

GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs. Yvonne Murray
Telephone (01223) 618619
Email: Clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk
Website: <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk>

The Pavilion
Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton
Cambridge, CB3 0FH

NOTICE of MEETING: GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING FULL COUNCIL
DATE & TIME: Wednesday 12th July at 7.30pm
VENUE: Girton Recreation Ground, Cambridge Road Girton

All Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purposes of resolving Council Business to be transacted at the meeting, as set out below. Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council under the Public Participation item. Advance notice of questions and/or issues, would be appreciated.

Members: 11 **Vacancies: 4** **Quorum: 5**

Members: Cllr Carney (Chair), Cllr Muston (Vice-Chair) Cllr Betts, Cllr Brown, Cllr Clare, Cllr Giles, Cllr Hayat, Cllr Linton, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Williams, Cllr Wright.

Mrs. Yvonne Murray – Clerk to Girton Parish Council
6th July 2023

AGENDA

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
23FC/061	Welcome from the Chair	
23FC/062	To Receive Apologies and Reasons for Absence	For Decision
23FC/063	To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest and Dispensations	To Note
23FC/064	Council to Approve co-option of new Councillor/s	For Decision
23FC/065	<p>Council to consider, review and approve HR Committee recommendation regarding whether Cllr Williams should remain on Council following non-attendance at council meetings for six months.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">At Dec 2022 Full Council: Council approved Agenda Item 22/195 to retain Cllr Haydn Williams as a councillor following non-attendance at council meetings for 6 months.Following a further six months absence by Cllr Williams. At June 2023 Full Council: Council approved the following amended motion under Agenda Item 23FC/048 - Amended Motion 2: Extend the 6-month deadline by 1 month for Council to fully consider all emails and past actions at next HR Meeting before Council comes to a decision about retention of Cllr Williams.	For Decision
23FC/066	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>To allow a total of 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting in relation to any matter on the agenda. Individual presentations to be limited to 5 minutes on any single issue</p>	15 Mins

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
23FC/067	To Receive Reports <i>(for information only)</i>	10 Mins
23FC/067.1	County Councillor	
23FC/067.2	District Councillors	
23FC/067.3	Girton Town Charity (No Report for this month)	
23FC/067.4	Clerk's Report	
23FC/067.5	Chair's Report	
23FC/068	To Approve Minutes of Girton Parish Council Full Council Meetings: 14 th June 2023	For Decision
23FC/069	Matters arising from Previous Meetings <i>(for information only)</i>	For Information
23FC/069.1	Action List (To be shown at meeting)	
23FC/069.2	Any other Matters arising – A chance to raise any comments/concerns on previous agenda items	
23FC/070	To Receive update from GPC Committees & Working Groups <i>(For information only)</i>	To Note
23FC/070.1	Environment Committee	
23FC/070.2	Local Nature Recovery Working Group	
23FC/070.3	Footpath Officer's Report (No Report this month)	
23FC/070.4	Water Management Report (No Report this month)	
23FC/070.5	Finance & Resource Management Committee	
23FC/070.6	HR Committee	
23FC/070.7	CAPALC Report (See HR Report)	
23FC/070.8	Planning Committee (No report this month)	
23FC/070.9	Sport & Recreation Committee	
23FC/070.10	Events Working Group (Verbal update on Girton Feast to be given at end of meeting. See 23FC/072.8)	
23FC/070.11	Bowls Club Working Group (No report this month) Work due to begin post 12 th June on GBC Chair's return from holiday, GBC to provide dates asap.	
23FC/070.12	Pavilion Refurbishment Task & Finish Group	
23FC/071	To Approve Finance and Resource Management	For Decision
23FC/071.1	To note payment of accounts under delegated approval	To Note
23FC/071.2	To Approve payment of outstanding accounts due	For Decision
23FC/071.3	To Receive a report from Facilities Manager on Amounts paid in	To Note
23FC/072	Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council	For Decision
23FC/072.1	Council to approve order of items on Full Council Agenda to place 'Business Decisions' first on Full Council Agenda going forward. (Verbal update)	For Decision
23FC/072.2	Committee to approve Finance Committee recommendation to accept Streets £500.00 fee for reclaiming VAT on MUGA maintenance in 2019 under new guidelines. Deadline for claim September 2023	For Decision
23FC/072.3	Council to approve Finance Committee recommendation for £500 Annual donation and £500 request for fix to Irrigation System from Girton Bowls Club	For Decision
23FC/072.4	Council to approve re-wording of annual contribution to Girton Bowls Club from 'Annual donation' to 'Maintenance Contribution'.	For Decision
23FC/072.5	Council to consider whether to write to the developer and/or Planning department regarding the result of the inquiry focusing on the lack of Health Provision to support a care home on the Hotel Felix site. See Agenda Item 23FC/049 Public Participation from June Minutes.	For Decision

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
23FC/072.6	<p>Council to approve logo for Girton Parish Council Logo designs included in this pack and will be on show at our Full Council meeting on Wednesday 12th July. They were also on show at Girton Feast on 8th July. Thank you to all the entrants.</p>	For Decision
23FC/072.7	<p>Council to note the recommendations of Finance Committee to Budget process for remainder of 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 See Draft Finance Committee Minutes from 5th July meeting.</p>	To Note
23FC/072.8	<p>Council to note activities at Girton Feast on Saturday 6th July</p>	To Note
23FC/073	<p>To Receive Correspondence addressed to the Council</p>	To Note
23FC/074	<p>To Approve Communication of items from this Agenda <i>This item is designed to ensure that Council can approve key items of communication from this meeting on Council Website, Facebook, and Twitter.</i></p>	For Decision
23FC/075	<p>Date of next meeting(s): 9th August 2023 at 7.30pm</p>	To Note

Guidance For Visitors to Girton Parish Council

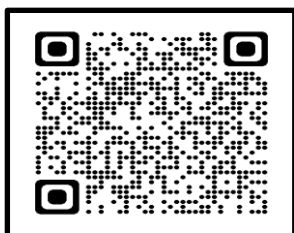
The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0FH.

Tel: 01223 618619

NOTICES FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Parish Council Agenda

A full copy of this agenda with appendices and reports may be found on the Parish website at <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/girton-parish-council/> or requested from the Clerk. Our Village Noticeboards will include a copy of the agenda only including this guidance page. Webpage QR Code below.



Public Participation

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting and any other Girton Parish Council public meeting. If you wish to raise a question or topic at the meeting it will help us if you contact the clerk, who will be pleased to explain the procedure. Clerk email: clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk. Members of the public may address the Council within an allotted time of **15 minutes** during Public Participation on the agenda.

Exclusion of Press and Public

The press and public are likely to be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972, exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended.

Items to be confirmed here/

First Aid

If you feel unwell or need first aid, please alert a member of staff.

Toilets

Public toilets are available on the ground floor of the Pavilion in the corridor through the double doors in the Community Hall. These include facilities for disabled people.

Recording of Business and Use of Mobile Phones

Girton Parish Council are open and transparent about how we make decisions. The Council may record public meetings. Recording, filming and photography at Council, Committee and other meetings is allowed where members of the public can attend, so long as proceedings at the meeting are not disrupted. Members of the public may not speak during Council proceedings. We also allow the use of social media during meetings to bring Council issues to the attention of a wider audience. To minimise disturbance to others attending the meeting, please switch your phone or other mobile device to silent/ vibrate mode.

Smoking

No one can smoke at any time within the Pavilion or at any Council meeting.

STRATEGY & RESOURCES

Financial update

Cambridgeshire County Council ended the past financial year (2022/23) with a overspend of just 0.2% of its annual budget.

Despite high and persistent levels of inflation on all goods and services the Council buys, the Council kept its overspend to just £728,000, a figure it had been predicting with some accuracy for the second half of the year.

The Council set its 2022/3 budget in February 2022 at a time of great uncertainty, but this was before the shocks of the Truss budget in the autumn of 2022 and during the very early stages of the war in Ukraine. During the year which followed inflation reached record highs, meaning that in-year the Council had to manage more than £43M of additional pressures.

The final position shows that increases in some areas such as high levels of inflation in home to school transport, lower than expected income in some areas due to a slow recovery from COVID, and the impact of a national shortage (and consequent spiralling costs) of placements for children with very specialist mental health needs had largely been mitigated by underspends elsewhere.

The central issue remains however that Cambridgeshire County Council is woefully underfunded by central government, leaving residents of this county severely disadvantaged. We have also seen the effects of long term underfunding, for example the recent problems with the condition of the roads.

Cambridgeshire is a growing county, but despite this our funding formula remains fixed to population figures from more than ten years ago. In effect, while more Cambridgeshire residents are contributing to national taxes, our settlement has not been updated to supporting the area's direct local needs, leaving the council with problems to fix that will need many years of detailed work, not just short-term patching. The leaders of all four political groups on the county council wrote again to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up earlier this year, putting the case for change and a funding settlement which truly meets Cambridgeshire's local needs, but received no acknowledgement.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Holiday Activities and Food programme

The Council's summer HAF programme, funded by the Department for Education, is open for bookings. Children in receipt of income-related free school meals can book a holiday scheme place for 64 hours, subject to availability. Each scheme offers enriching experiences, a meal and snacks.

The HAF Team can arrange transport for families unable to access the programme otherwise. Ukrainian and other refugee families are also eligible for places as well as families 'just about managing' financially.

There is a video on YouTube youtu.be/WSOEpJIXY5c showing what's involved.

And look out for the HAF Programme on Facebook and Twitter too.

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-with-the-cost-of-living/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/haf-provider-directory

Special educational needs support

Support for parents and carers of the approximately 15,000 children with special educational needs and disability (SEND) in Cambridgeshire is now available at the click of a button through a new information hub. The website was developed with local experts including parents, health professionals, and community organisations such as Speak Out Council and PinPoint. The tool was produced to help families and young people to navigate the special needs journey and access information and advice. send.cambridgeshire.gov.uk **COMMUNITIES, SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION (COSMIC)**

Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund

The Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund is now open for applications. Expressions of interest must be made by 24 September, and applicants who are successful at this stage will be invited to submit a Stage 2 application. Applicants can be any community organization or parish council and even businesses although the case for public benefit must be clear.

The upper limit for bids is £40,000, and these must be for community capital projects to improve or upgrade community buildings and assets, while supporting the Council to achieve at least three of its seven strategic ambitions.

- Net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2045, and our communities and natural environment are supported to adapt and thrive as the climate changes.
- Travel across the county is safer and more environmentally sustainable.
- Health inequalities are reduced.
- People enjoy healthy, safe, and independent lives through timely support that is most suited to their needs.
- People are helped out of poverty and income inequality.
- Places and communities prosper because they have a resilient and inclusive economy, access to good quality public services and social justice is prioritised.
- Children and young people have opportunities to thrive.

These projects could be for Men's Sheds, fitout work for a foodbank, funding equipment – any capital expenditure where it would benefit the local community. It may help the application to add some matching funding but it is not necessary. The restrictions are for projects that have had funding previously or where the projects are purely routine maintenance, there must be additional public benefit. Guidance and the EOI template are on the website:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/cambridgeshire-priorities-capital-fund

Decentralisation projects

The COSMIC committee is being asked to endorse a series of pilot decentralisation projects, starting this month. There are different kinds of project and more information will be available at a later date.

Quality of life survey

The Council has launched a countywide survey, speaking to a random sample of 5,500 residents to understand their views on the quality of their lives.

The Council aims to make this an annual survey so it can track the responses over time to see how Council decisions and policies—and the work of other public sector bodies in the county—affect residents' views.

The telephone survey, run by an independent market research company Thinks Insight, aims to speak to 1,100 people aged 18+ living in each of the five Cambridgeshire district areas. The company will also be talking to people from specific groups who are less often heard from including people who may have been homeless or are from migrant or Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities. If you are approached the market research team will identify themselves as working on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council and will give the council's main contact number to allow people to check. No one will be asked for identifying personal details, or any financial information.

