

Godstone Parish Council

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

Clerk to the Parish Council

J Coulthard

The Bounty
Godstone Green
Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8DY

Admin Assistant to the Parish Council

G McPartlin

Telephone/Fax: 01883 744209

MINUTES

of the meeting of Godstone Parish Council held on **Monday 2nd March 2026 at 7.30pm** at St Stephens Church, South Godstone

Chair: Cllr S Beagley

Vice Chair: Cllr L Case

Present: Cllr J Gardner, Cllr K Ward and Cllr C White

In attendance: J Coulthard (Clerk), 4 x Residents

177/25	1 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC	
	<p>1.1 South Godstone Village Action Group – A resident attended the meeting to update the Parish Council (PC) on progress being made to recruit members and their campaign. The resident explained that the group had been set up to oppose the Pale Park development proposed in South Godstone. The resident reported that they had recently held a meeting and ninety residents attended. D Cllr Mike Crane was one of the attendees. There were two speakers at the meeting, one had spoken about the importance of the Godstone Neighbourhood Plan and the other had spoken about the importance of the Tandridge District Council Local Plan. The resident mentioned that they had managed to get some exposure on Facebook, the Parish Magazine and the RH9 magazine and that they were trying to utilise Tik Tok and Instagram. The resident also provided contact details for the group for resident who may wish to join and asked if the details could be included in the minutes. The groups email address is southgodstoneactiongroup@gmail.com</p> <p>1.2 TDC Local Plan – A resident spoke to ask the PC how it was getting on with reviewing the TDC Local Plan – Cllr Case responded to advise that she had submitted comments and that all members of St Nicholas Church had submitted comments. She also mentioned that the Godstone Village Association (GVA) had put the consultation link on Facebook to encourage more residents to submit comments.</p> <p>1.3 Godstone Bowling Club has asked if the Parish Council (PC) will support a bid to the TDC CIL Fund for a grant to restore the Bowling Green. – IT WAS AGREED that the PC were happy to support a bid by the Bowling Club and that the Clerk would advise the Bowling Club.</p>	JC
178/25	2 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE (LGA 1972 s85)	
	Apologies received and accepted for Cllrs D Christmas, S Farr, C Farr, and J Goodman.	
179/25	3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS	
	None.	
180/25	4 COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLLRS – Brief report on matters affecting the Parish.	
	Nothing to report.	
181/25	5 MINUTES	
	MINUTES of the full Parish Council meeting of the 2 nd of February 2026 and the Planning Committee meeting held on the 18 th of February 2026 were agreed and signed as true record. (LGA 1972 Sch.12 s41)	
182/25	6 REPORTS	
	6.1 Clerks Report - Matters to bring to the Councils attention	

