

Godstone Parish Council

(serving the Villages of Godstone, South Godstone and Blindley Heath)

Clerk to the Parish Council

J Coulthard

Admin Assistant to the Parish Council

G McPartlin

The Bounty
Godstone Green
Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8DY

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MINUTES

of the meeting of Godstone Parish Council held on **Monday 2nd June 2025 at 7.30pm** at St Stephens Church, South Godstone

Present: Cllrs S Beagley (Chair), L Case (Vice Chair), D Christmas, J Gardner, K Ward and C White

In attendance: 5 x Residents, J Coulthard (Clerk),

38/25	1 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC	
	<p>1.1 A resident has emailed to ask if there is anything the Parish Council (PC) can do to stop the builders parking outside Orchard House on the Eastbourne Road. The vans are forcing pedestrians to walk in the road.- IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk will write to the owners requesting that the builders be asked to park on their property.</p> <p>1.2 A resident has emailed to ask if there is anything that can be done to tidy up the rear part of the graveyard as the nettles and thistles are 3ft high and makes this area look 'an absolute disgrace'. The resident along with another have been trying to clear it but do not have the necessary equipment. Two residents also attended the meeting to raise the same issue. - The Parish Council (PC) advised that this issue was already being addressed, and the Council's contractors had been asked to quote to do the work.</p> <p>1.3 A resident has emailed advising that her fence is falling over due to the weight of brambles and other vegetation from the old allotments behind their house on the High Street. She has asked if the PC still own the land or knows who the landowner is because their fence needs replacing. – The PC advised that they no longer leased the land and did not know who the new landowner was. They suggested the best option for finding this information was for the resident to check governments land registry website.</p> <p>1.4 John Farnaby attended the meeting to provide an update on the Neighbourhood Plan. He advised that the consultant now has the feedback needed. The Neighbourhood Plan would be submitted to TDC in July together with the Neighbourhood Plan for Caterham. Once the process was complete the Plan would then need to go to a referendum. SCC or the new Unitary Authority would then have to take it into account. He also advised there was £520 left of grant funding if needed.</p> <p>1.5 A resident asked if item 8.14 on the agenda regarding splitting his allotment plot in two could be brought forward as this was his question. The Chair agreed to the request. IT WAS AGREED that the plot could be split in two. The resident would collect the rent from the new/additional plot holder as the resident had already paid the full rental fee. IT WAS ALSO AGREED to write to the owner of the property next to the access way to the allotments not to park in a way that prevented allotment tenants from accessing the allotments.</p>	<p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JC</p>
39/25	2 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE (LGA 1972 s85)	
	Apologies received from Cllrs K D'Mello, S Farr and C Farr	
40/25	3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS	
	None	

