

GUITING POWER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Guiting Power Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held Wednesday March 18th 2026
Cochrane Room, Guiting Power Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Simon Gardner (Chair), Richard Knee, Fiona Formby, Olivia Hills, Sam Ayton-Hill

Attending: Clerk Jane Carter, County Cllr Tom Bradley

Minute	AGENDA ITEMS
260318/1	Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Cllr Neil Smith and Cllr Charlie Friend
260318/2	Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: Members were reminded of the requirement to check their registers of interest every six months. No declarations were made and no changes to registers were reported.
260318/3	Approval of Minutes of Meeting held January 21st 2026: A factual correction was noted: four CCTV cameras had been discussed at the previous meeting, not three as minuted. Subject to this amendment, the minutes were APPROVED as a true record and signed by the Chair.
260318/4	Public Forum: No members of the public were present.
260318/5	<p>Report from Gloucestershire County Councillor: Cllr Bradley reported on the following matters:</p> <p>20 mph speed limit programme: Guiting Power is not included in the first tranche of the county's 20 mph programme. Of approximately 200 parishes, only around a dozen have been selected, the majority in Cirencester or Cheltenham. Cllr Bradley has queried the selection criteria but has not yet received a response. The target for the first tranche is completion by end of 2027.</p> <p>Ford Bridge closure: Ford Bridge will be fully closed for repairs from 5 May to 26 June 2026. The diversion route runs via Broadway and Bourton. Residents should be made aware.</p> <p>Highways budget: At the Shire Hall budget meeting, an amendment to ring-fence part of the highways budget for local councillor priorities was voted down. County councillors no longer have a designated pot for local highway schemes; resurfacing decisions will be made centrally. The highways budget increase is entirely borrowing, which will pass to the future unitary authority.</p> <p>Council tax: Increased by the maximum permitted without a referendum.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Grassroots Fund: Cllr Bradley retains a wellbeing-focused discretionary fund (approximately £20,000 across 24 parishes) until the unitary authority is established. Applications for items that can be linked to community wellbeing will be considered.</p> <p>Agricultural community: Cllr Bradley attended a meeting with local farmers and NFU representatives to discuss the impact of the family farm tax. A motion at the following week's full council would seek to prioritise local procurement in council-run schools, care homes and similar settings.</p> <p>Highways contract performance: The environmental scrutiny committee receives monthly contractor performance data, but failed repairs are not currently tracked. Cllr Bradley has requested that this data be collected going forward. Members were encouraged to report poor-quality repairs and raised ironwork via Fix My Street.</p> <p>Local Government Reorganisation: The government consultation is open until 26 March. Cllr Bradley encouraged the council to respond.</p> <p>Nails Barn Quarry: Cllr Bradley has formally objected to the application on the grounds that it exceeds the scope of previous permissions. As his concerns have not been addressed, he has requested the application be called in to committee rather than decided by officers. He will share the committee date when known. A new county minerals and quarrying strategy consultation is also anticipated before the end of 2026.</p>

