

GULDEN SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Guilden Sutton Parish Council held at 7:30PM on Wednesday,
1st March, at Guilden Sutton Village Hall**

Chairman: Cllr M Littlewood

**Present: Cllr I Brown, Cllr D Hughes, Cllr D Kane, Cllr W Moulton, Cllr P M Paterson, Cllr S Proctor,
Cllr S Ringstead**

Clerk: Mr M Roberts

In attendance: Borough Cllr M Parker and 4 members of the public

1. Procedural Matters

(a) Apologies

Apologies were received and noted from Cllr G Heatley.

(b) Members confirmed their standing interests as follows:

Cllrs Hughes and Littlewood as members of Guilden Sutton Green Space.

Cllrs Hughes and Paterson as members of Guilden Sutton Community Association.

Cllr Ringstead as a member of her household is a member of Men in Sheds.

Cllrs Brown and Proctor as members of the Village Green Group.

Cllr Proctor, Cllr Paterson, Cllr Littlewood and Cllr Ringstead as members of the Wildflower Garden project group.

(c) It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr Ringstead and agreed that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 1st February 2023 be agreed as a true record of the meeting.

(d) 2023 meeting dates:

5th April

10th May (ANNUAL) *

7th June

12th July *

6th September

4th October

1st November

6th December

2. Community Engagement/Communications

(a) Visiting Officers

Nothing further.

(b) Visiting Members

Cllr Parker noted that CWAC have increased Council Tax by 4.99% and that the Chief Executive was standing down. Emails had been received regarding a local commercial premises and an enforcement officer has been asked to visit. Research into a possible pedestrian crossing at the A41 junction had identified a need but this would be a longer term project. There was no commitment to a timescale.

Cllr Parker stated that Coronation members budgets were available, at £142 per Parish.

(c) Public Speaking

A resident raised concerns with regards to persistent vandalism on the footpath between the Bird in Hand and the Golf Course. It was noted that this had been ongoing for 12 months, including theft of wildlife cameras and damage to trees. The resident also noted that the community was taken into account when their business applied for planning permission and was open to compromise.

(d) Correspondence

Correspondence had been received regarding:

A tree on the Parish Car Park

Motor Vehicle accidents on Guilden Sutton Lane and speedwatch

Land adjacent to the Village shops

Pedestrian safety in Arrowcroft Road

The £2 bus fare cap

A planning appeal

Planning enforcement issues

Garden Waste collection

Vandalism and trespass

(e) Surgery

Cllrs Paterson and Hughes had attended the surgery. Concerns had been raised with regards to a dog exercise facility on Belle Vue Lane and planning enforcement.

It was agreed that Cllr Moulton and Cllr Littlewood would preside at the next surgery on 1st April.

(f) Communications

Cllr Proctor reported that the newsletter had been published and that a meeting would need to take place to discuss the open forum on 1st April.

(g) Support Group

Cllr Littlewood reported that the support group had been busy during the previous group. This has included leaf clearance in the play area and a dog waste bin that was overflowing. Cllr Ringstead noted that the green waste bin would be emptied from Tuesday 7th March.

(h) Sustainability

Cllr Littlewood noted that an electric car strategy presentation had taken place and slides would be circulated.

3. Open Spaces

(a) Guilden Sutton Greenspace

A report had been circulated from the GreenSpace group. Cllr Proctor requested that more detail was provided, including the supply of invoices. Cllr Kane noted that the Parish Council had provided a significant proportion of the running costs but did not have a significant degree of control over how the funds were spent.

(b) Wildflower Garden

The Clerk had circulated the proposed lease from CWAC. It was asked that the Clerk clarify the area included on the map, as there had been no discussion with regards to taking this area on. Otherwise,

the content of the lease appeared agreeable.

Cllr Ringstead noted that advice had been received not to site bird boxes this year as more time should be given to allow plants to become established. It was agreed to explore opportunities to site boxes this year and obtain more when the Wildflower garden became more established.

Cllr Littlewood had received concerns from a resident that the area had not grown as well as it had been hoped. Cllr Proctor noted that this was to be expected for this time of year, and that seeds were held in reserve for when the weather warmed.

(c) Old School Field

It was reported that the contractor was currently unable to carry out the required work due to the wet conditions.

Cllr Kane reported that bespoke nets had been ordered due to the size of the goalposts.

(d) Section 106 monies

Cllr Littlewood had provided two different options for the outstanding 106 monies to CWAC. Further information had been requested from the localities officer.

4. Transport and Highways

(a) Public Transport

Nothing further.

(b) Footpath Station Lane

Nothing further.

(c) Community Speedwatch

Seven volunteers had been trained in the use of the speedwatch equipment and further residents had requested information. Further risk assessments had been requested with a view to operating on Guilden Sutton Lane and Wicker Lane in the future.

(d) A41 Traffic Survey

It was noted that the A41 traffic survey had yielded information suggesting that a crossing was needed at Hare Lane.

(e) Guilden Sutton Lane

Councillors noted that two accidents had occurred in the area in February. Cllr Kane noted that drivers must use parking lights during hours of darkness in 40MPH areas. Cllr Hughes queried whether vehicles passing parked cars had caused any of the issues. It was agreed that the next edition of the newsletter should address the issue.

