

**GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Ordinary Remote Meeting held on 13.1.2021**

Present:

Chair – Councillor J Bourn

Vice Chair – Councillor H Reynolds

Councillors M Bishop, C Cheeseman, S Ellis, SJ Holmes and M Sargeant

V Banyard (Parish clerk)

No members of the public were present.

2358.20 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting’s agenda items.

There were no apologies for absence.

Councillors Mr Cheeseman and Mr Ellis declared an interest in matters concerning the Village Hall.

2359.20. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Remote Meeting held on 9.12.2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above Minutes, with a number of amendments made to the draft copy.

2360.20. To receive information on items included in the above Minutes.

No issues were raised.

2361.20. Planning

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

HOUSE/MAL/20/00974	19 Blind Lane Goldhanger	Double garage with room in roof to the front of existing dwelling house <b>Approved</b>
TCA/MAL/20/01148	30 Fish Street Goldhanger	T1 Walnut – reduce the crown all around by 2m <b>Allowed to proceed</b>
FUL/MAL/20/00940	1 Head Street Goldhanger	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new replacement dwelling and outbuilding <b>Refused</b>

b. Latest planning applications – to comment on any planning applications which may be received before the date of the meeting – including:

20/01173/FUL	Orchard View 1A Head Street Goldhanger	Change of use from a residential dwelling (Class C3) to a Sui Generis use including a residential dwelling, café and shop. Conversion of existing outbuilding to a B&B. Addition of a raised decking area, removal of existing shed and replace with 4 additional parking spaces, addition of detached catering unit. <b>Amended application</b> drawing nos: P001 Rev C, P002 Rev D, P003 Rev B It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to comment as per the draft presented by Councillor Mrs Bourn but to make it clear that the Parish Council’s initial response remains unchanged.
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c. Enforcement issues – to consider any update from Maldon District Council. Nothing further has been heard although various enforcement issues are still under investigation.

d. To consider any other planning issues. It was noted that an application for a boiler cupboard at The Old Parsonage 12 Head Street had not come to the Parish Council, but it had no comments to make.

2362.20. To consider items of correspondence received

Maldon District Heritage Assets. Councillor Mr Ellis reported that he had tried to follow up this issue but was having difficulty in contacting the relevant persons. He will continue to investigate.

2363.20 To receive the financial statements and to authorise accounts for payment.

The financial statements for January were received.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following payments:

V Banyard	Salary, office allowance and expenses	£ 201.45
HMRC	Clerk's tax December	£ 42.60
Repairfast	Repair work to village pump	£ 1,713.60*
M Sargeant	Water testing kit for village pump	£ 42.99*
M Bishop	Batteries for Speed Indicator Device	£ 87.98*

Payments above marked \* were late invoices so the January financial reports will be amended and re-issued.

2364.20. To consider the setting of the budget/precept for the year ending 31.3.2022.

Councillor Mr Sargeant went through the budget and explained various issues.

Repairs to the village sign had not been budgeted for in 2020/21 but payment will come from reserves.

The Council will have one year's precept in the bank prior to setting of the budget for 2021/22.

Schemes for 2021/22:

Works to improve the footpath from Fish Street to the sea wall will require a digger to clear and even up the path and then new gravel obtained for re-surfacing. The vegetation on either side of the path would need cutting back hard to allow access for the digger.

A new solar panel for the SID will be budgeted for. A suggestion had been made to obtain another SID for the other end of the village, but it was decided that a better option would be to spin the existing SID round to shoot in the other direction.

During repair works to the village pump more problems than expected had been found, so this will need to be included in the new budget.

The defibrillator kiosk will require a new door.

Marigold Wood – work to clear the loose surface of the paths and to thin out the trees is required.

New kitchen for Village Hall. Money for this was included in the 2020/21 budget but the same amount could be put in for 2021/22 and used when required.

Hand rail for the steps up to the sea wall from the playing field footpath. It was agreed that the Environment Agency should be asked to carry out this work as it is their responsibility.

It was then **RESOLVED** to approve the budget and to set the precept for 2021/22 at £ 9,250.

Councillor Mr Sargeant was thanked for his work on the budget.

At this point Councillor Mrs Holmes left the meeting.

2365.20. To consider any matters concerning the playing field and play area.

It was noted that there is a tent in the rough woody area near the sea wall which contained bedding and a heater, but it is not known if it is being used at present. This will be monitored.

It was **RESOLVED** that an order should be placed for a new slide and two springers for the play area so that hopefully the work can be completed during this financial year. The Council will remove the old slide.

Councillor Mr Ellis will carry out some work to even out the dip in the path at the entrance to the playing field.

2366.20. To consider any matters concerning Highways and public rights of way in the parish

Update on training for the new Goldhanger Community Speedwatch Group. Nothing further has been heard due to lockdown.

Flooding and drainage issues in Head Street/Maldon Road. Councillor Mr Sargeant is expecting a reply from Moat in mid January. He will continue to pursue this matter with Councillor Mr Durham (ECC) and will also see if signage at the eastern end of the village which was not all put in previously can be added in to the Locally Determined Budget.

It was thought that Trucam patrols have recently been carried out in the village. The clerk will check on

this as the Council has not asked for any further patrols as yet.

Wash Bridge. Flooding at this site continues and it is not clear who is responsible for clearing vegetation from the brook. The Environment Agency will be approached to find out who should be doing this.

2367.20. To consider any issues arising from the current lockdown due to Covid 19.

It was noted that Heybridge Parish Council has closed Daisy Meadow car park due to visitors not following Covid restrictions. Goldhanger is also having problems with visitors parking in the village but there is very little that can be done about this problem at present.

2468.20. To consider any matters concerning Marigold Wood.

Councillor Mr Sargeant has obtained a quote of £1,600 plus VAT from a tree surgeon for thinning out the trees in the woodland. It was noted that the Council can spend small amounts without obtaining further quotes. Councillor Mr Sargeant will advise residents in Peartree Close and St Peter's Close that this work will be carried out shortly.

2469.20. To consider repair work to the village pump.

Repairfast has now carried out work on the pump and a quote for further work is awaited.

2470.20. To consider any matters concerning the bus shelters and defibrillators.

The door of the kiosk in Maldon Road has been bent in the wind. Councillors will look at the door and consider options for its repair.

2471.20. To consider other items of information or for inclusion on a future agenda.

It was decided not to consider a subscription to Webex of £30 per month to allow meetings to be carried out without a break.

It was noted that Superfast Broadband has now reached its target of connecting homes in the village.

Residents should be encouraged to pledge their support of this scheme.

The VHMC will be asked to adjust or turn off the Hall lights as they are very bright.

A resident has expressed concern about hedges and trees being cut down and containers put up at the old Farm Museum in Church Street. The Parish Council is not aware of any restrictions at this site but Councillors will have a look before the next meeting.

The hedge opposite the houses in Blind Lane has now been cut.

Covid Hardship Fund. Councillors will consider how this could be used in the village.

2372.20. To set the date for the Council's February 2021 meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting will be held on 10.2.2021.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.02 pm.

The above Minutes were approved at the Parish Council's remote meeting held on 10.2.2021 and recorded as Minute reference 2374.20