

# Godstone Parish Council

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

**Clerk to the Parish Council**  
S Endersby

**Admin Assistant**

**The Bounty  
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## MINUTES

Of the Extraordinary meeting of Godstone Parish Council held on  
**Friday 5 August 2022 at 9.30am at The Bounty, Godstone Green.**

**Members:** Cllrs J Gardner, D Stone, M McLoughlin, S Farr, L Case, B Davis and C Farr  
**Apologies:** Cllrs J Farnaby and C White  
**In Attendance:** S Endersby (Clerk)

**1. Questions from Members of the Public - None**

**2. Apologies and reasons for absence**

2.1 Apologies were received from Cllrs C White and J Farnaby both due to other prior personal commitments.  
**RESOLVED** – Council noted the apologies, and the meeting was deemed quorate.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

3.1 It was noted that all councillors at the meeting are also parishioners who pay the precept.

**4. Accounts for Payment - to approve JULY accounts for payment**

| GPC Ref.                    | Business              | Invoice    | Invoice Date | Payment For             | Net amount | VAT   | Invoice Total |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------|-------|---------------|
| <b>Salary Payments</b>      |                       |            |              |                         |            |       |               |
| G1258-59                    | Salaries              |            |              | JULY Salary (5 wks)     | 2,133.27   |       | 2,133.27      |
| G1260                       | HMRC                  |            |              | JULY NI & Income Tax**  |            |       |               |
| G1261                       | NEST Pension          |            |              | JULY Pension**          |            |       |               |
| <b>Direct Debits</b>        |                       |            |              |                         |            |       |               |
| G1265                       | British Gas Lite      | 3138620    | Jul-22       | Electricity             | 28.39      | 1.42  | 29.81         |
| G1264                       | BT                    | M116 2X    | 17-Jul       | Telephone and Internet  | 42.14      | 8.42  | 50.56         |
| <b>Invoices for Payment</b> |                       |            |              |                         |            |       |               |
| G1256                       | Surrey Wildlife Trust | 10208      | 06-Jul       | Annual Management Fee   | 2277       | 455.4 | 2732.4        |
| G1257                       | PKF Littlejohn        | SB20220199 | 27-Jul       | External Auditor - AGAR | 400        | 80    | 480           |
| G1262                       | Neat Gardens          | 385        | Jul-22       | Grass cutting           | 2168.01    |       | 2168.01       |
| G1263                       | Village Maintenance   |            | July         | Maintenance - Bus Stop  | 70         |       | 70            |

\*Salaries paid in accordance with 7. Payment of Salaries of the Parish Council Financial Regulations. \*\*Employee/Employers total payment paid by GPC.

**TOTAL £7,118.81 £545.24 £7,664.05**

**RESOLVED** – Noting the payment summary for **JULY** invoices, circulated to all councillors in advance of the meeting, the total invoices due for £7664.05 were unanimously approved.

It was noted that in order that work by volunteers to reinstatement the allotment fence could take place invoices relating to the work (not detailed above) would need to be paid before the next meeting and would be within the agreed budget funds allocated for the works and previously approved by council. Invoices to be presented at the September meeting.

**ACTION E8/22 – 1** – Clerk to arrange payment of invoices, including for allotment fence works.

<sup>1</sup> 26. Standing orders generally

a. All or part of a standing order, except one that incorporates mandatory, statutory or legal requirements, may be suspended by resolution in relation to the consideration of an item on the agenda for a meeting.

<sup>2</sup> 7. Previous resolutions

b. When a motion moved pursuant to standing order 7(a) has been disposed of, no similar motion may be moved for a further six months.

## 5. Purchase of the Bounty

Cllr M McLoughlin arrived at 10am

5.1 Consider the report and recommendation of the Finance Committee in relation to the decision to apply for a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan of £80,000 over the borrowing term of Over 25years (not over 25½ years) for the purchase of the Bounty (Parish Office).

5.1.1 Council considered the report provided (Draft Finance Committee MINUTES - 19 July 2022)

5.1.2 Council noted a covenant affecting the property

**ACTION E8/22 – 1** – Clerk to confirm with solicitor implication of covenant on the current lease terms and ensuring the covenants would not impact a future sale if ever required.