	<p>6.1.1 The Clerk advised that she would be generating a new style monthly Clerk's report to help Cllrs understand what the Clerk, Asst. Clerk and Admin assistant were working on and what tasks were completed during month prior to each full PC meeting.</p> <p>6.2 Chairperson's Report – (for noting) information only. Cllr Beagley reported that he would be attending he and other Cllrs would be attending the GVA meeting on the 18th of February otherwise nothing to report.</p> <p>6.3 Reports (for noting) from representatives on outside bodies etc. Cllr White reported that he had attended the NALC event 'Beyond the Precept' which was designed to help Cllrs understand other potential sources of funding for PCs other than the Precept. He mentioned that he thought the event was very good and provided lots of useful information. Cllr Case reported that she would be attending the upcoming meeting of the Godstone Preservation Society.</p> <p>6.4 Reports from Committees Nothing to report.</p>	
183/25	7 GREENS, COMMONS AND LAND	
	<p>7.1 Godstone – Godstone Green; Greenview; Playground, Allotment and Hilly Fields</p> <p>7.4.1 Godstone Green –</p> <p>7.4.1.1 To consider and agree or otherwise whether the Cricket Club can have a key to the barrier to the Green near the White House Dental Practice. – IT WAS AGREED that the Cricket Club could have a key to the gate adjacent to the Drs Surgery but not a key to the gate near the White House dental practice and the Asst. Clerk would advise the Cricket Club.</p> <p>7.4.1.2 Two quotes received to fix the potholes in the car park by Pond Tail Surgery a) £980 excl. VAT, b) £850 excl. VAT. To consider and agree which contractor to choose. IT WAS AGREED to go with the contractor who quoted £850 and that the Asst. Clerk would inform the contractor.</p> <p>7.4.1.3 To consider the quote for Christmas Lights in the 3rd tree on Godstone Green and whether to choose 3,000 or 4,000 lights. IT WAS AGREED to go with the 3,000 lights option and that the Asst. Clerk would inform the contractor.</p> <p>7.1.2 Greenview – Nothing to report.</p> <p>7.1.3 Playground Cllr Case reported that two new pieces of equip arriving on the 30th March. Cllr Case is working with the Asst. Clerk to get the broken roundabout removed. Cllr Beagley advised that the surround for the roundabout needed to come out and advised that he and Cllr Gardner would meet with the grounds contractor and them to do the job on a day rate. Cllr Case emphasised that the work to remove the roundabout needed to be completed by the 30th of March. Cllr Gardner advised he would speak to the grounds contractor in the morning. Cllr Case advised that the playground contractor would cut the wet pour around the roundabout to a firm edge and fill with a patch of wet pour.</p> <p>7.1.4 Allotments – Cllr Beagley reported that the Allotment tenants were happy that a chain could be put across the entrance to the Allotments and that he would speak to them about putting a post in for the chain. Cllr Beagley also reported that the Rain Harvesting system was working. He also mentioned that there was an extensive cave system under the allotments that were 2 meters wide.</p> <p>7.1.5 Hilly Fields – Cllr Gardner reported that the track to the substation at Hillyfields was overgrown and there were some dead trees. The Clerk advised that this would be picked up in the tree survey.</p> <p>7.2 Tilburstow Hill and The Enterdent</p> <p>7.2.1 Tilburstow Hill Tree update – Cllr Beagley reported that the contractor had identified a way to access the trees without the need to get the BT line taken down, it would cost a little more but much less than the £5K plus quoted to take the line down by BT. He asked the PC were happy to approve the work to go ahead. APPROVED. Cllr Beagley also reported that there would be fees</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>GM</p> <p>GM</p>

	<p>payable to SCC for the road closure necessary for the work and these were higher than anticipated as SCC would only allow the closure on an emergency basis due to the number of complaints from residents about previous closures, they would not allow a non-emergency closure for another 6 months.</p> <p>7.3 South Godstone – Cllr White reported that SCC were cutting the grass around the horse trough therefore the PC did not need to do it. Cllr White also reported that there had been some vandalism at the Fenemore site however Cllr Goodman had visited and dealt with it.</p> <p>7.4 Blindley Heath – Cllr White reported that there had not been any flooding at the junction adjacent to the PC carpark since SES had fixed the water leak. Cllr Beagley reported that a contractor was looking at the Bus Shelter at Angle Corner with a view to providing a quote for maintenance work. Cllr White said he would look at the potholes in the car park to assess whether they could now be fixed given that the flooding had subsided. He also mentioned that two swans had returned to the Red Barn.</p> <p>7.5 Burial Ground - Exclusive Rights of Burial Applications and Memorial Cllr Beagley reported that he would be meeting two contractors at the Burial Ground to show them the trees that needed to be pollarded so they could provide accurate quotes for the work.</p> <p>7.6 All Areas – Tree Survey – The Clerk reported that the tree survey was</p>	
184/25	8 FINANCE	
	<p>8.1 Accounts for Payment - Approve MARCH accounts for payment. APPROVED.</p> <p>8.2 Finance Papers up to 31ST DECEMBER 2025 - Bank Reconciliation and Accounts Reports – Income & Expenditure; Reserves, Balance Sheet and Summary of Funds). Not Available to review.</p>	
185/25	9 TDC ASSET TRANSFER	
	<p>9.1 Featherstone Playground and Playing Field</p> <p>9.1.1 The Clerk advised that she was still waiting to hear back from TDC regarding confirming the exact area for transfer.</p> <p>9.2 Godstone Public Conveniences</p> <p>9.2.1 To consider and agree or otherwise whether the PC wishes to continue with the Asset Transfer process for the Public Conveniences given the indicative costs information obtained by the Clerk. – Cllrs felt that they were not ready to give the go ahead to proceed. IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk would ask GVA to canvas members for their opinion on whether they wanted the PC to take over the Conveniences and that the Clerk would put a post on Facebook asking residents for their views.</p>	JC
186/25	10 GOVERNANCE	
	<p>10.1 Asset Register – To review the Asset Register – Cllrs had reviewed the Asset Register but felt the format was difficult to read and understand. The Clerk advised that she would recreate it in another more easily digestible format and represent for approval at the next full PC meeting.</p> <p>10.2 Risk Register – To review the Risk Register – Some Cllrs had reviewed the register, but some had not had time. The Clerk advised that it was in a complex format and that some risks did not seem to be listed. She requested the help of Cllrs to go through each of their areas so it could be updated and approved. IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk would arrange times to meet with individual Cllrs about their areas.</p> <p>10.3 Finance Regulations - To consider and agree or otherwise to adopt the updated Finance Regulations. ADOPTED.</p>	JC JC
187/25	11 POLICES & PROCEDURES	
	Nothing to report	
188/25	12 SALC/NALC	
	12.1 To consider and agree whether a Cllr should attend the NALC Annual Conference. Cost for 1 ticket is £85 with one free ticket. Date 24 th June 2026, America Square Conference Centre, London. IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk and the Asst. Clerk would attend on behalf of the PC.	GM/JC