260318/6	<p>Report from Cotswold District Councillor: District Cllr Len Wilkins was not present. A written report had been circulated in advance. NOTED.</p>
260318/7i	<p>Highways Matters and Village Maintenance — Village Entry Points and Speed Awareness:</p> <p>Cllr Knee presented a report and map setting out proposals in three components:</p> <p>Road safety initiatives: Three new gates on the main approach roads (replacing deteriorating existing signs and installing a new gate on Tally Ho Lane. Estimated costs: gates £1,180, installation £1,100, traffic management if required, and signage approximately £300. Highways approval will be required; subject to this, installation by a local contractor rather than the gate supplier was recommended as more cost-effective.</p> <p>‘20 is Plenty’ advisory signs: Approximately eight advisory signs at an estimated cost of £45 each (£400 in total) to be fixed to existing street furniture in the centre of the village. Highways approval or agreement not to remove them will be required. These would be advisory only and cannot obscure the existing 30 mph signs.</p> <p>10 mph advisory signs: Advisory signs on Castlett Street, Church Lane and Well Lane, at a similar cost per sign if self-installed.</p> <p>The council noted that village entry gates alone have a modest speed-reduction effect (approximately 1–2 mph); the combined scheme is intended to provide a continuous series of prompts. All three components are independent and could be phased. Members agreed in principle to proceed with all three components. A combined leaflet drop to all households will be prepared, covering both the road safety initiatives scheme and the CCTV proposal, with separate response sections for each. The parish meeting on 28 May will be used as an opportunity to present all proposals and prompt responses; a final deadline for responses will follow shortly after.</p>
260318/7ii	<p>Dog Bin, Castlett Street:</p> <p>The recently installed dog bin on Castlett Street has been well used. NOTED.</p>
260318/7iii	<p>Playground Maintenance and Inspections:</p> <p>Social committee balance: The earmarked social committee balance for playground maintenance stands at £757.89. NOTED.</p> <p>Play tunnel repairs: The play tunnel has been temporarily closed and boarded off following frost damage to the floor boards, which have lifted after sand accumulated beneath them and froze. The Clerk will liaise with the annual inspector regarding timing of the forthcoming inspection so the tunnel can be briefly re-opened for assessment. A local carpenter will be sought to obtain quotes for the repair work, which is expected to involve replacement of the base boards and several side boards. Quotes for removal and disposal of contaminated sand will also be obtained. Indicative costs from Touchwood are £905 (minimum) to approximately £1,500 depending on the extent of boards requiring replacement.</p> <p>Swing replacement: A quote of £1,056 (supply only) has been received from Wicksteed for four new seats, chains, and shackles for both cradle and flat swings. Fitting costs are estimated at a further £500, giving an indicative total of approximately £1,500. The council noted this would provide a complete renewal of all swing components.</p> <p>Sand top-up: A previous quote of £862 for 10 tonnes of sand (obtained in November 2025) remains outstanding; this will be revisited once the ground is drier.</p> <p>Zip wire: Cllr Gardner noted that the timber contact points on the zip wire frame are showing signs of deterioration. This will likely be flagged in the forthcoming annual inspection and may require frame replacement in due course. NOTED.</p> <p>Total anticipated costs for playground works this year are approximately £3,000. The Clerk will write to the social group to outline the expected costs and request a contribution, noting that the annual inspection is expected in April and final costs are not yet confirmed.</p>

260318/7iv	<p>Defibrillator — Unmetered Power Supply:</p> <p>The matter of securing an unmetered power supply for the defibrillator remains outstanding. C Cllr Knee agreed to take this matter forward.</p>
260318/7v	<p>Crime Prevention:</p> <p>Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr Neil Smith was absent but had submitted a written report, which was noted.</p> <p>CCTV: Cllr Gardner and Cllr Smith attended a meeting with the Guiting Power Trust, which was highly positive. The Trust is supportive of the CCTV proposals and may be able to contribute towards costs. The Estate Farm has agreed to host a camera providing good coverage of vehicles entering the village. Further quotes are being sought; these are time-limited and will need to be confirmed promptly once a decision is made. The Clerk will review the consultation and data protection requirements once the scheme is finalised.</p>
260318/7vi	<p>May Annual Meeting and Parish Meeting — Dates and Venues:</p> <p>The Clerk advised that holding the annual council meeting and the parish meeting on the same evening would not allow sufficient time to address current agenda items properly. It was agreed to hold them separately. The Annual Parish Council Meeting is confirmed for Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 7pm in the Cochrane Room. The Annual Parish Meeting is confirmed for Thursday 28 May 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. CCTV and the village entry points proposal will be included on the parish meeting agenda. Cllr Knee will book the village hall for 28 May. Refreshments will be offered.</p>
260318/7vii	<p>Local Government Reorganisation Consultation:</p> <p>The Clerk presented a draft council response to the Local Government Reorganisation consultation. The response to support the proposal for one single unitary authority was APPROVED for submission. The Clerk will submit via the online portal by the 26 March 2026 deadline.</p>
260318/7viii	<p>GPPC Website and Councillor Email Addresses:</p> <p>The council website is nearing completion and is expected to be ready for review in the first part of the following week. Councillor email addresses have been set up for most members; outstanding addresses are to be resolved. Councillors were asked to provide head-and-shoulders photographs for inclusion on the website.</p>
260318/8	<p>Planning:</p> <p>i) Planning applications received following publication of the agenda: No planning matters were raised.</p>
260318/9	<p>Finance and Governance:</p> <p>i) Statement of accounts and bank reconciliation (as circulated): APPROVED.</p> <p>ii) Payments and receipts (as circulated): APPROVED.</p> <p>iii) Forecast end-of-year financial position and reserves (as circulated): The Clerk’s paper was considered. The forecast year-end balance at 31 March 2026 is approximately £7,000. The council noted that the 2026/27 budget sets a precept of £6,006 with projected expenditure of £5,315, leaving a modest in-year surplus. A general reserve of £2,000 (just over four months’ running costs) was considered appropriate for a council of this size. The remaining balance was discussed for earmarking against specific projects, with members considering the likely costs of playground repairs, village entry gates and CCTV. Following discussion the council RESOLVED to allocate year-end reserves as follows: General reserve £2,000; Playground repairs £1,500; Village gates installation £3,000; CCTV installation £500. It was agreed that earmarked amounts be reviewed and adjusted by resolution as costings are confirmed.</p> <p>iv) Data Protection Policy (as circulated): ADOPTED.</p> <p>v) Freedom of Information / Subject Access Requests Policy/ Publication Scheme (as circulated): ADOPTED.</p>