41/25	4 COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLLRS – Brief report on matters affecting the Parish.	
	<p>D Cllr Crane advised he had nothing specific to report but was happy to answer questions. Cllr Christmas asked D Cllr Crane if the work to dig boreholes had discovered anything. D Cllr Crane advised he had chatted with the contractor in charge of the site. He also mentioned that there would be a meeting in the St. Nicholas Youth Centre on Thursday. He confirmed he did not have an official update and when he spoke to the contractor and that he knew the companies were still drilling and investigating. D Cllr Crane said that he had noticed the holes in the High Street seemed to have a large amount of backfill in them and asked the contractor if it was a permanent solution. The contractor said it might be depending on what they find in the further drilling. D Cllr Crane explained that Tandridge District Council (TDC) was very much the message communicator and not involved in coordinating the solution. D Cllr Crane also mentioned he had also looked at an incident of water leaking at Godstone Hill and witnessed gallons of water leaking and disappearing and could not work out where it was going. Cllr Gardner advised it was most likely going into the main sewer. Cllr Ward raised the issue of the lack of buses at the north side of Godstone. He advised the 410 does not run down the Oxted Road anymore with passengers being dropped off at Godstone Green and having to walk up from the village. Cllr Ward thought that the bus company had agreed to continue to use the detour and then come up Oxted Road to the north end of the village and then head back towards Oxted. D Cllr Crane agreed to investigate. Cllr Case advised D Cllr Crane to contact Julie Porter at TDC. D Cllr Crane reported that he had nothing to add to last month's update from Cllr Farr regarding the Local Government reorganisation.</p>	
42/25	5 MINUTES	
	Minutes of the full Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 14 th of May 2025 were agreed and signed as a true record (LGA 1972 Sch. 12 s41).	
43/25	6 REPORTS	
	<p>6.1 Clerk's Report – Matters to bring to the Council's attention</p> <p>6.1.1 Bounty door - lock replacement – 3 x quotes but only 2 x quotes for keys to pass. £368 total price, £209.60 but dependent on how long engineer takes, £347 but waiting update on cost with keys to pass. – IT WAS AGREED to proceed with the quote for £368. The Asst. Clerk to advise the contractor.</p> <p>6.1.2 Godstone Green broken wooden bench on the path side of the pond near the noticeboard – contractor advised the bench cannot be fixed and needs replacing – to consider and agree or otherwise whether to get quote to replace. IT WAS AGREED to obtain a quote for removing the concrete base and supports. IT WAS ALSO AGREED that Cllr Beagley would cut the seating slats out of the bench for safety and the Clerk would obtain a quote for a new bench.</p> <p>6.1.3 Blindley Heath Noticeboard – contractor recommended replacement not fixing, quotes pending. – Cllrs remembered that there was a spare noticeboard that could potentially be used as a replacement. IT WAS AGREED that Cllr Beagley would check the condition of the spare noticeboard and report back.</p> <p>6.1.4 A student has emailed asking the PC for help to promote her survey on Demand Responsive Transport and asking if one or more Cllrs would be interested in being part of a focus group for her research. – The PC advised that they could not agree to help as the Survey would not directly benefit the residents of the Parish.</p> <p>6.1.5 To note that the Clerk has submitted expression of interest forms in the TDC CIL Bidding round. CCTV and Outdoor Gym. NOTED. D Cllr mentioned he was supporting a group who were submitting a CIL Bid for funding to repair the roof on the White Hart Barn.</p> <p>6.2 Chairperson's Report – (for noting) information only. Cllr Beagley reported that the Annual Village Meeting/Parish Assembly was poorly attended by both residents and Cllrs.</p> <p>6.3 Reports (for noting) from representatives on outside bodies Cllrs Beagley and Case reported that they had attended the Godstone Village Association Annual meeting. Cllr Case advised that Dorking Healthcare were now saying that the original plans for the new surgery were over ambitious, and they were</p>	<p>GP</p> <p>GP SB JC</p> <p>JC</p>

