

GUITING POWER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held November 15th, 7 p.m.

Held at the Cochrane Meeting Room

Present: Cllrs Tony Allcock OBE (Chair), Simon Gardner, Simon Wallis, Charlie Friend, Sam Ayton-Hill, Neil Smith, Fiona Formby

Attending: Clerk Jane Carter, District Councillor Len Wilkins, County Cllr Mark Mackenzie-Charrington

MINUTE	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
231115/1	Apologies for absence: None	
231115/2	To Receive Declarations of Interest from Councillors- none	
231115/3	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Wednesday October 4th, 202: the minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
231115/4	To receive comments and concerns from the public: None	
231115/5	To receive report from County Councillor Mark Mackenzie-Charrington: the report had been circulated and was noted. Cllr Mackenzie-Charrington noted that the stretch of road leading to Guiting Power between the Twiston stables and the quarry was badly in need of repair. He would report this to highways. He reported that the bookable bus service, the Robin was in operation under a two-year trial and was being well used in the Forest of Dean but more travellers were needed on the North Cotswold route	
231115/6	To receive report from District Councillor Len Wilkins: A report had been circulated and was noted. He reported that CDC was looking at budget to address an £800,000 deficit over the next three years. The cost of green bins would be increasing. The council officers could only be contacted by telephone up to 2 p.m. daily. Publica which provided services to three councils was being wound up and services brought in house to CDC. He asked the PC to publicise the danger of placing appliance batteries in household waste as there had been a recent case of a lorry fire caused by batteries, destroying one of the vehicles.	Clerk
231115/7	Highways Matters: progress of works to The Square: permission had been received from Gloucestershire Highways to proceed with white lining within the square including the car parking area. Cllr Smith agreed to finalised the proposed white lines and circulate the designs to council for agreement. The Clerk would then obtain 3 quotes for the works. Cllr Formby asked if the removal of the 'Keep Clear' road signage could be addressed. This was agreed and would be added to the scope of works. Once agreed the final proposal would be publicised to residents for information. Cllr Friend agreed to inform the Trust of the progress	Clerk/Cllr Smith/Cllr Friend
231115/8	Playground Inspections: the 12-month playground inspection rota had been circulated. Cllr Gardner reported that works were required	Clerk

	to the Zip wire. A strut may need replacing and one of the springs needed attention. The Clerk would contact the providers and arrange an inspection. It was agreed that the current inspection report would be circulated to the next councillor in the rota so that any highlighted works could be monitored. The new sign would be ordered. No pole was required	Clerk
231115/9	Purchase of goalposts: The goalpost has been purchased and erected. It had been well received.	
231115/10	War Memorial: Cllr Smith circulated an archive image of the War Memorial with chains in place. It was agreed to mirror the design as closely as possible to the original. Cllr Smith agreed to measure up for the diamond chains and four oaks posts. The Clerk would obtain quotes and enquire if grants would be available.	Clerk/Cllr Smith
231115/11	Village Waste Bins: The clerk had circulated a style of bin. It was agreed that wooden slats would be in keeping with the rural area. It was agreed to price two bins at the entrance to the playground and near the salt bin next to the Cotswolds Guy. The Clerk would inform Ubico and confirm these could be added to existing collection routes	Clerk
231115/12	Visitor and Shop Parking- The Square: it was agreed that councillors would speak to local businesses about concerns over delivery vehicle parking and if this could be addressed. This would also be raised with the Trust.	Cllr Formby/Cllr Friend
231115/13	Village Xmas Tree lighting: the clerk confirmed the event was covered by the council's insurance. An event events form would be completed and submitted. A risk assessment would be carried out by nominated councillors. It was agreed to arrange a set date for future years so there would be no clashes with other village events. The Chairman would write to the residents of Caslett Farm thanking them for their continued generosity. He would also confirm that the residents who provided electricity for the lights were happy to continue to do.	Clerk/nominated councillors Chairman/Clerk
231115/14	Emergency Plan: the template had been circulated. Cllr Ayton-Hill agreed to review and confirm what updates were required.	Cllr Ayton-Hill
231115/15	Parish Council Communications: it was agreed the council could better communicate its role to residents. Cllr Smith proposed that the council should carry out a questionnaire to understand the main concerns of residents. It was agreed any questionnaire would need to be carefully compiled bearing in mind the council's budget and powers. The clerk suggested that digital newsletter was popular in other areas and allowed information to be distributed quickly. It was agreed that Cllr Ayton-Hill would compile the first draft of a questionnaire for circulation and discussion at the January meeting	Cllr Ayton-Hill
231115/16	Meeting Dates 2204-2025: these were agreed as January 22 nd (TBC) March 19 th (Tuesday), May 15 th , July 17 th , September 18 th , November 20 th . All were subject to the Cochrane Room being available. The Village Hall would be required for the Parish Meeting in May.	Clerk
231115/17	Planning applications: - No matters to consider	

231115/18	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. To approve current statement of accounts and bank reconciliation (as circulated): this was approved. The current balance stood at £8307.67 II. To approve payments and note receipts: these were approved as circulated. III. 2024-25 Budget and precept: A draft budget had been circulated showing requirements for 2024-25. Following a discussion it was agreed that the precept should be kept as close as possible to the existing level whilst achieving a break-even budget. The clerk agreed to redo the budget and circulate to the council for consideration prior to the January meeting. The precept would need to be agreed for submission by the end of January. The Clerk would at higher interest-bearing easy access accounts for the current reserves. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
231115/19	Matters For Information: None	Clerk
231115/20	The Chair closed the meeting at 9.12 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting would be held in January on a date to be confirmed.	Clerk

Approved By _____

Date _____