

Godstone Parish Council

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

Clerk to the Parish Council
S Endersby

The Bounty
Godstone Green
Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8DY

Admin Assistant to the Parish Council

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NOTES

For the meeting of Godstone Parish Council to be held on
Monday 2 December 2024 at 7.30pm at St Stephens, South Godstone.

1. **Questions from Members of the Public**
2. **Apologies and reasons for absence**
3. **Declarations of Interest** [Register of Interests](#)
4. **County and District Councillors** – Brief report on matters affecting the Parish.
5. **Minutes** of the previous meetings held – 5 November 2024

6. **Motions from Councillors**

6.1 Motion: That Godstone Parish Council (GPC) does not allocate or spend any funds, howsoever received, on the maintenance or refurbishment of Godstone Green or the Pavilion on Godstone Green. Until the Pavilion (which is on Parish council owned land) and leased to the Godstone Sports Association (GSA) by GPC, is relinquished and lease surrendered by the GSA in the favour of GPC, and full and total control in all legal matters of these properties return to GPC, via a completed and certified legal agreement and Land Registry details.

(Proposed: Cllr C Farr; Seconded: Cllr S Farr)

Information provided by Cllr C Farr in relation to the motion:

Background

In the 1950s Godstone Parish council under Land Registry SY690677 was bequeathed various parcels of land including Godstone Green. In 1984 Godstone Sports Association entered into an agreement and subsequently signed a legally binding lease (legal document circulated by email to all councillors already) which gave permission for the demolition of the existing GPC owned pavilion and a replacement to be built and paid for by GSA, for which the GSA would receive a lease which included details from the original as well as agreement for maintenance, Insurance and conditions.

GPC councillors became concerned in recent years over the very apparent lack of maintenance on the pavilion in addition to the use and maintenance of the Green by writing to the GSA with a Schedule of dilapidations, requesting remedial works. Whilst some works were carried out, they were not completed with main works carried out under an insurance claim following vandalism to the roof. The decline in the playing of organised Cricket matches and demise of the teams named in the lease added to these concerns.

In this matter the council does not wish to be vexatious but feel the length of time and deterioration of Parish resident's assets require that the Parish council is the only body able to fulfil the bequest in The Conveyance dated 8 March 1950 and as referred to in the Charges Register comply with the following provision: -

"The Council hereby declare that they will hold the said property upon trust for the perpetual enjoyment thereof by the public as open spaces"

To protect this interest of Godstone Parish residents this council must act quickly including the legal procedure in claiming outstanding dilapidation amounts, if required, in a manner as judged appropriate by council.

Intention

There are some time limited funds available to the Landowner and it is hoped the building can be remodelled to properly fulfil its primary role, and to be additionally used free of charge by appropriate local community groups with an additional new focus. Thereby making the building a hub for the village to centre on.

As was seen this year our 80-year-old Fete was put under additional pressure by the state of both these items.

7. **New Parish Car Park (Part of Godstone Quarry development - Application ref. 2022/1523)** – Any updates and action required in relation to: Works Licence Deed of Easement and Detailed Specification.

Report from Councils solicitor provided to council by email.

8. Godstone Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan – Any updates or action required

8.1 Consultant finalising the Statutory consultee list and Local Green Space owners.

8.2 Consultant is compiling draft text for use: Generic email to send to everyone; Email to send to the three (non-publicly owned Local Green Spaces); Text to go on council website and Survey – to upload to website and publicise locally.

8.3 Only outstanding item for the plan is the Foreword for the document.

8.4 Clerk invited to call with consultant and GNPC Chairperson to establish how Parish office needs to assist.

8.5 A Rabbetts proposes that J Farnaby take up mantle of Neighbourhood plan to see the final stages through to conclusion.

9. Reports

9.1 Clerks Report

9.1.1 Matters to bring to the Councils attention

- i. Correspondence in relation to local emergency and resilience plan
- ii. Request from Clerk to review and clarify clause 12. T) of Standing Orders following correspondence from resident.