260318/10	For Information Only: No matters were raised.
260318/11	Next Meeting: Annual Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 7 pm, Cochrane Room, Guiting Power Village Hall.

Approved By _____ Date _____

Guiting Power Parish Council 2025-26								
		Accounts						
		1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026						
Paid	Payee	Memo details	Credit	Debit	Balance	VAT CLAIM	Power/S137	Detail/notes
		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 31/03/25			6570.60			
14/04/2025	HMRC	Final quarter		147.40	6423.20			
14/04/2025	Clerk	Salary Final Quarter		667.38	5755.82			
14/04/2025	PATA	Annual subscription		96.00	5659.82			
14/04/2025	GAPTC	Annual subscription		96.29	5563.53			
17/04/2025	Cotswold DC	Precept 75%	3604.00		9167.53			
22/04/2025	Lloyds	Service fee		4.25	9163.28			Bank reconciled 30/04/2025
19/05/2025	Lloyds	Service fee		4.25	9159.03			
28/05/2025	Fiona Formby	Parish Meeting refreshments		35.36	9123.67			
28/05/2025	Playsafety	Annual Inspection		105.60	9018.07	17.60		
28/05/2025	Community First	Insurance		239.50	8778.57			
17/06/2025	Lloyds	Service fee		4.25	8774.32			Bank reconciled 30/06/2025
07/07/2025	Per Pro	Audit fees transfer (error)	105.00		8879.32			
08/07/2025	Guiting Power Amenity	Defib donation	50		8929.32			
08/07/2025	Guiting Power Amenity	Five year playground lease		5.00	8924.32			
18/07/2025	Lloyds	Service fee		4.25	8920.07			
18/07/2025	Const Piece	Audit fees error reconciliation		210.00	8710.07			
18/07/2025	HMRC	PAYE 1st Quarter		166.80	8543.27			
18/07/2025	Clerk	Salary 1st quarter		745.49	7797.78			
18/08/2025	Lloyds	Service Fee		4.25	7793.53			Bank reconciled 31/08/2025
16/09/2025	Lloyds	Service Fee		4.25	7789.28			
25/09/2025	CDC	Precept balance	1201		8990.28			
03/10/2025	Clerk salary	Second quarter and pay award		752.23	8238.05			
03/10/2025	HMRC	Second quarter and pay award		168.40	8069.65			
03/10/2025	PATA	Pay award calculations		15.00	8054.65			
03/10/2025	GPPC Village Hall	Room hire		20.00	8034.65			
20/10/2025	Lloyds	Service fees		4.25	8030.40			Bank Reconciled 31/10/2025
17/11/2025	Dawn Rimmer	Newsletter		53.69	7976.71			
18/11/2025	Lloyds	Service fee		4.25	7972.46			
16/12/2025	Lloyds	Service fee		4.25	7968.21			Bank Reconciled 31/12/2025
13/01/2026	HMRC	Third quarter		148.09	7820.12			
13/01/2026	Clerk salary	Third quarter		748.66	7071.46			
13/01/2026	Fiona Formy	Xmas tree expenses		19.50	7051.96			
13/01/2026	Lloyds	Service charges		4.25	7047.71			
17/02/2026	Lloyds	Service charges		4.25	7043.46			Bank reconciled 28/02/2026
	Total		4960.00	4487.14	7043.46			

Guiting Power Parish Council
PARK VIEW
HONINGTON
SHIPSTON ON STOUR
WARWICKSHIRE
CV36 5AA

Your Account

Sort Code 30-91-87
Account Number 00896036

COMMUNITY ACCOUNT

01 February 2026 to 28 February 2026

Money In	£0.00	Balance on 01 February 2026	£7,047.71
Money Out	£4.25	Balance on 28 February 2026	£7,043.46