The Council is also planning a specific piece of work with younger people via our youth engagement teams.

However, anyone in Cambridgeshire who wants to do so can take part by responding online until Friday 4 August.
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/quality-of-life-survey

Equality, diversity and inclusion

The Council has developed a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy. This focuses on the Council's own workforce, communities and services, with three guiding principles—taking evidence-based action, listening to the voices of everyone, and having a transparent and robust approach that delivers meaningful change. Many services are affected by staffing shortages and the Council is restricted on what it can pay staff, so it is vital to do as much as

possible to make the Council an attractive place to work so that shortages impact residents' services as little as possible.

CONSTITUTION & ETHICS

Changes to the Council's constitution

The Council requested, and has now received, an independent review of its governance arrangements, carried out by the Centre for Governance & Scrutiny.

The report made a number of recommendations which were considered by the Council's Constitution & Ethics Committee last month. The committee agreed to recommend these changes to the Full Council for consideration at its meeting this month. They include the addition of performance and strategic partnerships to the responsibilities of the Strategy & Resources Committee, and the creation of a new Assets & Procurement Committee.

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

Memory Wood

On 15 June the Leader of the Council and pupils from Fulbourn primary school marked the naming of a Covid memorial woodland at Lower Valley Farm in Fulbourn. The Council planted the woodland earlier this year, and the pupils held a competition to name it. Memory Wood was the winning entry, and we unveiled the name board.

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Defra has now published guidance on how it wishes to see Local Nature Recovery

Strategies being prepared. The Combined Authority is responsible for the preparation of Cambridgeshire's strategy, and has contracted this responsibility to the county council together with Natural Cambridgeshire.

Meanwhile work on the Council's Biodiversity Strategy is progressing well, with survey work ongoing this month to provide a baseline of the biodiversity status of the Council's important sites and help identify plans for enhancement.

Energy projects

Babraham Park & Ride: all the panels on the solar carports in the main car park have now been installed, and work is to follow on the remainder of the car park. 35 EV chargers will be installed later this year, fifteen of these on behalf of the Greater Cambridge Partnership.

St Ives Park & Ride: all solar carports have been constructed, and the next step is to build the microgrid energy centre and substation which will allow the project to connect to the grid and switch on.

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Local Highways Improvements

The Highways & Transport Committee has delegated to the relevant Executive Director authority for the approval of recommendations for this year's Local Highways Improvement. He will make the final decisions in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee. Applications from Girton and Dry Drayton scored highly and there are reasons to be hopeful for a good outcome.

It is not too early to think about the next round of applications. The proposed application window for the next round of highways improvement bids are as follows:

- Application window opens: Friday 27 October 2023
- Application window closes: Friday 12 January 2024 midday
- Feasibility studies undertaken: February to May 2024
- Panel meetings: June and July 2024
- Report to committee including prioritised list for approval: September 2024

FIRE AUTHORITY

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service and Fire Authority councillors have been left surprised and concerned after being given notice that Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service is withdrawing from its highly successful Combined Control collaboration at the end of 2024. This collaboration, where the Fire Services have worked together to provide a control system service that both use, has been an example of collaboration which has been recognized nationally and over the last 13 years has saved council tax payers around £12m. It is entirely unclear why Suffolk wish to take their control service in house, and the ending of cost sharing will mean additional costs incurred in Cambridgeshire in the region of £0.5m pa. We are working on this to ensure that the service is effective and unaffected by these challenges.

GIRTON MATTERS

Tree strategy

Following a request from the Parish Council please find the strategy below. The County Council has an interim tree strategy which addresses trees on County land including highways. It is only interim because when we took over the administration we had been left with targets for biodiversity etc increases but no baseline from which to measure progress. The Council has commissioned a tree canopy survey whose results should then enable any proposals for target increases to be meaningful. We decided to do an interim strategy in the meantime, as without that it would be difficult to attract potential funding. But we will obviously be continuing to develop this further when we have more information.

The interim strategy and action plan is linked at

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-andenvironment/improving-the-natural-environment/trees-and-woodland>

Huntingdon Road cycle lane approaching the Eddington lights

There have been a number of incidents here of cars encroaching the cycle lane and in some cases causing cyclists to be knocked off their bikes. Observation shows that at busy times eg when children are being taken to school, traffic builds up and cars move into the cycle lane. This is not a case of the odd bad driver, there does seem to be a problem with the road layout that in some sense 'encourages' drivers to move into the cycle lane (an assumption that the road has demerged into 2 lanes sooner than it actually has). This has been raised with council officers who are considering what measures might be taken to reduce the risks for cyclists. One suggestion is to have 'wands' in the road at the vulnerable point just after the bus stop, to protect the cycle lane. Officers will consider this and report back.

Cllr Edna Murphy
County Councillor for the Bar Hill Division

Email: edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01223 577005

District Councillors 'Report to Girton Parish Council – July 2023

Cllr Corinne Garvie: 07780 932267, cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk

Cllr Richard Stobart: 07950 934793, cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk

South Cambridgeshire District Council: 01954 713000, www.scambs.gov.uk

South Cambs News

This useful magazine is not reaching all households. The distributor is short of deliverers and is inviting volunteers to deliver the magazine four times per year in their local area. They will be paid by the distributor. Please contact Corinne for more information

Internet Connectivity

Some areas have poor connectivity with low data rates and intermittent connection. If you have poor internet connectivity, please advise residents send the details to Connecting.Cambridgeshire@cambridgeshire.gov.uk and copy one of us so that we can develop the wider view of what's happening.

New Mobile Food Hub

A new Mobile Food Hub, funded by the District Council and run by the not-for profit organisation, Hope CIC, is being launched to further support communities during the cost of living crisis.

Fresh produce and essential items, some of which will be free and others at below retail price, will be brought directly to villages around South Cambridgeshire to help people with rising food prices. It is the first service of its kind in the district.

The initiative was launched amid figures from the [Consumer Prices Index](#) in April which showed food shopping bills have risen by almost 20% in the last year.

The Mobile Food Hub will visit Papworth, Orchard Park and Duxford weekly, with further locations to be confirmed. It made its first stop in Duxford on Thursday 29 June. The villages have been selected based on Census deprivation data, mapped against where current foodbanks and food hubs operate from.

Any resident struggling with increasing costs, **including those who live outside of these villages**, can access this Mobile Food Hub by turning up on the day. No vouchers or referrals are needed.

The van will be easily identifiable via the Mobile Food Hub logo and the Council is encouraging any resident who feels they may benefit from it, whether once or regularly, to make full use of the service.

There will be a mix of fresh and long-life food on offer. Food is coming from both donations and purchasing from local suppliers. Residents will also be able to buy essential affordable items.

Cllr Bill Handley, South Cambridgeshire District Council's Lead Cabinet Member for Communities, said: "This food hub serves two purposes. On the one hand, the charity collects food (often from supermarkets) such as fresh fruit and vegetables that are still perfectly edible, but which would otherwise be discarded. Customers will have the option of making a donation to support the hub if they wish.

There is more information [here](#). Please advise residents. We'd also be happy to collect feedback on the scheme.

Successful Performance outlined in year end report

District councillors heard about successful performance in a meeting on achievement in areas like environmental protection, affordable homes and growing business.

Additionally, a "mystery shopper" update given during the meeting, showed almost nine in ten people (88%) spoke to a contact centre team member on their first attempt when ringing South Cambridgeshire District Council and 100% were offered help or assistance.

The Business Plan Progress Report is a year-end report covering the Council's four key areas of growing local businesses and economies, affordable housing, being green to the core and being a modern and caring Council. The reports were reviewed by SCDC's Scrutiny and Overview committee on 8th June 2023, and you can check the reports [here](#).

Cambridgeshire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme 2023

This summer, we are once again helping to spread the word about Cambridgeshire County Council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, funded by the Department for Education. Children in receipt of benefits-related free school meals can access a holiday scheme for up to 64 hours over the summer. The County Council have registered 145 participating schemes, who are offering enriching experiences, a daily meal and physical activity to over 3,000 children and young people. Ukrainian and other refugee families are also eligible to attend as well as families struggling financially. We will be sharing this information on our social media feeds and would appreciate it if you would do the same. Further details are available on the [County Council website](#) and there is also a [new promotional video](#) aimed at awareness raising with parents.

2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review – message from Boundary Commission for England

“Following the submission of our final report to the Speaker of the House of Commons on 27 June, we have been informed today that the report has been laid in Parliament. We have therefore published the recommendations on our website, at <https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/>

Our role in the 2023 Boundary Review is now complete. Following the laying of our report in Parliament, the Government must now prepare the Order to give effect to our recommendations. Any questions about the implementation of our recommendations should be put to the Government.”

Cllr Garvie and I can share the new constituency map for St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire. We can also take other questions about elections and voter ID and review them with SCDC officers as needed.

HSE's guidance on running events safely this summer

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) website has a selection of [guidance about running events safely this summer](#). Large-scale outdoor events such as festivals, sporting events and concerts are increasingly popular, regularly attracting large crowds of people. HSE's [guidance provides some useful additional advice for organisers to help them run such events safely](#). HSE's website also includes [guidance for organisers on how to plan, manage and monitor an event](#) as well as [guidance on how to manage crowds safely](#)

Fly-tipping

We have had a serious incident of fly tipping in Girton last week (Monday 26th June 2023). The quantity and nature of the waste meant that a grab lorry was needed. This need for specialised equipment may have led to the delay in removing the materials.

Please report any incident of fly tipping. If you see it taking place please call 999 and report to the police. Always use the reporting form to report the incident to SCDC who will arrange for an investigation and for the waste to be collected.

The reporting form and other information about fly tipping are [here](#). We have asked about the procedure that the SCDC waste team follows, and in particular what responsibility lies with the Parish Council to label the site and how feedback can be provided to residents. We're also interested in how effective the nearby camera proved to be during this most recent incident.

Making Connections - the next steps

On 21st June, the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) held an Extraordinary Joint Assembly/Executive Board meeting and a separate Executive Board meeting to discuss a revised package of measures to upgrade public transport, improve air quality and cut congestion on the roads.

On Thursday 29th June, following a lengthy debate, the Executive Board outlined the need for the region's transport network to be upgraded to support its growing needs and decided that - while no options should be taken off the table at this stage - the original Making Connections scheme should be modified.

The five members of the Board requested officers to develop a revised package of measures to transform the way people travel around Greater Cambridge, reflecting the public's feedback to the Making Connections consultation and following discussions with the Joint Assembly.

In the autumn a detailed proposal will be brought back to the GCP's Joint Assembly for scrutiny before the Executive Board decides whether and how to proceed with any scheme.

The updated proposal could include changes to the operating hours of a Sustainable Travel Zone and a more extensive package of exemptions – including possible free days for account holders or no charge for hospital patients and visitors.

Any potential scheme would be phased in over time with the GCP committing £50m of upfront investment in the region's transport infrastructure to improve public transport and active travel.

You can watch the meetings again at: www.youtube.com/greatercambridgepartnership

If you have any questions, please let us know by email or by phone.

Corinne Garvie, Richard Stobart
6th July 2023

Clerk's Report

July 2023

Congratulations to Council and to Girton on the average score and position achieved by GPC in the presentation of the bid confirmed in Cllr Carney's report. I believe this shows the power when Councils and Communities work together. The terrific response rate to the survey both online and the paper survey in Girton Parish News showed our County Council that the voices of Girton and Oakington's Communities were an integral part of the bid!

Your help is needed again for the Neighbourhood plan survey issued on 1st July and ending on 31st July. This survey is an opportunity for everyone of all ages to confirm what their vision is for the place where they live. A Neighbourhood plan once approved by the Community carries weight with local government especially in planning is probably one of the most important surveys you will receive.

