acceptance of quotation for Dan Horne for the surfacing by the defibrillator was changed as the quote was changed by Dan Horne to an estimate.  
The old quotation said ‘additional works to include carrying out repairs to double manhole cover and create ramp as discussed to allow paving to join with car park area’ ... but on the new one that had been removed and it now said – ‘work does not include any tarmac that may be required to be laid to join up with existing drive. (this is an estimate only and may require adjustments during works)’ ... and under materials it did not say ‘manhole covers’ when it did previously.
- To purchase a book of condolence from Shaw and Sons at a cost of £35.00 plus VAT.

4.4 To consider the Register of Village Greens and if any action is required  
RESOLVED having noted that some residents had incorrectly included Pound Green Village Green in their property title with Land Registry to write to residents and explain the situation and ask that they return land to the Parish Council.  
RESOLVED to reconsider this item at the January meeting in the light of the replies received.

## 5. Members, Working Groups items for discussion and decision

5.1 Proposal that the Parish Council considers a grant to the Mordens and Litlington Mobile Warden Scheme

On a proposition by the Chairman, at 8.17 pm the meeting was suspended to allow Cllr Harper to speak to this item. The meeting re-opened at 8.19 pm. Cllr Harper, having previously declared an interest in this item, left the meeting.

RESOLVED to make a donation of £600.00 as usual plus an additional £200.00 as a one-off increase in the light of the impact of Covid-19. (Prop KL, 2nd MC, unanimous)

Cllr Harper re-joined the meeting at 8.21 pm.

5.2 Proposal that the Parish Council considers support for vulnerable people in Guilden Morden during Covid-19

RESOLVED to note that Cllr Harper, as a resident and three volunteers were co-ordinating the Covid-19 response in the village.

RESOLVED to note the Clerk’s advice that the Parish Council does not have a power for welfare or to assist individuals as that power and responsibility rests with the District Council.

5.3 Proposal that the Parish Council considers its contribution for the electricity charges for the defibrillator at the Village Hall

RESOLVED to pay the outstanding invoices for the defibrillator electricity backdated to 2019 and 2020 as soon as they are received.

RESOLVED to consider an increased invoice for the defibrillator electricity from March 2020 at the January meeting if it is received.

5.4 Proposal that the Parish Council decides on the next stage of investigation as to the subsidence of the Village Hall, considers the recommendations contained in the structural survey paid for by the Village Hall and who should pay for them

At 8.35 pm Cllr Chapman, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting.

At 8.40 pm, on a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was briefly adjourned to enable Cllr Chapman to rejoin the meeting in order to answer questions.

Cllr Chapman reported on the report of the structural engineer in June, which identified problems with subsidence on the north to north-west side, but in order to ascertain exactly what was happening further exploration works were required, at a cost of £3,500.00 for further work recommended by the surveyor.

Cllr Chapman left the meeting at 8.43 pm.

RESOLVED to ask the Parish Council's insurers whether the Council is covered for legal costs to fight for the removal of leylandii.

Cllr Chapman re-joined the meeting at 9.02 pm to answer questions on the quotations.

Cllr Chapman then left the meeting again at 9.06pm

RESOLVED to pay up to £3500.00 towards the cost of further exploration but to respond that the Village Hall needs to look to its own finances and ensure that all outstanding invoices are raised and to delegate to Cllrs Harper and Lock together with the Clerk to review the quotations and make a decision as to how much the Council contributes towards the further exploration. (Prop KL, 2nd BH, unanimous)

Cllr Chapman re-joined the meeting at 9.11 pm.

## **6. To consider correspondence/communications received**

### **6.1 Resident – mower damage to memorials**

Noted.

### **6.2 SCDC – Community Lifeline Service**

RESOLVED that Cllr Harper should speak to Julian Ayres of SCDC.

### **6.3 CCC – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Main modifications consultation**

Noted.

### **6.4 Greater Local Plan Workshop invitation**

RESOLVED that Cllr Lock should attend the workshop.

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

### **7.1 Planning applications received**

#### **7.1.1 20/02426/HFUL – Hooks Mill, Potton Road – Revised scheme – Single storey rear extension to replace existing single storey structure**

RESOLVED to support the application.

#### **7.1.2 20/02427/LBC – Hooks Mill, Potton Road – As above, listed building application**

RESOLVED to support the application.

#### **7.1.3 20/01278/NMA1 – 42 Dubbs Knoll Road – Non-material amendment of planning permission 20/01278/HFUL for substitution of first floor window in the rear elevation in favour of a new velux conservation roof light in the lean-to roof – to note for information**

Noted.

### **7.2 SCDC Decisions and appeal notifications**

#### **7.2.1 20/03605/HFUL – 36 Church Street – Replacement rear two storey extension – Permission granted.**

#### **7.2.2 20/01753/S73 – Green Knoll Barn, Potton Road – Variation of condition 2 (bullet point 2) of S/4749/18/PA – Permission granted.**

### **7.3 Tree works applications**

#### **7.3.1 20/2154/TTCA – 34 Dubbs Knoll Road**

Noted that this had already been determined by SCDC.

#### **7.3.2 20/2196/TTCA – 16 Church Street**

Noted that this had already been determined by SCDC.

RESOLVED, given the limited time now allowed by SCDC for responding to tree works applications, that tree applications should be circulated for comment to all

members, so that a prompt response can be submitted by the Clerk using delegated powers.

**8. Gamut items – to decide what is to be included in the next edition**

RESOLVED that Cllr Davis Roach should include: the roadworks in Royston Road, Litlington; the resignation of the dog warden due to verbal abuse; a new volunteer dog warden was needed.

**8.0.1 Co-option to fill casual vacancy**

RESOLVED to co-opt Nick Baxter as a member of the Parish Council. (Prop MC, 2nd JDR, unanimous)

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

Items for the next agenda are to include: consideration of a Neighbourhood Plan <sup>(BH)</sup> District Cllr Heather Williams advised the Parish Council to consider whether they wished to join in with Steeple Morden.

A clean up of The Twitchell is to be carried out by volunteers. Cllr Harper is to arrange.

District Cllr Williams reported she had spoken to Michael Parsons who has told her that the bin signage will be provided by the end of the week.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.37 pm.

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