

GUITING POWER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting November 19th 2025 held in The Cochrane Room

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

Attending: Clerk Jane Carter, Cllr Len Wilkins, Cllr Tom Bradley

MINUTE	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
251119/1	Apologies for absence: None	
251119/2	Co-option of councillor: one application had been received for the casual vacancy. Olivia Hills was proposed and elected unanimously. The acceptance of office was signed.	
251119/3	To Receive Declarations of Interest from Councillors : none	
251119/4	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held September 17th 2025 were approved and signed as a true record	
251119/5	To receive comments and concerns from the public: No matters raised	
251119/6	<p>To receive report from County Councillor A report had been circulated. Cllr Bradley updated the meeting on LGC reorganisation. A vote would be held end of the month and a single unitary authority for Gloucestershire was the preferred county council choice. Local highways projects were being costed so they could be put in the budget. A grant for health and wellbeing project was available. Cllr Smith raised the Keep Left signs at The Dyers which had been changed, and which now created some confusion. He would send an image and what 3 words to Cllr Bradley to raise with officers.</p> <p>To receive report from District Councillor Len Wilkins: Speculative planning applications continued to be received throughout the Cotswolds. Unitary authority discussions continued at district level. Cllr Smith asked if planning advice was available from CDC planning officers regarding the village hall. Cllr Wilkins would provide contact details.</p>	Cllr Smith
251119/7	<p>Matters Arising: -</p> <p>I. Highways and Village Maintenance Village Gates: a report had been circulated showing the proposed sites for 3 single gates. The sites were agreed. Cllr Knee would confirm the positions and submit to highways. The clerk would obtain quotes once the sizes were confirmed.</p> <p>II. Playground Inspections: Regular inspections had taken place and there were no issues to report. Cllr Gardner had contacted the contractor regarding replacement of the swing chains. The cost was £558 plus fitting. More sand had been quoted at £862 plus VAT. Grants would be investigated plus the cost of replacement swings. Cllr Friend had installed new signage</p> <p>III. Defibrillator: Cllr Friend would get an update and report back to the next meeting</p>	<p>Cllr Knee/Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Friend</p>

	<p>IV. Crime Prevention: The crime prevention evening was well attended by 44 residents. There were now 73 people in the village WhatsApp group</p> <p>V. Neighbourhood Watch group: this had been launched. It was agreed that crime prevention leaflets and stickers be purchased and distributed. A budget of £50 was agreed.</p> <p>VI. CCTV: a report had been circulated by Cllr Smith. It was agreed to approach the Trust to see if they would support the installation of CCTV on trust properties. Cllr Gardner and the clerk would draft the email. Cllr Smith would confirm the proposed sites. The clerk would confirm the legal responsibilities for the council including data ownership and storage. Cllr Smith would seek 3 quotes for the installation of the cameras. Funding may be available via grants and a PWLB loan.</p> <p>VII. Website and clerk email: the clerk had circulated a report and 3 quotes relating to the purchase of a new website. It was agreed that Hugo Fox quote be accepted at £199 plus VAT for set up and £9.99 per month hosting. The agreed domain was www.guitingpowerpc@gov.uk. A new clerk email address would also be set up. The advice regarding councillors having a council owned email address was not mandatory although it was best practice. It was agreed that councillors set up separate email addresses from their current personal emails and that advice be monitored.</p> <p>VIII. Xmas Tree lighting: arrangements for the evening were discussed. Cllr Smith would carry out the risk assessment</p>	<p>Cllr Smith</p> <p>Clerk/Cllr Gardner/Cllr Smith</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Smith</p>
251119/8	Planning applications: none received.	
251119/9	<p>Finance:</p> <p>I. To approve current statement of accounts and bank reconciliation (as circulated)- APPROVED</p> <p>II. To approve payments and note receipts (as circulated)- APPROVED</p> <p>III. To review budget and consider precept submission 2026-27: a draft budget had been circulated showing the income and expenditure forecast for 2026-27 and the forecast balance if the precept was maintained at the current level of £4805. There would be a loss on operations of £500 and reserves would be around £6000 including £2400 ringfenced for the playground. Councillors discussed the proposed forecasts and demands on the budget for projects such as the village gates and CCTV. Grants may be available, but the clerk said it was not good practice to budget for expenditure on the basis grants may be received. Councillors discussed the need for an increase if projects were to be progressed in the upcoming financial year. After discussion it was proposed that the precept be</p>	

	<p>increased by £1201 to £6006. A vote was held and carried 5-2. Cllrs Smith and Ayton-Hill voted against. Cllr Smith requested that it be minute that he believed the increase was excessive and had not been justified.</p> <p>IV. To review assets register inspection and any actions: the assets sheet would be updated with addition of the goalposts.</p>	
251119/10	<p>Matters For Information: Dates of 2026 meetings: January 14th, 2026, March 18th, 2026, May 13th (and Parish Meeting) 2026, July 15th, 2026, September 16th, 2026, November 18th, 2026.</p>	
251119/11	<p>The next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday January 21stth 2026 in the Cochrane Room at 7 p.m. The meeting closed at 21.13 p.m.</p>	

Approved By _____

Date _____

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