For me and my GPC staff team this month has seen a lot of working with the Community both through correspondence and through preparation for the Feast. It was great to see our Groundsman, Chris Wilson giving an important speech on Teamwork to Girton Colts on Feast Saturday and also the many gifts he received to Thank him for his consistent work on delivering their pitches time after time.

It was also a pleasure to help (in a very small way) to support the Feast Activities by providing the well-organised Feast Committee with some of the materials they needed to run this fantastic event over the weekend of 7th and 8th of July.

Thanks also to South Cambridgeshire District Council for emptying some very full bins on Friday 7th July and ensuring their team attended again on Monday 10th July to make sure that the bins were empty after the Feast Activities.

The Parish Council was pleased to work with three of our partners to bring four stalls to this year's feast. As well as the Girton Parish Council stall this year there were stalls for South Cambridgeshire District Council, Neighbourhood Plan Group, Local Nature Recovery Group to bring as much representation as we could to the community on Feast Day. Thank you to all of you who called at each of these stalls to give your comments to us. Some important information on what matters to the Community has been collected.

Other Correspondence this month has focused on:

- Treatment of Grass Verges
- Fly Tipping
- Emptying bins on Huntingdon Road
- Village Planters
- GPC Logo Competition

Many of the above have now been actioned or will be brought to Council in the next two months. Thank you to all residents who have raised topics for consideration and decision by Council. Thanks also to all of you who took place in the Logo competition which is an agenda item for July's Full Council.

Council has come a long way since I started as Clerk and I find that these small but important changes often appear in the Agenda's issued each month. This month many motions have been reviewed and recommended by Council Committees. With a provisional full year of meetings in Calendar this increased organization seems to help decrease the time Councillors need to spend on Council business. There are four council posts available for co-option and I hope this news will encourage more Councillors with busy home and work lives to apply.

This summer I hope to spend most of my time working with my team to increase the organization and community engagement of Council as we will be working on Parish Council Policy, increased budgetary process and also Terms and Conditions for our Recreation users. I will keep you updated on progress in my next report.

Girton Parish Council: Chair's report July 2023

CLr Daniel Carney

It was highly gratifying to see that the LHI application, made in conjunction with Oakington & Westwick PC, for introducing safety improvements on Oakington Rd was scored very highly by the panel assessing the applications for South Cambridgeshire, with an average score of 4/5, second of all the schemes in the district. That the panel agreed that demonstrable local support had been shown was particularly pleasing. We expect this means that the scheme will be highly prioritised by CCC. The Highways committee met on July 4th but, at time of writing, I have not seen the outcome of this meeting.

I, along with CLr Murphy, was able to meet with several key members of CCC's staff with regards bridleways 99/5 and 99/6, and footpath 99/4. It was a useful opportunity to spell out local grievances with the shortcomings of the ROWs in this part of the village and get some clarity on CCC's take on the issues. Whilst it is clear that there is not currently resource available to make progress in this area all parties agree upgrading 99/4 and 99/5 is of significant use and importance. In order to help get progress it would be beneficial if we are able to show local support for upgrading these paths, and I intend to start consultation later in the year.

Finally, after quite a bit of pestering from myself and several other councillors, the signs at the junction of the A1307 and The Avenue have been reinstated. Hopefully this will make this junction significantly safer, but we should look out for the reoccurrence of any dangerous incidents there.

Some particularly egregious fly tipping has been observed down Washpit Lane, where tens of bin bags were dumped. South Cambs have been alerted but, at time of writing, this has not been cleared up. As this is a slightly out of the way location it is possible that this could happen again, and some consideration should be given as to if there are reasonable methods to prevent a repeat. Regardless, please do report any fly tipping to South Cambs.

I look forward to reporting on the Girton Feast in my next report, but this month it was great to be able to drop in on Girton Bowls Club's Open Triples competition at the bowls green. The rinks were packed with competitors and many players made a point of praising the state of the green to me. This was also a good opportunity to talk to a number of club members about measures to address the lack of straightforward access to toilets at the green. Whilst members were very willing to point out their frustration with the current situation, all those that I spoke to were greatly appreciative that we are more actively engaged in three-way dialogue. It was helpful to have some frank conversations about what possible ways forward there are, along with the obstacles and limitations.

Outside of Girton, the latest works in the Darwin Green project have involved closing the footway and cycle path on Histon Road, severely disrupting the active travel links from the southern parts of Girton to Orchard Park, Arbury and, in particular, Impington Village College. A series of objections have been raised by councillors representing Histon & Impington and I have added my concerns regarding the links with Girton to this.

GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs. Yvonne Murray
 Telephone (01223) 618619
 Email: Clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk
 Website: <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk>

The Pavilion
 Girton Recreation Ground
 Cambridge Road, Girton
 Cambridge, CB3 0FH

NOTICE of MEETING: **GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL**
MEETING **FULL COUNCIL**
DATE & TIME: **Wednesday 14th June at 7.30pm**
VENUE: **Girton Recreation Ground, Cambridge Road Girton**

Members: 11 Vacancies: 4 Quorum: 5

MINUTES

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
<p>Members: [9] Cllr Carney (Chair), Cllr Muston (Vice-Chair), Cllr Betts, Cllr Brown, Cllr Clare, Cllr Giles, Cllr Hayat, Cllr Linton, Cllr Marshall. Present: Yvonne Murray (GPC Clerk), Angie Vidler (Facilities Manager) Members of the Public: Six</p>		
23FC/044	<p>Welcome from the Chair Cllr Carney thanked everyone for attending on this sunny and warm evening.</p>	
23FC/045	<p>To Receive Apologies and Reasons for Absence: Cllr Williams, Cllr Wright</p>	Approved
23FC/046	<p>To Receive Members’ Declarations of Interest and Dispensations</p> <p>Cllr Carney - Partner is a trustee of Cotton Hall. Cllr Giles - Member of the LNRP group. Cllr Betts - Member of Girton Cricket Club. Cllr Brown - Neighbor of Sloe Farm.</p>	Noted
23FC/047	<p>Council to Approve co-option of new Councillor/s - Not Applicable</p>	Not Applicable
23FC/048	<p>Council approves the retention of Cllr Haydn Williams as a councillor following non-attendance at council meetings for a further 6 months.</p> <p><i>Note: Agenda Item 22/195 approved in Dec 2022 Full Council to approve the retention of Cllr Haydn Williams as a councillor following non-attendance at council meetings for 6 months. Cllr Williams has as at the date of this Agenda been unable to attend for 12 months.</i></p> <p>Approval: Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Clare seconded.</p> <p>Debate Highlights: Cllr Carney confirmed that Cllr Williams had not been able to attend Council meetings for the last 12 months. Cllr Williams had made efforts to contribute to Council business over that time. Cllr Carney noted that Cllr Williams wished to retain his position and that is why this further item had come to the agenda to approve an extension for him to remain on council even though he had not attended for 12 months.</p>	Approved See Amended Motion 2

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p>Cllr Muston stated that Cllr Williams contributions are welcomed. She had considered retaining him on council however, having looked at other council forums felt it might be in his best interests for him to step back at the moment and consider being co-opted when he can attend meetings.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall gave a public apology to Full Council and Cllr Williams for the way he conducted himself during some of the early meetings. However, he felt unable to apologise for mentioning what he regarded as issues of behaviour which have, historically, affected a number of Council members. As a result, Cllr Marshall suggested an amendment to the original motion:</p> <p><u>Amended Approval 1:</u> <i>Cllr Marshall proposed. Cllr Muston seconded.</i></p> <p><u>Amended Motion 1:</u> Extend the 6-month deadline by 2 months for Council to fully consider all emails and past actions before Council comes to a decision about retention of Cllr Williams.</p> <p><u>Amended Approval 2:</u> <i>Cllr Clare proposed. Cllr Betts seconded. 7 in Favour, 2 Against.</i></p> <p><u>Amended Motion 2:</u> Extend the 6-month deadline by 1 month for Council to fully consider all emails and past actions at next HR Meeting before Council comes to a decision about retention of Cllr Williams.</p> <p>There was then a discussion about whether a councillor who did not attend meetings should influence any motions within a meeting or whether they had any voting powers.</p> <p>GPC Clerk stated that there should be no predetermination and advice requested from CAPALC had confirmed that opinions of absent Councillors should not be taken into account in a vote. Absent councillors could give information for consideration and state their opinions in the same way as the public.</p> <p>Cllr Muston confirmed that the next HR Meeting was scheduled for July 5th.</p>	
23FC/049	<p>Public Participation</p> <p><u>Member of the Public 1</u></p> <p>This member of the public wanted to speak regarding the recent decision to allow the appeal regarding the Hotel Felix. She fully supported the Chairman’s concerns around health provision and asked if it was possible for anything to be done about the decision of the appeal. She reminded GPC about the fact that Huntingdon Road surgery had no further capacity to support this care home which is a matter of great concern to residents and to the Parish.</p> <p>The long list of conditions attached to the inspector’s report was noted and she would like to know who is responsible for imposing these conditions. Is it the role of the GCP, oversight of some other bodies or communication with residents?</p> <p>She reminded Girton Parish Council of the good communication from GTC to residents in Girton High Street about Dovehouse Court building project and noted this communication not only provided information but also ensured goodwill.</p>	15 Mins

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p>She noted Para 12, page 3 of the Inspectors Report entitled: 'Effect on the openness of the Green Belt' which seemed to be a shift of emphasis. This paragraph talks about the character of the location and then goes on to note there are recent under construction developments nearby. This language can possibly be read as the 'thin end of the wedge.'</p> <p>She felt at a time when Girton was making huge and valuable efforts to create a village plan she would not like this development to impinge on what Girton was trying to do.</p> <p>Cllr Carney suggested some of the above questions could be directed to our District Councillors.</p> <p>Cllr Richard Stobart noted that the concern around Health provision was raised in the original planning application. He felt it was a question of enforcement. He will check on this with GCP Planning.</p> <p>Cllr Muston noted that everything raised by Member of Public 1 had been in her report which she presented at the public enquiry. She felt she made it clear to the enquiry about Green Belt, the Hospital position, and the fact there were no surgeries. She noted GPC had raised these items and would continue to raise them. She felt it was clear GPC were not listened too.</p> <p>Hotel Felix Inspectors Report: https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Hotel-Felix-Appeal-decision-3307903.pdf</p> <p><u>Member of the Public 2</u></p> <p>This member of the public lived opposite Sloe Fen Farm. He confirmed he was opposed to the Planning Application. He noted that Sloe Farm was on Green Belt land and the application had formerly been rejected by Girton Parish Council. It had been approved by GPC in the last planning meeting and *he believed that the Planning Committee had also suggested they would attend the GCP meeting to support the application. (* See final para of Agenda Item 23FC/057.1)</p> <p>He felt GPC's Approval set a dangerous precedent around building on Green Belt land. He noted to approve any development on Green Belt Land there must be a justification why such a construction is needed.</p> <p>On application to GCP Planning under Policy E/16 any planning application needs to be an expansion of an existing business. That business must be successful and must have been active for at least two years.</p> <p>The landowner had confirmed it was not a business, it was a hobby. This member of the public asked how such a basic planning requirement can be overlooked by Council.</p> <p>Whilst he noted the wrong advice had been given to the landowner of Sloe Farm, he believed further advice had been given together with a request to the Landowner to cease building, which had not been followed.</p>	