	<p>now reviewing the plans. Cllrs had suspicions that there had been no progress on the Ashill Development due to the High Street road collapse. Cllr White reported that the Fibre Broadband project may reach Tilburstow Hill and the Enterdent. It was already available Church Lane, Flower Lane and Bullbeggars Lane. BT Openreach are putting it in at Soth Godstone in Hunters Chase and Lagham Road.</p> <p>Cllrs Beagley and Case reported that Godstone Village Association had volunteered to raise money to for more trees to be planted on the green to fill the gaps where trees had been taken down for safety reasons.</p> <p>6.4 Reports from Committees</p> <p>Cllr Gardner apologised for missing the last Planning Committee meeting.</p>	
44/25	7 CURRENT PLANNING ISSUES	
	None.	
45/25	8 GREENS, COMMONS AND LAND	
	<p>8.1. Godstone – Godstone Green, Greenview, Playground, Allotment and Hilly Fields</p> <p>8.1.1 Godstone Green</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bikeability Godstone Primary School – to note that Bikeability will be use the path in front of the Bounty and Tennis Courts for their sessions with Godstone Primary School again in January 2026. – NOTED ii. Godstone Fitness – To consider and agree or otherwise whether Godstone Fitness can pay to use the green for small (10 people) exercise classes. IT WAS AGREED to invite Godstone Fitness to present their ideas to Cllrs at the next PC meeting. The Clerk to invite. iii. Godstone Primary School – To consider and agree or otherwise whether Godstone Primary School can place a Gazebo outside the Endeavour, between the hedge and the path for the year 6 leavers party. – APPROVED. iv. Pétanque/Boule Sign – To consider and agree or otherwise whether to proceed with the quote to fix the wooden sign - £55 excl. VAT. – NOT APPROVED. <p>8.1.2 Greenview</p> <p>Cllr Gardner mentioned that the house at the far end of Greenview was storing builders waste on the land outside their front garden. This is PC owned land and the waste which was now surrounded by Heras fencing was preventing the grass cutting contractors from doing the grass cutting. IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk would write to the owner of the house to ask for the building waste to be removed.</p> <p>Cllr Gardner also reported that the privet hedge in front of Bankside needs cutting back and pedestrians and residents on mobility scooters were having difficulty getting past. IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk would write to the owner to ask them to cut the hedge back.</p> <p>8.1.3 Playground</p> <p>The roundabout in the playground is broken and presents a potential danger to children. – IT WAS AGREED to contact the contractors and ask for a safety solution.</p> <p>8.2 Tilburstow Hill and the Enterdent</p> <p>8.2.1 To note two more fly-tipping incidents at the Enterdent. NOTED.</p> <p>Cllrs mentioned that Taylors Yard had been sold but there was a piece of land at the back of the yard which is owned by the PC and leased to the owner of Taylors Yard. Cllrs requested that the Clerk arrange a meeting with the new owners to discuss the lease. IT WAS AGREED the Clerk would search for the file and look for the lease to be able to have the correct information for a meeting.</p> <p>8.3 South Godstone</p> <p>8.3.1 Hunters Chase Playground – To consider and agree whether the Parish Council wish to become a funding partner to Tandridge District Council to help fund the refurbishment of Hunters Chase Playground. IT WAS AGREED that the PC would become a funding partner with the PCs share of the funding coming from CIL money. The Clerk to inform Catherine Dainkeh at TDC. IT WAS ALSO AGREED that the Clerk would check the amount available from CIL and advise Cllr White.</p>	<p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JC</p>