9.1.2 Community Asset Information from Tandridge District Council

Following discussions at the Parish assembly on 24th October and the related email from David Ford (in relation to asking Parish Councils to consider readiness and appetite (financially and capacity) to take on responsibility for assets). List below is Tandridge District Council (DC) owned Community assets in the parish. TDC propose to work with a small group of parish councils to develop model options – asset transfer / TDC retain & manage / hybrid models and share these models with other Parish Councils. If your Council has an interest “in principle” to take these assets on a full asset transfer basis or to provide funding support, please submit your expression of interest

Asset type	Asset name	Postcode
Public Convenience	Godstone Green, Public conveniences and Bus Shelter	RH9 8DY
Sports & Recreation Land	South Godstone Playing Field	RH9 8HN
Play Space	Clayton Mead, Godstone Open space/Playground	RH9 8NX
Play Space	Playground - Hunters Chase, Godstone	RH9 8HR
Sports & Recreation Land	Featherstone playing Field, Blindley Heath	RH7 6JY
Pavilion	Pavilion, <u>Lagham</u> Road	RH9 8HN
Playground	Catlin Gardens Play Area	RH8 9JP
Playground	Featherstone Play Area	RH7 6JY
Playground	Hunters Chase Play Area	RH9 8HR

Funding opportunities

Funding Provider	Eligible Applicants	Finance Available	Link to Website
Community Fund for Surrey	Voluntary Sector Organisations community groups across Surrey	up to £15,000	https://www.chourney.org.uk/apply/
The Clothworkers Foundation	UK registered charities, CICs, and other registered UK not-for-profit organisations	Small and large capital projects The size of grant awarded will depend on a number of factors including the size of your organisation and the cost and scale of your capital project	https://www.clothworkersfoundation.org.uk/about-us.html
The Wolfson Foundation	Voluntary Sector Organisations community groups Parish Councils	Varies based on the nature of the application	https://www.wolfson.org.uk/funding/funding-for-projects/
The Edward Gosling Foundation	UK registered charities	up to £250K	https://www.edwardgoslingfoundation.org.uk/capital-grants/
Bernard Sunley	Charities or Charitable Incorporated Organisations	Trustees decide on the amount to be given	https://www.bernardsunley.org.uk/for-partners/community-grants/
Action with Communities in Rural England	Charities or Charitable Incorporated Organisations	Awards can be made to cover 20% of eligible project costs, up to a maximum amount of £5,000	https://acta.org.uk/village-halls-small-grants-fund/
Village Halls Small Grants Postcode Society Trust	Charities or Charitable Incorporated Organisations	Registered Charities/CIO: £500 - £2500 Non-registered charities and Parochial Church Councils: £500 - £2500	https://www.postcodesocietytrust.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant
The Wildlife Trusts Grants Bites Awards	Fully constituted, charitable or not for profit with no share capital	between £10,000 and £75,000	https://wildlifetrusts.floodgrant.com/
Grant Space: SUEZ Landfill Communities Fund	third sector and statutory bodies	between £3,000 and £50,000	https://grant-space.org.uk/continue-grant-application/
The Royal Countryside Fund (due to open in Autumn 2024)	TBC		https://www.royalcountrysidefund.org.uk/how-we-help-rural-communities/
The Royal Countryside Fund	UK registered non-profit organisations (non-statutory)	project should not exceed £200,000	https://www.royal.org.uk/about-us/grants/
Surrey Mental Health Investment Fund	new and/or existing non-statutory		https://www.surrey.gov.uk/community/statutory-communities-and-farms/mental-health-investment-fund/

9.2 Chairperson's Report – (for noting) information only.

9.2.1 Confirmation of meeting to be held with the GSA

GSA meeting on Wednesday 4 December at 6pm at The Bounty – Agenda being provided by the GSA.

9.3 Reports (for noting) from representatives on outside bodies etc.

9.4 Reports from Committees

9.4.1 Planning Committee of 20 November 2024

9.4.2 Greenspace Committee of 25 November 2024

9.4.3 Finance Committee of 25 November 2024

10. Greens, Commons and Land – Matters to bring to the Councils attention in relation to areas of the Parish

10.1 Godstone – Godstone Green; Greenview; Godstone Playground and Hilly Fields, to include:

10.1.1 Notification of Correspondence - Consultation: Application to divert public footpath no. 138

10.2 Salisbury Road Allotments, to include:

10.2.1 Easement in relation to development of old garages site

A) Steps to establish the required consent process is underway.