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p>He asked what information had come to light to overturn the original objection? What is GPC's policy on building on Green belt land? He felt that building should only be approved in exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>Cllr Carney replied briefly to confirm that GPC does not have its own policy regarding planning on Green Belt, but SCDC does have such a policy.</p> <p>Planning Application details: 23/01831/FUL Retrospective erection of a storage barn/stabling Sloe Fen Farm Oakington Road Girton Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB3 0QH (greatercambridgeplanning.org)</p> <p>Landowner</p> <p>Policy E/16, Landowner stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no existing business on site. • Land was purchased 9 years ago. • A business activity had not been run during that time. • He believed to keep livestock on site the agricultural needed to be built first. <p>Policy NH/8, Landowner noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built Barn 55/60 meters from road so cannot see the barn. • Hedgerows now made barn barely visible. • Council cut through existing entrance when the Cycle Way was built. • Ragged Robin planning permission granted on 8th August 20217 which has a footprint about 4.5 times size of Sloe Farm Application. (<i>Decision issued 06/10/2017</i>), S/2871/17/PN Prior notification for agricultural store Ragged Robin Oakington Road Girton Cambridgeshire CB3 0QH (greatercambridgeplanning.org) • Ragged Robin planning permission in Flood Zone 2. Sloe Farm Application is in Flood Zone 3. • Land on the other side of the road is Green belt as is Girton College and the Recreation ground car park - All have been built upon. • Across the road from Sloe farm are many large commercial buildings including a Gym, Nursery, pre-school, gym, Home Audio Shop IT Support Company. • In most cases Agricultural buildings are acceptable. • To argue that livestock is not allowed seemed to be an odd argument. • The only reason the last application was withdraw was due to need to ensure all flooding requirements are in place. 	
23FC/050	To Receive Reports (<i>for information only</i>)	10 Mins
23FC/050.1	<p>County Councillor</p> <p>Cllr Carney asked about the Smart Journey scheme which were looking at transport within development. He asked whether this scheme should also be looking at active travel between developments? He noted that there were lots of good possibilities that do not link up, from a Girton perspective Northstowe and Science Park North. Cllr Murphy to find out more.</p>	

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p>Cllr Carney also asked about the Tender going out for Trees & Woodland. Could the strategy which was mentioned in the report be made available and circulated to GPC?</p> <p><i>Interim Strategy:</i> https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-and-environment/improving-the-natural-environment/trees-and-woodland</p> <p>Making Connections. Cllr Muston noted regarding Cambridge North Station and Histon & Impington there were no buses to get to the station, which she felt was ridiculous.</p> <p>Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund. Cllr Muston noted that there was the ability to apply for Grants for next year with an upper bid limit of £40K for community events. She asked if there was any reason Girton would be excluded from this scheme. Cllr Murphy to find out more.</p>	
23FC/050.2	<p>District Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Stobart confirmed they would welcome broad radical views on what the community might like to see in a bus service fit for purpose for today's requirements. SCDC will explore the most effective way of getting feedback.</p> <p>One of the items he had received from GCP was to 'Think Freely' in your feedback about possible solutions to move the bus-stop from the '1980s network' to a network that was suitable for today.</p> <p>Cllr Murphy (CCC) added the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current considerations did not consider the interchange with other modes of transport. • Specific feedback about routes would be most helpful. What villages would you like to see connected, what services would you like see connected. Confirm your point A - point B connections. • Franchising would be a way to increase control over bus services delivered. • Complicated challenge was to create and maintain a bus service suitable for today's requirements. This service would need to be defined, scoped and developed so Council is confident it can be delivered. <p>Our District Councillors would like a stall at Girton Feast next to Girton Parish Council to enable residents to raise any issues for which SCDC is responsible. The bus service and alternatives to the Congestion Charge would be one of the topics of interest.</p> <p>Cllr Stobart to send details on dates/times proposed trip to Eddington to view Heating and Water Scheme to GPC Clerk.</p> <p>Cllr Stobart is arranging broad generic planning training with specific practice cases for Girton Councillors as requested.</p> <p>SCDC had been looking at the Girton College Application. He had a brief discussion with Cllr Carney regarding this application with a focus on safety on Girton Road.</p>	

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p>Cllr Muston noted that Cllr Murphy had mentioned a practical solution for Addenbrookes. She asked if Cllr Murphy could send more details. She noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC were looking at S106 money in terms of introducing a new level. • Surgeries were needed - Eddington and Darwin Green did not have one. • Councils needed to be sure that public do not lose money due to Developers mistakes. • She welcomed the Darwin Green properties being knocked down where they were not fit for purpose. • She also welcomed the planning and training so that Parish Councils can be more informed. <p>Cllr Hayat asked if a decision had been made on whether the Sustainable Travel Zone was regarded as the only way to fund improved transport. Cllr Murphy stated that there had been a lot of concern about the charge. CCC are working closely with GCP about what can be done to address concerns.</p> <p>Cllr Linton asked about whether CCC was in charge of any possible Franchising and GCP was in charge of the Sustainable Transport Zone. Cllr Murphy confirmed that the Combined Authority (GCP) was responsible for Franchising and CCC was responsible for the decision on the Sustainable Transport Zone.</p> <p>GPC Clerk asked Cllr Stobart if he could confirm that the Planning Training for GPC would be broader than development of parcels at land at Eddington. Cllr Stobart confirmed and stated that the training would be generic and designed to equip GPC to review larger planning applications. To help with this the planning training would be followed 2/3 weeks later with a significant application for GPC to review.</p>	
23FC/050.3	Girton Town Charity (No Report for this month)	
23FC/050.4	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>GPC Clerk noted the change of Job Description for Angie Vidler from Assistant Clerk to Facilities Manager. She wanted to make sure that all Council were aware. She also extended a Thanks to the staff team who were working hard to keep the Recreation Ground in good shape especially in this hot weather.</p>	
23FC/050.5	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>Cllr Marshall wished to add his personal Thanks to Cllr Blom for his service. Cllr Muston also added her Thanks to Cllr Blom.</p>	
23FC/051	<p>To Approve Minutes of Girton Parish Council Full Council Meetings: 24th May 2023 (AGM), 10th May 2023</p> <p>Approval - 24th May 2023: Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Marshall seconded. Six in Favour. Three abstentions due to absences.</p> <p>Approval - 10th May 2023: Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Muston seconded. Six in Favour. Three abstentions due to absences.</p>	Approved
23FC/052	To Note Minutes of Girton Annual Parish Meeting	Noted
23FC/053	Matters arising from Previous Meetings (for information only)	For Information

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
23FC/053.1	<p>Action List (To be shown at meeting)</p> <p>GPC Clerk noted that another push to get people using MS365 would be carried out and she would work on making action list available in a format to allow Councillors to be more aware of all projects underway.</p>	
23FC/053.2	<p>Any other Matters arising – A chance to raise any comments/concerns on previous agenda items</p>	
23FC/054	<p>To Receive update from GPC Committees & Working Groups (For information only)</p>	To Note
23FC/054.1	<p>Environment Committee - No Questions.</p>	
23FC/054.2	<p>Local Nature Recovery Working Group - No Questions.</p>	
23FC/054.3	<p>Footpath Officer's Report</p> <p>Cllr Carney noted he was going to do some work on cutting back hedges. Cllr Marshall said he was happy to help. Cllr Clare asked if the activity could be encouraged more widely. Cllr Marshall noted that the Events committee could look at by working alongside Environment.</p>	
23FC/054/4	<p>Water Management Report (No Report this month)</p>	
23FC/054.5	<p>Finance & Resource Management Committee</p> <p>Cllr Muston stated that the Finance was in a much better state and that is testament to hard work of the office team.</p> <p>She noted a priority of Finance & Resource Management Committee was the need to review how much Girton Parish Council is subsidising the sports team.</p> <p>She noted the need to be fair to all residents and that all activities should be data driven and that GPC may not be charging enough for their facilities.</p>	
23FC/054.6	<p>HR Committee</p> <p>Cllr Muston noted all meetings are in calendar for HR for the financial year. Next meeting was July 5th where item 23FC/048 re: Cllr William could be discussed. She noted top HR priorities for the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and recruit required staff. • Consider what staffing can best support and maintain Parish Council assets. 	
23FC/054.7	<p>CAPALC Report</p> <p>Cllr Muston noted that she would attend another online training webinar this Friday. She encouraged Councillors to attend and to share recordings.</p>	
23FC/054.8	<p>Planning Committee (No report this month)</p> <p>Cllr Carney noted that if people would prefer the planning issues currently in his Chair report to be in a specific Planning report to let him know.</p>	
23FC/054.9	<p>Sport & Recreation Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Clare asked about the weight limit for the proposed zipwire and whether age groups using it might be limited. Cllr Hayat confirmed he would present a business case. • Cllr Carney encouraged people to pitch their ideas to Clerk/Cllr Hayat. 	

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Linton noted that he would send a long email with his suggestions. • Cllr Brown asked if Council had talked to Gretton School. 	
23FC/054.10	<p>Events Working Group</p> <p>Cllr Marshall summarized as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increased number of events are popping up in the village. • An Events ‘committee’ could take pressure from the Sport & Recreation Committee. • Spoken to resident regarding the project to consider better access for people with disabilities. A group of people are getting together, and he would like help from councillors in taking disabled people around the village. • He had contacted head of Gretton School and would be meeting up. 	
23FC/054.11	<p>Bowls Club Working Group (No report this month) Work due to begin post 12th June on GBC Chair’s return from holiday</p>	
23FC/054.12	<p>Pavilion Refurbishment Task & Finish Group</p> <p>Cllr Marshall noted this rescoped project was moving forward with a first meeting. He felt it was fantastic to see so many people had attended the meeting and that such a diverse group was working as part of Pavilion Group. He encouraged as much participation from Councillors as possible at Girton Feast.</p>	
23FC/055	<p>To Approve Finance and Resource Management</p>	<p>For Decision</p>
23FC/056.1	<p>To note payment of accounts under delegated approval</p>	<p>Noted</p>
23FC/056.2	<p>To Approve payment of outstanding accounts due</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Muston seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p>	<p>Approved</p>
23FC/056.3	<p>To Receive a report from Facilities Manager on Amounts paid in</p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Facilities Manager noted the success of the raffle tickets also that thirty-two of the 37 planters had now been sponsored at a cost of £60.00.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
23FC/057	<p>Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council</p>	<p>For Decision</p>
23FC/057.1	<p>Council to authorise the clerk and/or chair to write as a priority on its behalf to Greater Cambridge Planning to request a meeting, ideally on site with GCP prior to the Planning decision.</p> <p>Purpose of meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the probability that planning application 23/01831/FUL contravenes South Cambridgeshire Local Plan policies NH/8 and E/16. 2. Confirm if there is any missing information on the portal that should be a material consideration in this application. 3. Understand all the advice given by GCP to the Landowner and whether this may have caused building contrary to the Planning permission/Local Plan policy. 4. Confirm next steps following the above. 5. Request that Landowner and Mr Gibson can attend if possible. <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Muston seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u></p>	<p>For Decision</p>

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p>Cllr Carney noted that the purpose of this motion is not to determine whether the planning decision of 6th June regarding Sloe Farm was correct or not.</p> <p>The purpose is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. establish the full facts with the GCP Planning committee. GPC would like to invite both Mr. Gibson and Mr. Hextall so there is full clarity on the facts. 2. Where this application contravenes the local plan, whether the decision-making process has been correct and what are the next steps. <p>The purpose is not to approve/propose/overturn the committee decision.</p> <p>Cllr Brown left the room at this point before the debate.</p> <p>Cllr Muston stated her agreement that we should establish all the facts. She stated that she felt gathering the information to make decisions is something the council has tried to do with every motion. And if the information is not available then Council will try to obtain it.</p> <p>She explained the above is the main reason she seconded the motion.</p> <p>She felt she had made her position clear on why she voted the way she did on the Planning committee. She was trying to be objective in a difficult situation. She also wanted to ensure that the rationale of the decision is clearly communicated to Girton Residents.</p> <p><i>* (* See final para of Agenda Item 23FC/057.1) GPC Clerk addressed the point made by the Member of the Public 2 to note that the intent of Council attending SCDC Planning Committee was not to ask them to approve the Application but to highlight the missing information and the difficulties that had caused in GPC coming to a clear decision. The resident thanked GPC Clerk for her clarification.</i></p>	
23FC/057.2	<p>AGAR 2022/23 - Item 1: To resolve to approve the Annual Governance Statement by resolution.</p> <p>Approval: <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Muston seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p>	Approved
23FC/057.3	<p>AGAR 2022/23 - Item 2: To consider the Accounting Statement</p> <p>Approval: <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Linton seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p>	Approved
23FC/057.4	<p>AGAR 2022/23 - Item 3: To resolve to approve the Accounting Statement, to be signed by the Chair of the meeting.</p> <p>Approval: <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Giles seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p>	Approved
23FC/057.5	<p>AGAR 2022/2023 – Item 4: To approve the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return</p> <p>Approval: <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Muston seconded. Unanimous Approval</i></p> <p>Debate Highlights:</p> <p>Notice of Public Rights and Publication of unaudited AGAR to run from Monday 19th June to Friday 28th July.</p>	Approved

