

GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Remote Meeting held on 11.8.2020

Present: Chair – Councillor J Bourn
 Councillors C Cheeseman, S Ellis, SJ Holmes and M Sargeant.
 Miss V Banyard (Parish clerk)
 No members of the public were present.

2306.20 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting’s agenda items.
 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr Reynolds and Mrs Thompson (Ward Member).
 There were no Declarations of Interest.

2307.20 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Remote Meeting held on 14.7.2020.
 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above Minutes with the following amendments:
 2302.20.1: There are currently two livestock units at Cobbs Farm and not one.
 Garden waste at the rear of Hall Estate will be reported to Maldon District Council.

2308.20 To receive information on items included in the above Minutes.
 No issues were raised.

2309.20. Planning

a. The following planning decisions by Maldon District Council were noted:

20/00205/FUL	Gardeners Farm Maldon Road Goldhanger	Change of use of stables to overnight dog kennels with associated hydrotherapy pool, feed store, external exercise enclosure and fenced external walkway. Refused
HOUSE/MAL/ 20/00512	Blackwater View 13 Fish Street Goldhanger	Construct garage with single bedroom above, as side extension to detached dwelling Approved

- b. New planning applications: There were none to consider.
- c. Enforcement issues – No updates were available.
- d. To consider any other planning issues. No issues were raised.

2310.20. Finance

a) Councillors received the financial statements for August 2020. Councillor Mr Sargeant and the clerk will continue working on the new accounting format, and the reserves sheet will be adjusted at the end of the financial year.

The following payments were authorized:

V Banyard	Salary, office allowance and expenses - Aug	£ 193.65
HMRC	Tax on clerk’s salary – Aug	£ 42.60
Wicksteed	Play area inspection	£ 96.00
Maldon District Council	Mowing of woodland	£ 366.00
Maldon District Council	Grass cutting in playing field	£ 210.00

Cllr M Sargeant	Playing field gate repairs Councillor Mr Sargeant reported that repairs had included making the gate post more secure and avoiding possible finger traps	£ 36.48
-----------------	---	---------

2311.20. To consider any reports or matters concerning:

1. Response to the Covid 19 pandemic.
No issues were raised.
2. Highways issues: Parking, visitors and cones; drainage; public rights of way.
Drainage: Councillor Mr Sargeant has prepared a detailed survey of pipes, gulleys and drains in both Fish Street and Church Street, and this has been sent to Highways and copied to Councillor Mark Durham (Essex County Council) and Priti Patel MP. This was done as drainage issues have been ongoing since 2014/2015 and little has been done to resolve the problems.
Parking issues. Parking problems continue to be a concern to both residents and the Council. It is thought that the effects of the Covid 19 lockdown has led to an increase in visitors to the village which has resulted in large numbers of cars parking in Fish Street and Head Street. Maldon Community Services officers will monitor the situation but a long term solution needs to be found. There was some discussion about the possibility of using the Village Hall car park to ease the problem but this will need to be arranged with the VHMC.
3. Repairs to the village sign. The sign is currently with Bakers of Danbury who have found that the damage is more extensive than previously thought and will require additional costs to repair. The Council discussed whether a different approach such as fibreglass encapsulation should be investigated, and Councillors Mr Bishop and Mr Sargeant will look into this and come back to the Council at its next meeting.
4. Marigold Wood. No issues were raised.
5. The playing field and play area. The inspection report has now been received and some work needs to be done. Councillors Mrs Bourn and Mr Sargeant will look into this in more detail. It was reported that the Covid 19 signage in the play area has become faded and needs replacing.
The inspection report recommends replacement of the slide, and costs for this need to be investigated. The Parish Council will apply to Essex County Council for a grant towards a new slide.
Concern has been expressed by a resident about disabled access into the playing field due to a dip in the path. Councillor Mr Ellis will level off the ground to make access easier.
Councillors will clear up vegetation in the field where Councillor Mr Sargeant has been carrying out trimming work.
The Council will need to consider the replacement of the playing field gate as it is somewhat unstable – Councillor Mr Sargeant to obtain quotes.
6. Any other issues. A resident expressed concern at the overgrown hedge at the junction of Church Street and Maldon Road which causes a lack of visibility and several near collisions with traffic coming from each end. There is also an overgrown hedge in Benham Close which obstructs the pedestrian footway. A note will be put in the parish magazine advising residents that they are responsible for cutting back any overgrown hedges on their property which obstruct the highway or footways. If they do not cut back the hedge Highways can be asked to do this in the interests of safety, and they will charge the landowner for this work.
It was noted that, following the article in the parish magazine, there have been no more instances of grass cuttings being put in the hedge in Head Street.
7. To consider other items of information or for inclusion on a future agenda.
No issues were raised.

2312.20. To set the date for the next meeting of the Parish Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that the next remote meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 8th September 2020.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 8.16 pm.

The above Minutes were approved at the remote meeting held on 8.9.2020.