5.1.3 Issues with the drainage of the building also discussed.

### 5.2 **SPECIAL MOTION: To revoke a decision, the following special motion is proposed:**

(Further to the written request of councillors, Cllrs B Davis, C Farr, S Farr and D Stone, as required by Godstone Parish Councils Standing orders)

**SPECIAL MOTION:** Revoke the resolutions voted on at the full council meeting of 4 July 2022 which stated:

*“Members resolved to agree to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to apply for a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan of £80,000 over the borrowing term of Over 25years (not over 25½ years) for the purchase of the Bounty (Parish Office). The annual loan repayments will come to around £[figure to be confirmed as was not available during the meeting], applying the annuity method of repayment.*

*Members resolved it is not intended to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments.”*  
(Proposers: Cllrs B Davis; C Farr, S Farr and D Stone)

**RESOLVED** – Members unanimously resolve to agree the SPECIAL MOTION detailed (5.2) to revoke the resolution voted on at the full council meeting of 4 July 2022. On the resolution being revoked, for clarity it is confirmed it means that:

- The Council will not seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to apply for a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan of £80,000 over the borrowing term of Over 25years (not over 25½ years) for the purchase of the Bounty (Parish Office).
- The Council reverses the decision to not increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments.

### 5.3 **Subject to Special Motion (item 5.2), the following motion is proposed:**

**MOTION** – Invoke Standing Order 26 a.<sup>1</sup> to suspend Standing Order 7 b.<sup>2</sup> for the duration of this Extraordinary Meeting, in order that a motion be reconsidered to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to apply for a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan in relation to the purchase of the Bounty (as detailed 5.4)

(Proposer: Cllr B Davis; Seconder: Cllrs C Farr, S Farr and D Stone)

**RESOLVED** – Members unanimously resolve to agree the SPECIAL MOTION detailed (5.3) to invoke Standing Order 26 a.<sup>1</sup> to suspend Standing Order 7 b.<sup>2</sup> for the duration of this Extraordinary Meeting.

### 5.4 **Subject to Special Motion (item 5.2), the following motion is proposed:**

**MOTION** - Agree to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to apply for a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan of £100,000 over the borrowing term of Over 25years (not over 25½ years) for the purchase of The Bounty (the Parish Office). The annual loan repayments will come to around £5,869.52, applying the annuity method of repayment.

(Proposer: Cllr B Davis; Seconder: Cllrs C Farr, S Farr and D Stone)

**RESOLVED** – Members unanimously resolve to agree to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to apply for a Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan of £100,000 over the borrowing term of Over 25years (not over 25½ years) for the purchase of The Bounty (the Parish Office). The annual loan repayments will come to around £5,869.52, applying the annuity method of repayment.

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**5.5 Subject to Special Motion (item 5.2), the following motion is proposed:**

**MOTION** - Agree that it is proposed to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments by 2.17% which is the equivalent of an additional £1469.52 a year. This will be subject to a precept increase consultation. (Proposer: Cllr B Davis; Seconder: Cllrs C Farr, S Farr and D Stone)

**RESOLVED** – Members unanimously resolve to agree that it is proposed to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments by 2.17% which is the equivalent of an additional £1469.52 a year. This will be subject to a precept increase consultation.

**ACTION E8/22 – 2** – Clerk to prepare the necessary paperwork in relation to the PWLB Loan and consultation.

**6. Playground – Consider update to community on progress of Playground** (statement circulated in advance of the meeting)

**RESOLVED** – Members unanimously resolve to issue the statement prepared in relation to the progress on the Playground.

**ACTION E8/22 – 3** – Clerk to liaise with Cllr B Davis to contact TDC and SCC and provide notification about Playground.

**7. Sports Pavilion on Godstone Green** – During the course of the meeting the matter of the Pavilion was raised, noting concerns in relation to the dilapidation and its current condition and the right to request repairs or surrender lease. It was further noted that it had become apparent of the demise of the Godstone football and cricket clubs, which no longer exist. A proposal of a letter to the Godstone Sports Association was discussed.

**ACTION E8/22 – 4** – A potential pitch agreement to be prepared by Cllr C Farr for consideration of full council.

----- Meeting ended -----

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Chairman

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Dated

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