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
23FC/057.6	<p>Council approves poll of residents online and using Girton Parish News to consider renaming Parish Council. (See NALC Legal Topic Note (LTN 74)) in Agenda pack.</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Muston seconded. Unanimous Approval</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Cllr Giles asked if the option of ‘Girton Village Council could be removed as there was more than one village. Cllr Clare asked if Community could be removed as he did not like the phrase. Cllr Muston stated that legally it must be one of those four names. She would like to involve Girton electorate and show them all four options. Cllr Brown said that the people she had spoken to had seen changes in the council already. The people she had spoken to are beginning to feel that being on GPC could be a positive thing. She had been attending most Full Council meetings as an observer over the last 18 months and noted the way that Councillors speak to each other is positive. Girton Parish News naming was confirmed as a separate issue. It was noted it may be a good thing to differentiate GPC from Girton Parish News. Details of the poll to be confirmed.</p>	Approved
23FC/057.7	<p>Council approves order of items on Full Council Agenda to place ‘Business Decisions’ first on Full Council Agenda going forward. (Verbal update)</p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> The purpose of this motion is to flip the meeting so that decisions are taken first. Reports can take significant amounts of time. Motion deferred so GPC Clerk can check in with County, District Councillors and GTC on whether they can attend later in the evening.</p>	Deferred
23FC/057.8	<p>Council approves changing status of GPC Events working group to GPC Events Committee (See Events Report 23FC/054.10)</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Marshall proposed. Cllr Carney seconded. Unanimous Approval</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Cllr Marshall noted that this change of status for the GPC working group would allow the group to make decisions and to have their own budget. GPC Clerk noted that the increased scope of this group highlights the focus of Council on Community Engagement.</p>	Approved
23FC/057.9	<p>Council approves licensed Food Trucks attending at Girton Parish Council Recreation Ground from 5pm to 9.30pm during school summer holidays on Thursday and Saturday evenings as available.</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Betts seconded. Unanimous Approval</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Motion deferred so that further parties to be included in decision-making. GPC Clerk to talk to Chip van man.</p>	Deferred

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
23FC/057.10	<p>Council to approve placement of initial Neighbourhood Plan Survey in July Edition of Girton Parish News at cost of £200.00.</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Clare seconded. Unanimous Approval</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Motions 23FC/057.10 and 23FC/057.11 were taken together as agreed by Council.</p>	Approved
23FC/057.11	<p>Council to approve placement of survey to identify priorities of Pavilion Refurbishment project in August Edition of Girton Parish News. Estimated cost £200.00 (See Pavilion Refurbishment Report & Events Report 23FC/054.10, 23FC/054.12)</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Clare seconded. Unanimous Approval</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Motions 23FC/057.10 and 23FC/057.11 were taken together as agreed by Council. Full scope of Pavilion refurbishment project to be confirmed. It was noted that the Car Park Working Group would have input to the Pavilion Refurbishment project.</p>	Approved
23FC/057.12	<p>Council to approve replacement of five dog bins with Litter bins to an estimated maximum cost of £3,500.</p> <p>Amended Motion: Council to approve replacement of seven dog bins with Litter bins to an estimated maximum cost of £3,500.</p> <p><u>Approval of Amended Motion:</u> <i>Cllr Marshall proposed. Cllr Betts seconded. 8 in favour, 1 abstention.</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Whether or not bins by Tennis Court are required? The thought was yes. Whether there would be additional operational costs? GPC Clerk confirmed there would not be any additional operational costs, as the bins are being replaced. How many small capacity dog bins did Girton have? GPC Clerk confirmed 12.</p>	Approved
23FC/057.13	<p>Council to approve recommended quote for Hibbert Ware Garden Interpretation Board.</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Muston seconded. 8 in favour, 1 abstention.</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Cllr Giles explained the business case. Cllr Carney noted that Alice Hibbert Ware was a noted ornithologist. Cllr Marshall asked about the inclusion of a QR Code, Audio Link, Braille.</p>	Approved
23FC/057.14	<p>Council to approve purchase of Equipment recommended by English Cricket board inspection to a maximum cost of £750 amended.</p> <p><u>Amended Motion:</u> <i>Council to approve purchase of Equipment recommended by English Cricket board inspection to a maximum cost of £850 amended.</i></p>	Approved

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
	<p><u>Approval of Amended motion:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Brown seconded. 8 in favour, 1 abstention.</i></p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Cllr Marshall asked if there was enough storage for this equipment. GPC Clerk confirmed there is enough storage available.</p>	
23FC/058	<p>To Receive Correspondence addressed to the Council.</p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u> Cllr Carney had received a phone call from Abbeyfield regarding blocked soak away at Wellbrook Way. Cllr Carney to investigate. Cllr Marshall had received information about a missing lamppost. Further information to be collected. Cllr Muston noted email from resident about problems with Car-parking. GPC Clerk to follow-up. GPC Clerk noted the letter regarding Black Squirrel logo prepared in 1990's. GPC Clerk will try to find the information.</p>	Noted
23FC/059	<p>To Approve Communication of items from this Agenda</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Giles seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p> <p><i>This item is designed to ensure that Council can approve key items of communication from this meeting on Council Website, Facebook, and Twitter.</i></p>	Approved
23FC/060	Date of next meeting(s): 12 th July 2023	To Note
Meeting Ended: 21:56		

Environment Committee 12th July 2023

The environment committee met on the 6th of June. Our current projects are:

- Forming a group to discuss ways of finessing No Mow May now that we have done it once and know where some of the pitfalls are
- Replacing some of the small dog bins around the village with larger, multi-purpose bins, particularly around busy areas such as the recreation ground
- Increasing awareness of Parish Council owned sites around the village, including supporting the Town End Close open day (photo below) and granting funding to the Local Nature Recovery Plan group for an information board for the Hibbert Ware memorial garden. We are also exploring local nature reserve status for Town End Close.
- The Local Highways Initiative project for a 30mph zone between Oakington and Girton - this is looking positive at the moment.
- Investigating the possibility of repairs to the plinth of the war memorial
- Seeking to contract a tree protection officer and create a plan for tree planting and maintenance in the village.



Local Nature Recovery Plan Working Group report for Girton Parish Council - July 2023

Since our last report there have been further iterations of the Plan, which will be presented at a public meeting in the Autumn. The Group has been busy on a range of activities, most notably a

series of community events which seem to have been well received:

- ‘Gardening for Wildlife’ event co-hosted with local business ‘Purple Flowers and ‘Mosaics’
- An open evening at Town End Close nature reserve
- Open afternoon at the Dry Drayton Swift colony
- Photo competition
- Stand at Girton Feast

More are being planned for the Autumn.

The Group is grateful to the Parish Council for its adoption of ‘No Mow May’, though implementation was mixed as it appears there was some confusion with the contractors. The Group plans to put together a grass area management plan for the village in partnership with the Parish Council and its contractors in good time for next Spring

One challenge has been a hold up in the purchase of items that were approved back in May. Some planned activities have had to be delayed as a consequence. We would be grateful if the agreed purchases can be expedited, without any further delay.

Management plans are now in place for Town End Close, and a project for the renewal of the Hibbert-Ware Memorial Garden is under way. The Group is grateful for the agreement by the Parish Council to develop an Interpretation Board for the garden, and the British Trust for Ornithology has offered to help design the Board at no cost (there is a historical tie up between Alice Hibbert-Ware and the BTO). Work in redesigning the garden will take place over the autumn and winter.

There have been useful meetings with the following:

- Andrew Muston, on the use of mapping software in support of the Neighbourhood Plan
 - Girton College on linking up for future activities
- Girton Glebe and Gretton Schools, with further follow up activities planned with both

And finally, the Group now has a web page on the village website under ‘Parish Council’ <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/girton-parish-council-2/local-nature-recovery-plan/>

Keith Honnor

(Chair, Local Nature Recovery Plan Group)

Finance & Resource Management Report

Cllr Ann Muston & Yvonne Murray (RFO)

The Finance Committee met on July 5th 2023 to elect a Chair and Vice Chair. Ann Muston and Nas Hayat were re-elected as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

The priorities for this meeting were:

- Budget Review
- GPC's Reserves Policy
- Categories of Spend to be clearly identified
- Annual contribution to Girton Bowls Club

The draft minutes show that some clear actions and recommendations to Full Council will be made on July 12th to continue improving the budgetary process with an aim to provide an itemised budget for 2024/2025 finalised by December 2023 to ensure that more time is given for Councillors to consider the precept and communicate to Girton residents before the precept request is submitted to South Cambridgeshire District Council in January 2023. The Clerk/RFO will review the timings of the Finance Committee to ensure these timelines can be met.

The Committee also considered and identified principles for a Reserve Policy and defined a split in the different categories of spend by Council. Both of these items will come back to Council.

In addition from August 2023 Full Council any spend approved will include detail on the effect on the budget to allow Councillors to ensure the impact of any spend by Council is highlighted prior to the budgetary approval.

The Finance Committee and RFO will be issuing all approved spend to each Committee to allow them to review their project list for August 2023 Full Council

A recommendation from Finance Committee is included in July's Full Council meeting to take advice from Streets, GPC's Accountants to reclaim VAT under new guidelines. In August 2023 Full Council will reconsider whether Girton Parish Council should consider seeking advice about becoming VAT Registered at this time.