189/25	13 CORRESPONDENCE	
	Nothing additional to report.	
190/25	14 MATTERS FOR REPORTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS	
	None	
191/25	15 AOB	
	<p>15.1 Annual Parish Meeting – To agree the date and format for the Annual Parish Meeting – IT WAS AGREED to hold the meeting on Monday 18th of May.</p> <p>15.2 Annual Report – To consider and agree whether the Parish Council would like to produce an Annual Report. – IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk would circulate a copy of a sample annual report.</p> <p>15.3 Article 4 Direction for Caterham and Whyteleafe – To consider and agree or otherwise whether the PC wishes to submit a response. IT WAS AGREED not to submit comments from the PC and that Cllrs would comment personally if they wished.</p> <p>15.4 Election Costs 2027 – To note the full cost of elections will fall to Parish & Town Councils, indicative minimum cost provided by TDC £14,375 . NOTED.</p>	JC
192/25	16 CURRENT PLANNING ISSUES (Applications with a comment deadline prior to the next Planning Committee Meeting).	
	<p>16.1 2026/151 – Broadcast Engineering Centre, Eastbourne Road, Blindley Heath, Lingfield, Surrey, RH7 6JP – Erection of a single storey side extension for general industrial use (Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed)). RESOLVED - NO OBJECTION The Parish Council does not object to the proposed Certificate of Lawfulness on the basis that the development is contained within the industrial site and there are no domestic neighbours close by that could be negatively impacted.</p> <p>16.2 2026/69/TPO – 50 Lagham Park, South Godstone, Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8ER – T1 – T8) To remove the Ash trees that are declining due to Ash dieback down to ground level. T9) – To remove the secondary limb on the left-hand side of the Oak tree over the neighbour’s boundary down to the base of the tree to rebalance the tree. Crown reduce and deadwood the remainder by 2 meters. RESOLVED - NO OBJECTION. The Parish Council has no objection and is happy to leave the decision to the TDC Tree Officer</p> <p>16.3 Any Other Planning Matters</p> <p>16.3.1 New NPPF Consultation – To consider and agree whether the PC wishes to submit comments. – IT WAS AGREED that Cllrs Case and Beagley would review and submit comments.</p> <p>16.3.2 2025/1407 – Update on preparation of comments due 8th March 2026 – draft comments were prepared by the Clerk and Cllr Case, the draft was sent to GVA to put on Facebook to help residents to draft their own comments. The draft was also sent to the planning expert for review and comment, and the Clerk advised she was waiting for his response.</p>	LC/SB
193/25	17 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Committee Meeting – Wednesday, 18th March 2026, 6:30pm at the Bounty, Godstone Green • Full Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 7th April 2026, 7:30pm at St Stephens Church, South Godstone <p>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. – Motion not required.</p> <p>There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 21:58</p>	

Signed
Chairperson

Print Name

Date