	<p>8.4 Blindley Heath</p> <p>8.4.1 Developers of Langmead Bungalow would like to contribute to publicly accessible amenity space in the Blindley Heath area and wants to know if the Parish Council has any suggestions (including existing schemes). – The Parish Council advised that Featherstone Playground would be the ideal project and IT WAS AGREED the Clerk would inform the developer.</p> <p>8.5 Burial Ground</p> <p>8.5.1 To note that there is a backlog of memorial applications and work to get through and the Clerk will be utilising additional help from the previous Admin Assistant to clear.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	JC																																																																																																				
46/25	9 FINANCE																																																																																																					
	<p>9.1 Accounts for Payment - Approve MAY accounts for payment. APPROVED.</p> <p>9.2 Finance Papers up to 30TH APRIL 2025 - Bank Reconciliation and Accounts Reports – Income & Expenditure; Reserves, Balance Sheet and Summary of Funds. NOTED.</p> <p>Cllr Christmas mentioned the electricity provider for the Bounty and suggested that there might be cheaper options. Cllr White volunteered to investigate options and change supplier if appropriate. IT WAS AGREED Cllr White would investigate.</p> <table><tr><th>Business</th><th>Invoice</th><th>Invoice Date</th><th>Payment For</th><th>Invoice Total</th><th>Info</th></tr><tr><td colspan="6">Salary Payments</td></tr><tr><td>Salaries</td><td rowspan="3">March</td><td rowspan="3"></td><td>Salary</td><td rowspan="3">£ 2,799.63</td><td rowspan="3">Within budget available</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC</td><td>Ni and Income tax</td></tr><tr><td>NEST Pension</td><td>Pension contribution</td></tr><tr><td colspan="6">Direct Debits</td></tr><tr><td>British Gas Trading Limited</td><td>10144479</td><td>08.05.25</td><td>Electricity</td><td>£ 106.78</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>SES</td><td>46</td><td>01.06.25</td><td>Water</td><td>£ 33.42</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Lloyds Bank</td><td></td><td>22.06.25</td><td>Service Charge</td><td>£ 4.25</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>BT</td><td>M148PR</td><td>28.03.25</td><td>Telephone and Internet</td><td>£ 59.94</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>PWLB</td><td></td><td>18.06.25</td><td>Loan Repayment</td><td>£ 623.11</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>PWLB</td><td></td><td>16.06.25</td><td>Loan Interest</td><td>£ 1,659.39</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="6">Invoices for Payment</td></tr><tr><td>Countrywide Grds Mtnce</td><td>632493</td><td>16.05.25</td><td>Grass Cut - G3 Blindley Heath</td><td>£ 288.00</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Countrywide Grds Mtnce</td><td>632494</td><td>16.05.25</td><td>Grass Cut - G2 St Nicholas Churchyard</td><td>£ 540.00</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Countrywide Grds Mtnce</td><td>632495</td><td>16.05.25</td><td>Grass Cut - G1 Godstone Green</td><td>£ 768.00</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>YLCA</td><td>4116</td><td>21.05.25</td><td>Allotment Management Training</td><td>£ 27.40</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="4"></td><td>£6,909.92</td><td></td></tr></table>	Business	Invoice	Invoice Date	Payment For	Invoice Total	Info	Salary Payments						Salaries	March		Salary	£ 2,799.63	Within budget available	HMRC	Ni and Income tax	NEST Pension	Pension contribution	Direct Debits						British Gas Trading Limited	10144479	08.05.25	Electricity	£ 106.78		SES	46	01.06.25	Water	£ 33.42		Lloyds Bank		22.06.25	Service Charge	£ 4.25		BT	M148PR	28.03.25	Telephone and Internet	£ 59.94		PWLB		18.06.25	Loan Repayment	£ 623.11		PWLB		16.06.25	Loan Interest	£ 1,659.39		Invoices for Payment						Countrywide Grds Mtnce	632493	16.05.25	Grass Cut - G3 Blindley Heath	£ 288.00		Countrywide Grds Mtnce	632494	16.05.25	Grass Cut - G2 St Nicholas Churchyard	£ 540.00		Countrywide Grds Mtnce	632495	16.05.25	Grass Cut - G1 Godstone Green	£ 768.00		YLCA	4116	21.05.25	Allotment Management Training	£ 27.40						£6,909.92		CW
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	<p>IT WAS AGREED to have an Extra Ordinary Meeting after the Planning Committee meeting on the 18th of June to go through the AGAR Form 3 Annual Governance</p>	JC																																																																																																				

	Statement & Annual Accounting Statements to complete and sign them off. The Clerk to arrange the meeting and issue an agenda.	
48/25	11 POLICES & PROCEDURES	
	11.1 To consider and agree or otherwise whether to prepare an Emergency Plan. IT WAS AGREED to prepare and Emergency Plan.	JC
49/25	12 SALC/NALC	
	The Clerk advised that SALC were celebrating Clerk's Week to support all the hard-working Clerks across the sector. The Cllrs thanked the Clerk for her hard work.	
50/25	13 CORRESPONDENCE	
	The Clerk advised she had received correspondence from a legal firm chasing payment of utilities for a property in Felbridge. The PC advised the Clerk that the PC did not own or have any connection with the property. IT WAS AGREED that Cllr Ward would contact the legal firm and resolve.	KW
51/25	14 MATTERS FOR REPORTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS	
	None	
52/25	15 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Committee – Wednesday 18th June 2025, 6:30pm at the Bounty, Godstone Green • Full Parish Council Meeting – Monday 7th July 2025, 7:30pm, St Stephens Church, South Godstone. 	

Signed
Chairperson

Print Name

Date