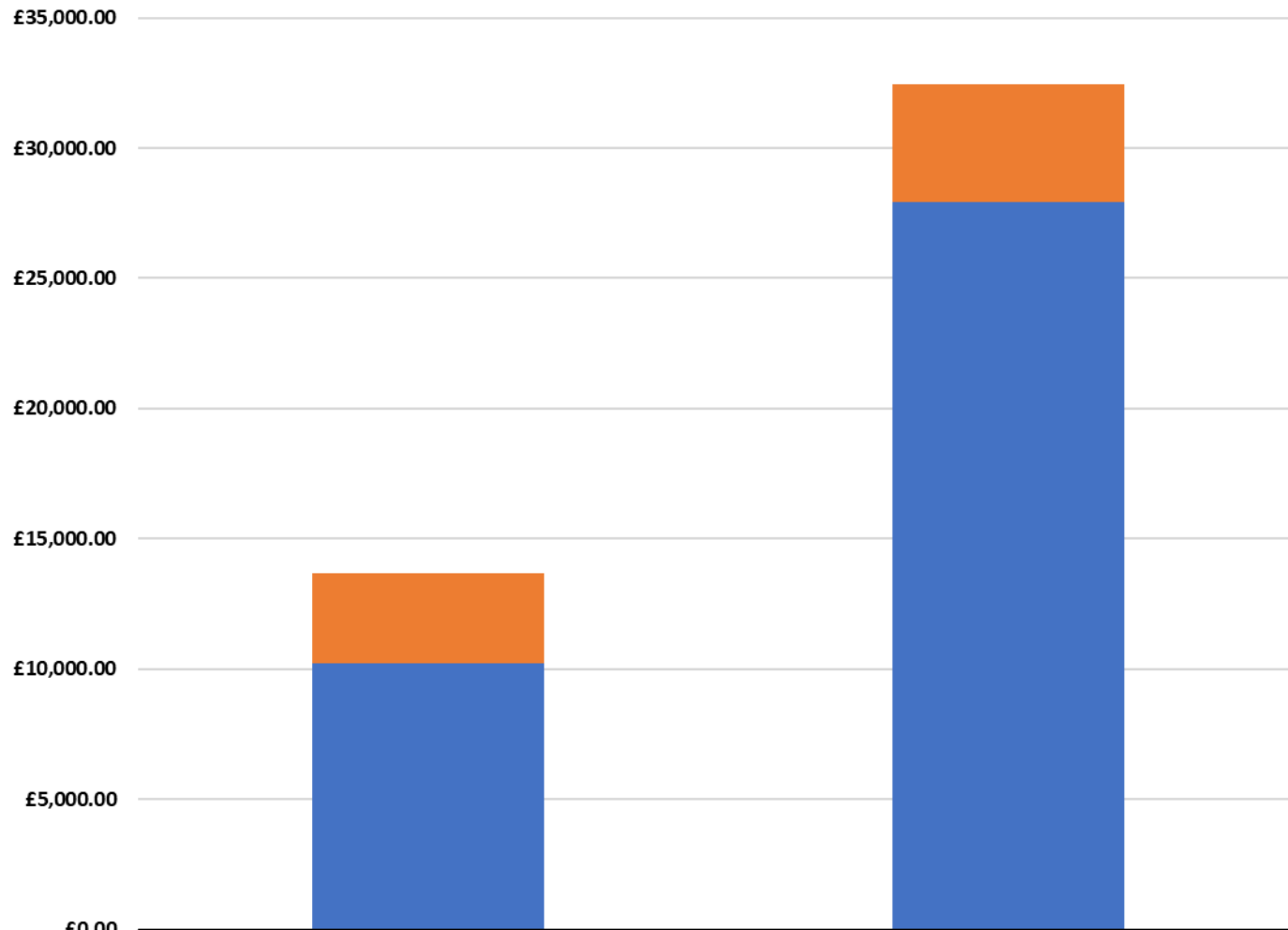
The Finance Committee also considered the payments made to Girton Bowls Club and will recommend that payment to July Full Council.

In addition the AGAR has been submitted and acknowledgement received from our External Auditors, PkF Littlejohn. Our internal Auditor has submitted his invoice and confirmed a clean bill of health for GPC's Accounts. Our AGAR is posted on our website as required. <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/agar-girton-parish-council/>

As we forward our budgetary process we have introduced a new format to show the trends of our income, operating expenses and net profit across the years. From August 2023 we will be adding Balance Sheet data to our report.

AM & YM (RFO) 10th July 2023

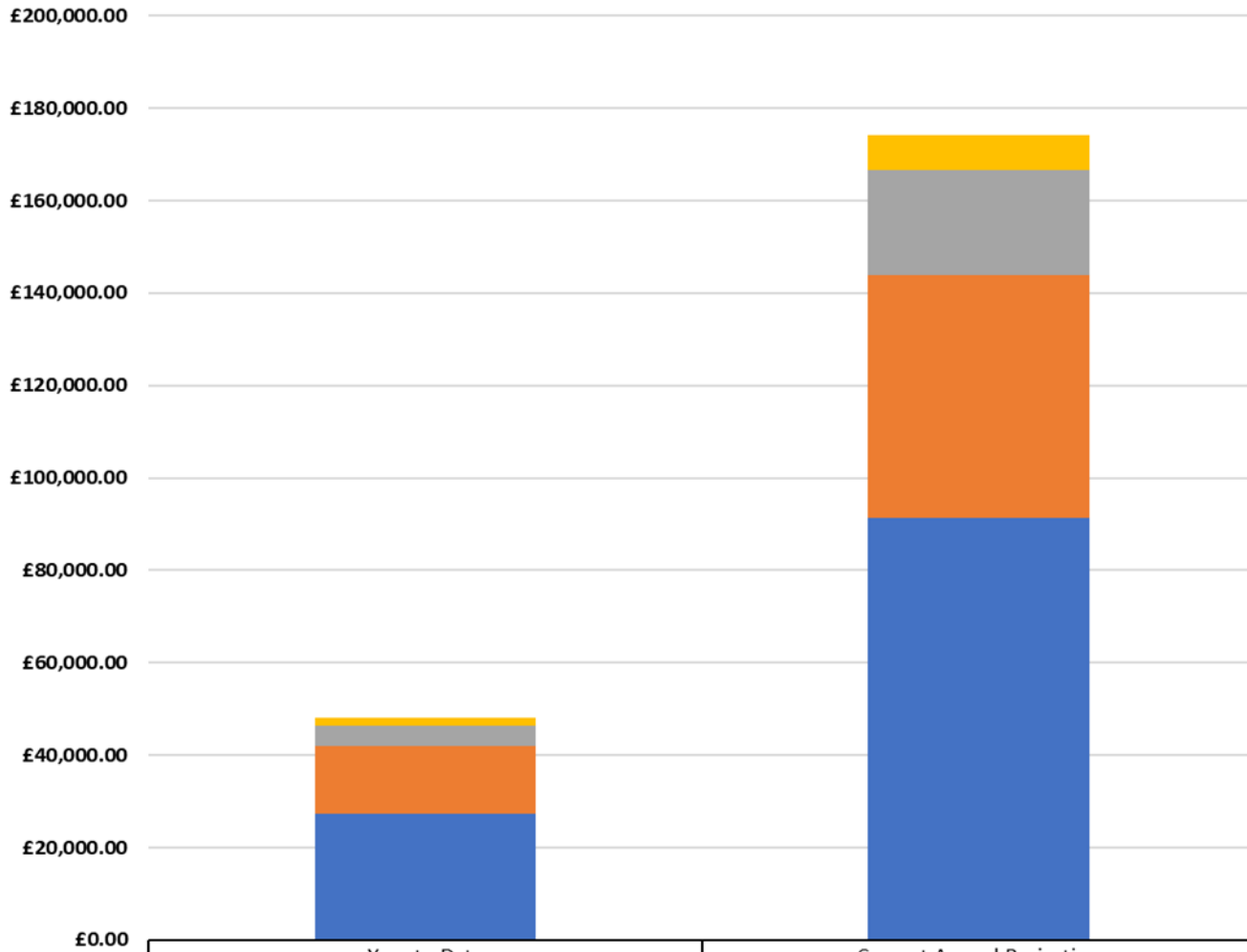
Income - June 2023 (Cumulative)



	Year to Date	Current Annual Projection
■ Finance & Resources	£0.00	£0.00
■ HR	£0.00	£0.00
■ Environment	£3,464.50	£4,489.26
■ Sport & Rec	£10,222.40	£27,945.40

■ Sport & Rec ■ Environment ■ HR ■ Finance & Resources

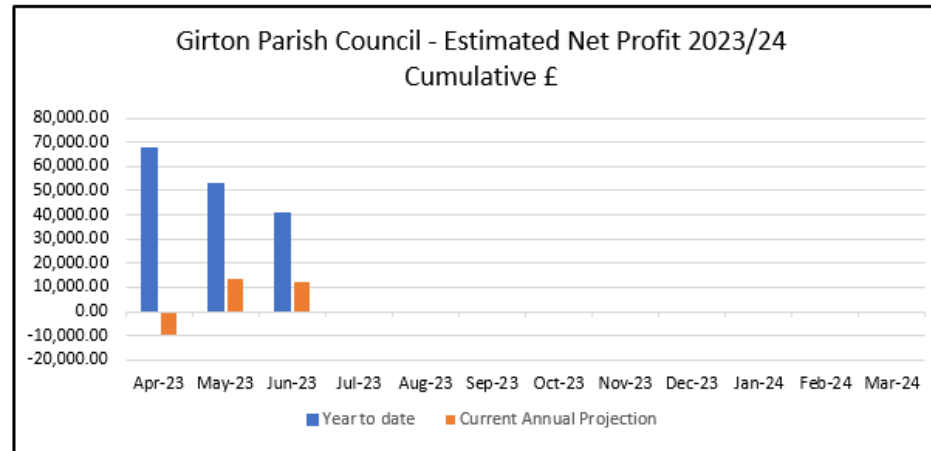
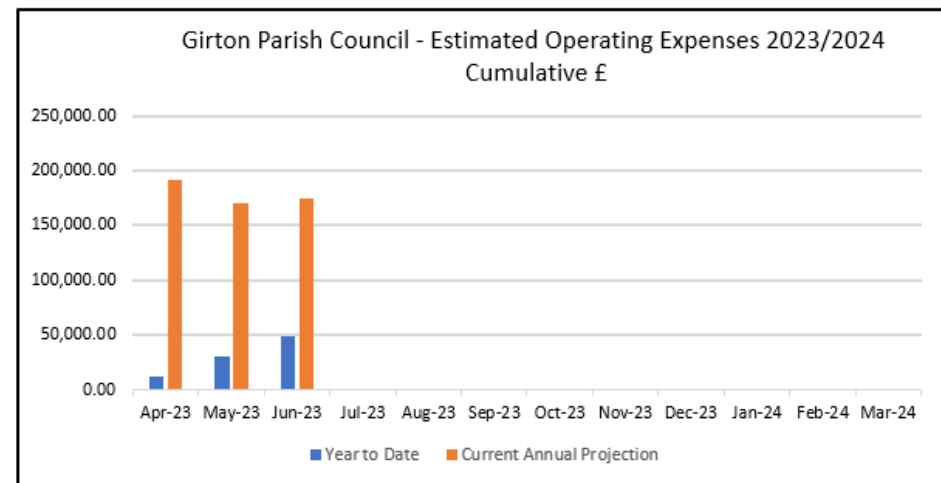
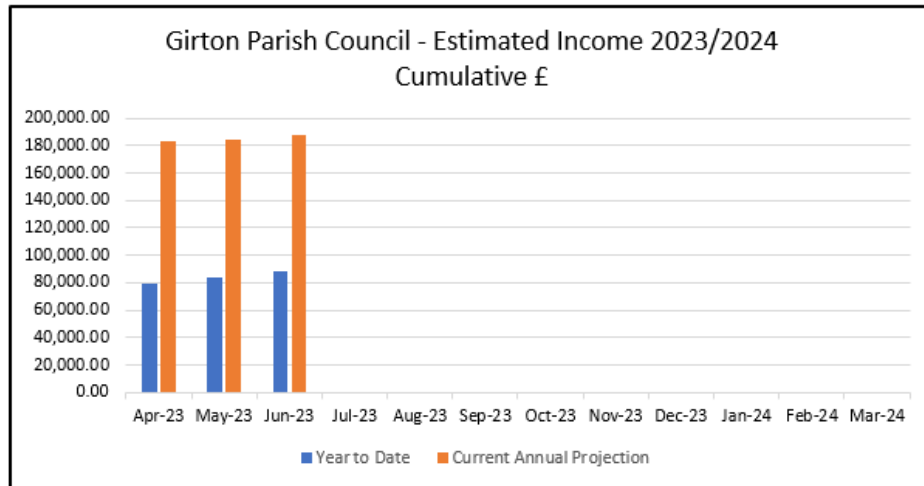
Expenditure - June 2023 (Cumulative)



	Year to Date	Current Annual Projection
■ Finance & Resources	£1,687.78	£7,575.33
■ Environment	£4,427.88	£22,755.08
■ HR	£14,582.58	£52,440.16
■ Sport & Rec	£27,370.74	£91,356.56

■ Sport & Rec ■ HR ■ Environment ■ Finance & Resources

New Format Graphs from Finance Committee for consideration



Human Resources Committee July 2023

A meeting took place on Wednesday 5 July which discussed issues raised at the last GPC meeting in June.

As the issues being discussed were of a confidential nature, only members of the HR Committee were present. It was noted that we aim to be open and transparent but need to follow guidelines issued to us. In some cases, we may need to refer to professional bodies as the guidelines are not clear. In all we do, we are following procedure and making sure that everyone is treated fairly, that we adhere to the Nolan Principles and follow the Code of Conduct we have signed up to.