Your Transactions

Date	Description	Type	Money In (£)	Money Out (£)	Balance (£)
17 Feb 26	SERVICE CHARGES REF : 476258879	PAY		4.25	7,043.46

Transaction types

BGC Bank Giro Credit	BP Bill Payments	CHG Charge	CHQ Cheque
COR Correction	CPT Cashpoint	DD Direct Debit	DEB Debit Card
DEP Deposit	FEE Fixed Service	FPI Faster Payment In	FPO Faster Payment Out
MPI Mobile Payment In	MPO Mobile Payment Out	PAY Payment	SO Standing Order
TFR Transfer			

Month	Bal B/FWD	Expenditure											
	6570.6	Clerk salary	Expenses/ bank charges	PATA	HMRC	Donation	Meetings/ Xmas Lights	Subs/charges	Training	Defib	Playground	S137	Insurance
April		£ 667.38	£ 4.25	£ 96.00	£ 147.40			£ 96.29					
May			£ 4.25				£ 35.36				£ 105.60		£ 239.50
June			£ 4.25										
July		£ 745.49	£ 4.25		£ 166.80			£ 105.00			£ 5.00		
August			£ 4.25										
September			£ 4.25										
October		£ 752.23	£ 4.25	£ 15.00	£ 168.40		£ 20.00						
November			£4.25			£ 53.69							
December			£4.25										
January		£ 748.66	£ 4.25		£ 148.09		£ 19.50						
February			£ 4.25										
March													
		£ 2,913.76	£ 46.75	£ 111.00	£ 630.69	£ 53.69	£ 74.86	£ 201.29	£ -	£ -	£ 110.60	£ -	£ 239.50

Month	Income				TOTAL INCOME
	MISC	PRECEPT	VAT		
April		£ 3,604.00			
May					
June					
July	£ 50.00				
August					
September		£ 1,201.00			
October					
November					
December					
January					
February					
March					
	£ 50.00	£ 4,805.00	£ -	£ -	£ 4,855.00

TOTAL EXP £ 4,382.14

Total Income
Plus Balance B/fwd
Total Expenditure
NET BALANCE C/Fwd

£ 4,855.00
6570.6
£ 4,382.14
£ 7,043.46

Statement reconciliation
28/02/2026

QUITING POWER PARISH COUNCIL

	2025-26	Apr - Oct	Nov-March		2026-27
INCOME	Proposed Budget	Actual	Forecast	Variance	Proposed Budget
Parish Precept	4805	4,805.00	0.00	0.00	6006
TOTAL	4,805.00	4,805.00	0.00	0.00	6,006
Grounds Maintenance	Proposed Budget	Actual		Variance	Proposed Budget
Asset Maintenance/Playground	150	111.00	0.00	39.00	400
Defibrillator	100	0.00	0.00	100.00	55
War Memorial	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
SUB TOTAL	250.00	111.00	0.00	139.00	455
Administration	Proposed Budget	Actual		Variance	Proposed Budget
Clerk Payroll including HMRC	3350	2,647.00	918.00	-215.00	3650
Clerk expenses	110	0.00	75.00	35.00	80
Website and email	0	0.00	215.00	-215.00	150
Room Hire	75	20.00	0.00	55.00	70
Clerk/Councillor Training	75	0.00	0.00	75.00	75
Audit Fee	100	105.00	80.00	-85.00	110
SUB TOTAL	3,710.00	2,772.00	1,288.00	-350.00	4,135
Other	Proposed Budget	Actual		Variance	Proposed Budget
Subscriptions/prof fees	100	207.00	0.00	-107.00	220
Bank Charges	0	30.00	22.00	-52.00	75
Donations/Newsletter	125	0.00	60.00	65.00	125
Annual assembly	50	36.00	0.00	14.00	50
Insurance renewal	560	240.00	0.00	320.00	255
SUB TOTAL	835.00	513.00	82.00	240.00	725
Total Income/Expenditure	Inc/Ex	Actual		Variance	Inc/Ex
Income	4,805.00	4,805.00	0.00	0.00	6,006
Expenditure	4,795.00	3,396.00	1,370.00	29.00	5,315
SUB TOTAL					691
Earmarked Reserves	EOY Balance	Actual		Variance	Surplus/Loss
Balance Brought Forward	6,570.00				
SUB TOTAL	6,570.00				691
Balance YE	6,570.00				7,261.00