B) Request council confirm/approve last draft of Easement agreement to proceed with signing in conjunction with consent application.

10.3 Tilburstow Hill and The Enterdent

10.3.1 Report from Resident in relation to Pine Tree

Correspondence circulated to council.

10.4 South Godstone

10.5 Blindley Heath, to include:

10.5.1 Residents Reports of issues caused by heavy rain fall in the area

Correspondence circulated to council.

10.5.2 Clacks - Consent application for submission to Natural England

Correspondence circulated to council.

10.5.3 Heathview Appeal

Correspondence circulated to council.

11. Burial Ground, Exclusive Rights of Burial Applications and Memorial Applications

11.1 Memorial Applications

Approved under delegated authority for graves for the Battersby, Farquhar and Kelly families.

11.2 Application to relinquish a grave

Request to relinquish grave 570 received.

12. Finance

12.1 Accounts for Payment - Approve **DECEMBER** accounts for payment

Details to be provided.

12.2 Audit Report

12.2.1 Internal Audit – FY2024/25 Interim Audit - 11 November 2024

Council to acknowledge receipt and acceptance of report.

12.2.2 External Auditor Report - FY2023/24 AGAR Section 3

Council to acknowledge receipt and acceptance of report. Report published on website.

12.3 Risk Assessments

Risk Assessments provided to council.

Risk Assessments are undertaken as regularly as possible for external equipment and sites.

13. Planning

Ref	Address	Application
2024/998	Dippen Hall, Eastbourne Road, Blindley Heath, Lingfield, Surrey, RH7 6JX	Erection of 7 dwellings, car parking and associated landscaping to the rear of Dippen Hall.
2024/995	23 Oldencraig Mews, Lingfield, RH7 6GU	Erect single storey garden room
2024/1205	9 Ivy Mill Lane, Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8NH	Demolish existing garage, shed and timber framed garden room. Erect double storey side extension to form a new lounge, bedroom and bathroom. Erect new garden room to replace existing.
2024/1004	64 High Street, Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8LW	Erection of first floor rear extension and rear dormer window.
2024/1208	64 High Street, Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8LW	Erection of first floor rear extension and rear dormer window. (Listed building consent)

14. Correspondence and matters for reporting or inclusion on future agendas

14.1 Correspondence

14.1.1 Invitation for Members interested in Surrey Hills National Landscape Area

14.1.2 NALC Chief executive's bulletin - 7 November 2024

14.1.3 Opportunities for Tree Planting – 12/1

14.1.4 GSA response – 12/11

14.1.5 Consultation: Application to divert public footpath no. 138, Godstone parish. 8/11

14.1.6 TRO- Brickhouse Lane (D373) Lingfield and Church Lane (C72) Godstone- Revocation Order 22/22

14.1.7 Surrey Rights of Way Improvement Plan Consultation 20/11/2024

Consultation on the draft Surrey Rights of Way Improvement Plan has begun to make sure the new Rights of Way Improvement Plan reflects the needs of Surrey's residents, Surrey County Council would like to invite Godstone Parish Council to comment on the draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Surrey County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan helps the council to make sure the public rights of way network will meet the needs of the public, now and in the future. It sets out priorities for public rights of way for the next ten years.

Details of the consultation: <https://www.surreysays.co.uk/environment-and-infrastructure/rowip-24/>

The consultation opened on 15 November 2024 and closes on 9 February 2025.

If you have any queries about the consultation, please contact sccrowip@surreycc.gov.uk or 0300 200 1003

For general queries about public rights of way in Surrey, visit <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/countryside/management/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/report-a-problem>

14.2 Matter for reporting or inclusion on future agendas

14.2.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled to be held on Monday 6 January 2024 at 7.30pm, at St Stephens.

Part 2 – To consider passing a resolution that pursuant to Section 1 part 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any business on the grounds that it is likely if the public were to remain, there would be a disclosure of exempt information.