There were several initiatives mentioned and I am looking forward to further discussion regarding these to help us improve our teamwork, look after the wellbeing of the village, our employees and Girton Parish Councillors.

At the Girton Feast we hope to get feedback on several issues and there may be a verbal update the Full Council Meeting on 12 July.

Following GPC's AGM, meetings have been arranged to take place at 6.30pm on Wednesdays. The next meetings have the following topics. Please be aware the dates made need to be changed or an additional meeting called should the need arise. Appropriate notice will be given if this happens.

30 August: Staffing levels and key person risk working with other local councils

29 November: Review of HR Policy and budget for 2024-25

28 February: Training requirements, review of the year to date and report for APM

29 May: How to attract and retain good employees and councillors

The HR Committee and Clerk/RFO continue to have ongoing discussions with CAPALC where issues and powers need to be checked.

6 July 2023

Sport and Recreation Committee Report

July 2023

The committee has not yet met this month so there is little to report however discussions are on-going with the cricket club on use and condition of the playing surface.

A workshop is planned for later this month.

Before the Sports and Rec committee meet it needs to understand what funds are available to allow it to deliver projects for the community. Although there is a large list of projects the committee also needs to be conscious that although there may be funding for capital projects, from the reserves, there may be limited funding for operational costs as these will need to be delivered from income rather than reserves.

The above report was written by Nas Hayat.

Pavilion Refurbishment Task and Finish Group Report

July 2023

Since the meeting on Thursday 8th June, this group have completed prioritising their requirements and will be working on submitting a survey to the village online and in August edition of Girton Parish News.

This group is currently scheduling the next meeting to discuss the feedback from the first requirement gathering.

Stuart Marshall

Chair, Pavilion Task & Finish Group

Monthly Payments - July 2023

Status	Contact Name	Invoice Number	InvoiceDate	Gross Amount	Tax	Net Amount	Description
To Approve	Andrew Haylett	10228	14/06/2023	53.95	0.00	53.95	Website Hosting Package
To Approve	Andrew Haylett	10701	19/03/2023	15.00	0.00	15.00	Website Hosting Package
To Approve	Avocet : GB636810535	17710	30/06/2023	548.40	91.40	457.00	Cleaning Services
To Approve	Cottenham Computers	7146	30/06/2023	48.00	8.00	40.00	Onsite Labour
To Approve	Cromwell Fire Ltd	17333	30/06/2023	594.00	99.00	495.00	Fire Assessment
To Approve	Girton Bowls Club	Mar-23	23/06/2023	500.00	0.00	500.00	Annual Contribution/Irrigation
To Approve	KSF Home & Garden Services	6072023	06/07/2023	165.00	0.00	165.00	Fitting Bench in Town End Close
To Approve	MC Garden Maintenance	90	01/07/2023	1,188.00	198.00	990.00	Fertilizer
To Approve	MC Garden Maintenance	77	01/07/2023	1,050.00	175.00	875.00	Grass cutting
To Approve	Norman Lewell	July 2023 Salary	04/07/2023	246.32	0.00	246.32	July 2023 Salary - Net Pay
To Approve	Peter Graves Florist Ltd	SI-13564	21/06/2023	1,312.00	218.53	1,093.47	Village Planters - Replanting
To Approve	Pettit Sports : GB159878929	3382	23/06/2023	132.48	22.08	110.40	Line Marking Paints
To Approve	South Cambridgeshire District Council	80071444	18/05/2023	1,566.60	261.10	1,305.50	Street Lights - Apr 2022 to Mar
To Approve	Streets Whitmarsh Sterland LLP	SWS-0106976	30/06/2023	1,752.00	292.00	1,460.00	AGAR preparation
To Approve	Payroll		01/07/2023	3,934.42	7.50	3,926.92	Payroll
Paid	Amazon	DS-ASE-INV-GB-2023	05/07/2023	35.98	6.00	29.98	A3 Poster Stand
Paid	Amazon	INV-GB-136021371-	03/07/2023	28.00	4.66	23.34	A3 Poster Display
Paid	Amazon	DS-ASE-INV-GB-2023	03/07/2023	12.98	2.17	10.81	Badge Holder
Paid	Avanit Systems Limited	INVX-1318	14/06/2023	40.00	6.67	33.33	Projector & Screen Hire
Paid	British Gas	808032377	21/06/2023	608.50	101.41	507.09	Electricity - Pavilion
Paid	Microsoft	E0400NTQDQ	27/06/2023	22.56	3.76	18.80	Microsoft Standard
Paid	Source for Business - Bowling Green		22/06/2023	81.00	0.00	81.00	Water: Girton Bowling Green
Paid	Source for Business - Nature Reserve		22/06/2023	8.00	0.00	8.00	Water: Nature Reserve
Paid	Source for Business - Pavilion		22/06/2023	83.00	0.00	83.00	Water: Pavilion
Paid	South Cambridgeshire District Council	3030115017 July	04/07/2023	526.00	0.00	526.00	Monthly Business Rates
Paid	Wave	12158501	16/06/2023	146.56	0.00	146.56	Sewerage Charges
Paid	Zoom	INV207342863	21/06/2023	15.59	2.60	12.99	Monthly Zoom

GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

Income Report June 2023

Village Planter Sponsorship	£1860.00
Grass cutting contributions	£872.50
Cricket Square	£351.20
Football Pitches	£987.85
MUGA	£355.85
Pavilion Hall	£828.50
Recreation Ground	£191.50
Tennis Courts	£33.00
<u>Total Turnover</u>	<u>£5,480.40</u>

VAT 126

There are 2 areas which previously may be counted as Business that under VAT 167

1. MUGA HIRE
2. CAR PARK HIRE

Only the MUGA Hire is relevant to Girton Parish Council.

Under the new guidelines it appears this VAT can be claimed back. Streets confirm there are no other items for which VAT can be claimed.

Potential VAT to claim back £11,798,59 under new Guidelines.

Company	Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Net	VAT	Gross
Floodlighting Services Ltd	FLS/20/100850	27/02/2020	16,484.25	3,296.85	19,781.10
Floodlighting Services Ltd	FLS/19/100773	25/11/2019	5,494.75	1,098.95	6,593.70
Cambridge Courts	5465	16/09/2019	2,174.35	434.87	2,609.22
Cambridge Courts	5478	18/11/2019	34,789.60	6,957.92	41,747.52
Cambridge Courts	5511	22/03/2020	50.00	10.00	60.00
Total			58,992.95	11,798.59	70,791.54

VAT CHANGES - EMAIL Reviced from CAPALC on 3rd February 2023 and forwarded to Council on 3rd February 2023



Changes to procurement thresholds and VAT on sports fees effective immediately

Please find attached two bulletins which have immediate impact on local councils:

- HMRC conceded last week that charges for local authority sports facilities are a non-business activity and outside the scope of VAT. Affected councils may be able to reclaim additional VAT relating to the last 4 years.
- The Government increased the £25,000 threshold for Contracts Finder to £30,000 from 21 December 2022. This puts us back to the position where it is effectively contracts over £25,000 plus VAT (rather than £25,000 including VAT) that are advertised.

See VAT Notice 749 Local Authorities and Similar bodies: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-authorities-and-similar-bodies-notice-749>

VAT on sporting fees

HMRC concede that charges for council sports facilities are non-business

HMRC's existing guidance is that local authority sports and leisure services can either be taxable or exempt from VAT. This has been challenged in the courts, with test cases for England, Scotland and Northern Ireland going on for several years.

In *Chelmsford City Council* [2020] UKFTT432(TC) the First Tier Tribunal determined that such services are provided under a 'special legal regime' and can be treated as 'non-business', providing that does not give rise to significant distortions of competition.

HMRC unsuccessfully appealed the first part of that decision, as they did not accept the reasoning that local authority sports services are subject to a 'special legal regime'. The Upper Tier Tribunal [2022] UKUT149(TCC) dismissed that appeal in March 2022.

On 26 January 2023, HMRC advised Chelmsford City Council that they will NOT be pursuing the 'significant distortion of competition' argument and accept that local authority sports services can be treated as non-business and outside the scope of VAT.

HMRC have yet to issue any further guidance as to the basis on which they accept no significant distortion of competition would be caused, how far the interpretation of "sport and leisure services" extends or what steps councils should take to recover VAT.

We suggest that councils consider the following steps in relation to sports facilities, bearing in mind that HMRC have not issued any guidance and might refuse claims or require them to be submitted in a particular way:

- 1) If you're VAT registered and charging VAT on your sports services, you should:
 - a. stop doing so as soon as possible and certainly before 1 April 2023,
 - b. compile and submit a claim to HMRC for a refund of such VAT declared for the past four years, and
 - c. consider whether you will refund that VAT to the bodies charged for sports.
- 2) If you're not VAT registered and have avoided reclaiming VAT on sports facilities because you thought they were taxable supplies, you should reclaim any such VAT incurred over the last 4 years.
- 3) If you treat any sports services as VAT-exempt and include VAT incurred on those activities in your partial exemption calculation, you should:
 - a. take that VAT out of the 2022/23 calculation,
 - b. if you had any irrecoverable VAT in the 2018/19 to 2021/22 calculations, review them to see if you can now reclaim some or all of that VAT, and
 - c. if you have done a 7-year average calculation for any of those years or to forecast a future year, review it to see if you can recover any further VAT.

The Parkinson Partnership is a Limited Liability Partnership registered in England & Wales, number OC401821
Registered Office: Wessex House, Upper Market Street, Eastleigh SO50 9FD
Members: Steve Parkinson FMAAT MInstLM, Cordelia Parkinson

Please note that VAT126 reclaims must be submitted within 4 years of the end of the month in which the supply of goods or services occurred, so a council can still claim for purchases in February 2019 until the end of this month.

For VAT-registered councils, adjustments cannot be made more than 4 years after the due date of the VAT return that is being amended, so the oldest return that can be adjusted is the one for the January to March 2019 quarter, unless you submit monthly returns or have non-standard VAT quarters.

In reclaiming any VAT charged, councils must avoid "unjust enrichment", which might occur if you reclaim the VAT and keep it, rather than refunding it to your customers. Where council facilities are subsidised and operate at a loss due to low charges, or where charges were made VAT-inclusive rather than being increased, HMRC are unlikely to consider that unjust enrichment.

Please note that the tribunal decisions only relate to charges for sporting services and should not be applied to meeting room hire, or other taxable or exempt business activities at this point. If you are in any doubt as to whether an activity is affected by this change, please consult your county association of local councils in the first instance.

Disclaimer

This bulletin is only intended as a brief guide about a developing situation and councils should ensure they follow the Regulations and guidance on www.gov.uk, read the tribunal decisions and seek professional advice if they are in any doubt.

The Parkinson Partnership LLP accepts no liability for any loss arising from situations where councils have not followed the applicable law and guidance.

23FC/072.3	Council to approve Finance Committee recommendation for £500 Annual donation and £500 request for fix to Irrigation System from Girton Bowls Club	For Decision
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See below text from email of 29th May 2023 from Alan Benton, Treasurer of Girton Bowls Club

Hi Yvonne

On behalf of Girton Bowls Club I request the agreed sum of £500 as a contribution towards the cost of materials used on the bowls green.

I enclose copies of invoices showing that we have incurred costs in excess of £1,000 in the year ending 31st March 2023.

Thanks you for your continued support for Girton Bowls Club.