5. Planning

(a) New applications:

23/00203/FUL	Foot of The Hill Church Lane Single storey porch extension and reinstatement of garage	28 February 2023 NO OBJECTION
23/00017/ENF	Tile Farm, Wicker Lane Without planning permission a material change of use of the Land from agricultural use to a mixed use of	27 March 2023 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

	agriculture and MX Motorcross/Quad bike use and Clay Pigeon Shooting use [“the Unauthorised Development”].	
--	--	--

(b) Awaiting Decision:

22/02039/FUL	Land At Belle Vue Lane A new farm access track and a drainage/conservation pond	OBJECTION
22/03683/FUL	2 The Stables Erection of detached garage	NO OBJECTION
22/04078/FUL	Holly Lodge Belle Vue Lane Porch extension, first floor front extension, first floor side extensions, demolition of existing conservatory and two storey rear extension	NO OBJECTION
22/04333/FUL	Yew Tree House Church Lane First floor extension above garage	NO OBJECTION
22/04644/FUL	Ash Villa Hare Lane Single storey rear extension	NO OBJECTION
22/04685/FUL	The Lodge School Lane Two storey rear extension	NO OBJECTION
22/04510/FUL	5 The Vetches Single storey front and side/rear extensions. Alterations to external doors and windows with proposed photovoltaics to roof.	NO OBJECTION
23/00010/FUL	4 Moorcroft Crescent Loft conversion extension	NO OBJECTION

(c) Decision Notices:

22/03160/FUL	9 Porters Croft Two storey side extension	APPROVED
21/03995/TPO	28 Cinder Lane Hornbeam (01) – prune lower branches to lift crown and limit growth	APPROVED
22/03834/TPO	8 Oaklands Oak tree - Crown lift over footpaths and driveway to provide 3m clearance over ground level, crown lift over road to provide 5-6m clearance over ground level (back to kerb +1m of turf), remove major deadwood and crossing branches, and reduce lateral branches to provide 2m vertical clearance from the garage roof and 2m lateral clearance from the property elevations (no pruning of branches larger than 5cm diameter).	APPROVED

(d) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Paterson reported that a meeting had taken place and that substantial comments had been received from CWAC. A meeting with a localities officer would be required in order to address issues.

6. Village Green

Nothing further.

7. Finance

(a) Income:

Scottish Widows Business Fund 1	£21.34
Scottish Widows Business Fund 2	£4.64

(b) Payments:

M Roberts (Zoom)	£14.39	(inc. £2.40 VAT)
M Roberts (Salary)	£580.07	(no VAT)
M Roberts (Grit)	£80.00	(inc. £13.33 VAT)
M Roberts (Website)	£8.40	(inc. £1.40 VAT)
Information Commissioner (Registration)	£35.00	(no VAT)

(c) Balances:

Co-Operative Current Account	£11,101.49
Co-Operative Deposit Account	£60,161.27
Scottish Widows Business Fund 1	£19,481.32
Scottish Widows Business Fund 2	£4,238.47

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Kane and agreed that the above payments be made and the financial information as above be agreed. The Clerk would process payments and Cllr Hughes would authorise.

8. Grounds Maintenance

(a) Hilltop Road Area

Cllr Littlewood noted that discussions were ongoing in terms of taking on the land in the Hilltop Road area. The Clerk had noted that there was an underspend in the current budget for communal areas. It may also be possible to divert some members budget funds for this project. Cllr Kane noted that the decision as to take on the land would need to be made first.

It was noted that the Clerk could apply to the members budget fund for £1000 towards the clearance of the land, which could be ordered through StreetCare.

It was proposed by Cllr Ringstead, seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed that the Council would apply for funding of £1000 and contribute £150 directly and order the clearance of the land through StreetCare.

(b) Hare Lane Village Green

It was noted that the Phonebox door had been replaced by Men In Sheds and that a decision would need to be taken with regards to renewing the noticeboard. It was agreed that the quote would be obtained.

(c) Grounds maintenance Contract

It was proposed by Cllr Kane, seconded by Cllr Ringstead and agreed that Botanica Landscapes would be awarded the Grounds Maintenance contract for 2023-24.

9. Coronation

Cllr Littlewood noted that a poster had been distributed via social media and noticeboards. It was noted that beacons were being discouraged by the Palace. Comments had been received in favour of a street party. It was noted that funds were available from member's budgets. A café had proved to be a popular event at the Jubilee, and it was considered that the Village Hall could be used. Cllr Proctor asked as to whether the Primary School were planning to provide commemorative items. It was suggested that the Council could consider engaging the services of the Town Crier, who had attended the Jubilee.

10. Primary School

Cllr Hughes reported that the school was reaching the end of the financial year and that a surplus budget had been maintained, but as with many schools this may not be the case for the coming year. It was noted that the intake numbers for Reception had increased and additionally in year admissions had increased. Cllrs Paterson and Ringstead reported that the Cinema Group had donated litter pickers to the Citizenship project.

11. Members Information

Cllr Moulton noted that the hedges in Guilden Sutton Lane had not yet been trimmed. A resident had asked with regards to an apparent survey that had taken place in a field on Belle Vue Lane. It was noted that this was due to the possibility of remains of a Roman settlement in the area.

Cllr Proctor noted that a meeting had taken place at Piper's Ash and that the Highways officer had been asked as to potential solutions that could be implemented. It was noted that there did not appear to be an obvious solution to the issue other than the addition of H markings, which would need to be funded directly by residents.

Cllr Paterson had observed that two Borough Council officers had visited Oaklands.

Cllr Hughes noted that a dog training business appears to have started on Belle Vue Lane and asked as to whether this could be looked into by enforcement.

Cllr Littlewood had received a complaint with regards to the amount of dog waste left on pavements. It was also noted that there was excess grit in the Community Association car park and storage arrangements may need to be considered.

12. Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was proposed by Cllr Ringstead, seconded by Cllr Proctor and agreed that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting, in order that the Council discuss urgent exempt items under Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Part 1 closed 2116

13. PART 2 (for publication)

Clerk

It was noted that the recruitment panel would meet with the Clerk to discuss arrangements for the

publication of the vacancy. A draft job description and person specification had been produced and agreed.

Meeting closed 2136