Regards,

Alan Benton
Treasurer Girton Bowls Club

The Cambridge Lawn Company
 15 Lincoln Close
 Buckden
 St Neots
 CB
 PE19 5UE
 07759910913
 stephen@cambridgelawncompany.co.uk
 VAT Registration No.: 311541646

THE
CAMBRIDGE
 LAWN COMPANY

Vat Invoice

20

INVOICE TO
Girton Bowls Club

INVOICE NO.	DATE	TOTAL DUE	DUE DATE	ENCLOSED
1284	13/03/2023	£573.12	13/03/2023	

SERVICES	AMOUNT
Winter treatments and services:	
31/10/22	
Application of liquid iron for moss control	
FOC	
2/12/22	
Application of liquid iron for moss control x2passes @£125	
12/1/23	
Aerator hire x2 @£50	
26/1/23	
Application of 6x25kg bags of lawn sand for moss control and plant conditioning @137.60	
23/2/23	
Aerated x3 passes Applied lawn sand for moss control and late winter fertiliser @£165	
All other call ins checks ups and consultancy included	
	477.60

*Paid £573.12
14/3/23*

The Cambridge Lawn Company

15 Lincoln Close

Buckden

St Neots

CB

PE19 5UE

07759910913

stephen@cambridgelawncompany.co.uk

VAT Registration No.: 311541646

THE
CAMBRIDGE
LAWN COMPANY

Vat Invoice

27

INVOICE TO
Girton Bowls Club

INVOICE NO.	DATE	TOTAL DUE	DUE DATE	TERMS	ENCLOSED
1176	08/05/2022	£1,645.72	08/05/2022	Due on receipt	

SERVICES	AMOUNT
30/3/22 Spring Renovation	430.00
Machinery Hire and collection and Labour/Consultation/Check ins Topdresser @£110 Aerator Ride on mower Blower Fuel @£430	
Materials X5 1Tonne bags of topdressing @£579.30	848.10
X8 20kg Bags of Organic Spring Fertilizer @£268.8 (x6 left in stock)	
X1 20kg Bag of fine mix seed @£112 (no vat)	112.00

Thank you for your Business.
Please pay via:
Bank: HSBC
Sort Code: 40-16-08
Account Number: 04289498

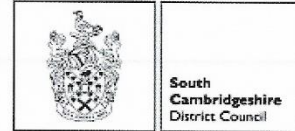
SUBTOTAL 1,390.10
VAT TOTAL 255.62
TOTAL 1,645.72
BALANCE DUE **£1,645.72**

Paid
7/5/22

South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridge CB23 6EA

www.scams.gov.uk
e: sundry.debtors@scams.gov.uk
t: 01954 713000

INVOICE



22

Alan Benton Treasurer
102 Limes Road
Hardwick
CAMBRIDGE
CB23 7XU

Customer No.	26005021
Invoice No.	80070475
Invoice Date	01-Apr-2023

DESCRIPTION	NET PRICE	VAT
Fortnightly collections of 1 @ T660OU, Organic from Girton Bowls Club - Queries, Contact Trade on 01954 713496 - 01 Apr 2023 to 31 Mar 2024		
13.00 Unit(s) @ 9.80 Vat Rate: Outside Scope	127.40	0.00
DUE DATE 22-Apr-2023		

VAT Registration No. GB 214 5282 86

NET TOTAL	£127.40
VAT	£0.00
INVOICE TOTAL	£127.40

If you have any queries regarding this invoice please contact
Trade Refuse on 01954 713496

Paid 23/3/23



PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR PAYMENT DETAILS

9826 2127 4400 0080 0704 757

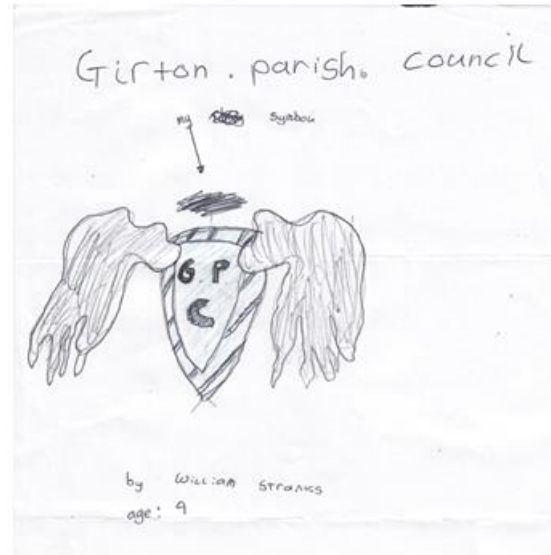
GBC Irrigation System Maintenance:

SJS Pumps have been today to replace 2 faulty bottom valves set up the sprinkler heads and test and run the system.

Faulty controller changed at £130 Saving another call out charge of over £100.

So overall their cost today will be approx £500.

SJS Pumpsy will invoice the GPC in the next couple of days with all the details and their payment terms.



GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL



Ideas:



Clerk: Mrs. Yvonne Murray
 Telephone (01223) 618619
 Email: Clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk
 Website: <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk>

The Pavilion
 Girton Recreation Ground
 Cambridge Road, Girton
 Cambridge, CB3 0FH

NOTICE of MEETING: GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING Finance & Resource Management Committee
DATE & TIME: Wednesday 5th July at 8pm
VENUE: Girton Recreation Ground, Cambridge Road Girton

Members: 5 + 2 Ex Officio **Vacancies:** 4 **Quorum:** 3

DRAFT MINUTES

Agenda Item	Item Description	Action/ Power
Members: [3] Cllr Muston (Chair), Cllr Hayat (Vice Chair), Cllr Carney (Ex-Officio) Present: Yvonne Murray (GPC Clerk) Members of Public: None		
23FRM/012	To Elect Chair of Finance & Resource Management Committee <i>Approval: Cllr Carney proposed Cllr Muston as Chair. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i>	Approved
23FRM/013	Welcome from the Chair Cllr Muston thanked the Committee for having the confidence to elect her for another year as Chair of Finance.	
23FRM/014	To Elect Vice Chair of Finance & Resource Management Committee <i>Approval: Cllr Muston proposed Cllr Hayat as Vice Chair. Cllr Carney seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i>	Approved
23FRM/015	To Receive Apologies and Reasons for Absence: Cllr Marshall, Cllr Williams. Note: Cllr Williams has sent blanket apologies for all meetings since he has been unwell.	Approved
23FRM/016	To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest and Dispensations - None.	
23FRM/017	Public Participation - No members of the public present.	
23FRM/018	To Approve Minutes of Finance Committee: 13 th April 2023 <i>Approval: Cllr Muston proposed. Cllr Carney seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i>	Approved
23FRM/019	Matters arising from Previous Meetings (for information only) GPC Clerk raised there had been questions around Staff pay rise (Agenda item 23FRM/008.4). Cllr Hayat noted the extensive scrutiny by the previous and current council around staff pay-rise. GPC Clerk noted backlog work required on many Council items which has now given a baseline for the future.	Noted
23FRM/020	Action List	

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23FRM/020.1	Any other Matters arising – A chance to raise any comments/concerns on previous agenda items - None	
23FRM/021	Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Committee	For Decision
23FRM/021.1	<p>Committee to consider and approve different categories of spend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory • Asset Management • New Projects <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p> <p>Committee discussed rationale for the above three items. GPC Clerk to categorise and review for August Full Council Need for backlog maintenance to be actioned was agreed.</p> <p>[Action]: Categorise work that would/should be operational but has not been carried out for some years.</p> <p>Cllr Hayat pointed out that currently for Operational issues, GPC is using reserves and running at a loss. Committee noted need to make an informed decision to ensure that our expenses are sustainable.</p> <p>[Action]: To tag all cost codes by above three items of spend and to also tag items by Capital Spend and Operational for August Agenda.</p>	Approved
23FRM/021.2	<p>Committee to consider and define Reserve Policy</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p> <p><u>Amended Motion:</u> Committee to consider and define Reserve Policy principles.</p> <p><u>Principles:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Hayat asked for confirmation of need to commit regular increases to some of GPC Reserves 2. Reserve policy to confirm the reserves to which regular increases should be made. 3. This policy is to be reviewed annually to ensure the agreed increase is sensible. 4. General Reserves will be used if a loss is made at the end of the year. 5. GPC to confirm the maximum value of unallocated Reserves to be held by Girton Parish Council considering guidelines from NALC policy. 6. Girton Parish Council to review and confirm the required set of Allocated Reserves to be held. 7. Description and rationale to be defined for each reserve. 8. Confirm if General reserve to be used for Capital Spend only or whether GPC should identify when and if General Reserves should be used for Operational Spend? 9. Aim is to get forecasting in place regarding use of reserves - Three-year plan. <p><u>Actions/Aims:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Movement of reserves to be included in Monthly Finance Report from August 	Approved

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Increase early and detailed messaging within the Council and with Girton residents around financial goals, budget. 3. GPC to put in place project plans to give Council more transparency about steps to be taken and priority of each task. 4. Reserves policy to link with Categories of Spend - Agenda Item: 23FRM/021.1 5. All GPC policies to be based on NALC/SLCC model policy. <p>[Action]: Reserve policy to be drafted together with supporting process documents based on above agreed principles and brought back to Finance Committee or Full Council in August.</p>	
23FRM/021.3	<p>Committee to consider Budget Setting process for 2024/2025</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> <i>Cllr Hayat proposed. Cllr Carney seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p> <p>Committee noted that existing operational gave details but was it representative of all required tasks given that some maintenance had not been regularly carried out for a few years.</p> <p><u>2023/2024</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For 2023/2024 predict Income, and amount of money to be made available by reduction of Unallocated Reserves (Estimated Total Budget) 2. Based on above Finance Committee to identify Guidelines 3. Identify precepts across Villages - extract from SCDC website for input to GPC decision-making. 4. Operational Committees to identify spend from project list and operational budget for 2023/2024 in August meetings. 5. Operational Committees to submit spend for 2023/2024 6. Finance Committee to be clear how operational spend funded? Precept + Income 7. Committee noted Intent to begin the Pavilion Refurbishment project during 2023/2023 (Amount available in allocated £275k) 8. £50K availability for Capital this year confirmed in January precept calculation. 9. Note what is the impact on operational spend for any plans for this year? <p><u>2024/2025</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operational Committees to submit itemised budgets by end of October 2023 2. Finance committee to review and recommend the budgets for Full Council by 29th December. 3. Aim to approve 2024/2025 precept request in December 2023 meeting for reflection ahead of January deadline for submission of precept. (A month earlier than last year) <p>Council Meeting dates to be reviewed or if necessary Extra Ordinary meetings to be introduced to ensure that December meeting has required information to review precept.</p> <p>Improve communication to Girton Community around Girton precept process setting and rationale for amount set.</p>	Approved

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	[Actions]: As above.	
23FRM/021.4	<p>Committee to consider methodology for Charging and Terms of Conditions for users of Parish Council Assets.</p> <p>Approval: <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 'Mandatory' need for GPC Assets to be kept at a minimum level 2. Need to optimise GPC assets to benefit community e.g., Sports pitches. 3. Need to confirm additional cost required so that GPC Assets meet the expectations of our Recreation User 4. GPC to identify, categorise and agree additional subsidy for maintenance of assets above the basic level per Girton resident. <i>(Note: Subsidies may be different amounts per sport)</i> 5. Anything above that subsidy may need to be raised from monies outside GPC income/precept. Note potential of partnership/support with other organisations in the village 6. Principle is looking at the level that GPC Assets should aim for: Good Enough, Better, Best and at what cost? 7. Committee notes the need for understanding of the amount of contribution/subsidy given to each sport and to document the rationale for all decisions around this subsidy. <p>[Action]: User Terms and Conditions to be drafted together with supporting process documents based on above agreed principles and brought back to Finance Committee or Full Council in September.</p>	Approved
23FRM/021.5	<p>Committee to consider £500.00 fee to Streets for reclaiming VAT on MUGA maintenance in 2019 under new guidelines. Deadline for claim September 2023.</p> <p>Approval: <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p> <p>Debate Highlights: Cllr Carney noted that he believed £500 is a reasonable sum to spend on risk mitigation around this change of legislation. History has shown that best practice has not always been achieved. GPC Clerk & Cllr Carney noted that by checking VAT submission with Streets indicated that GPC was aiming for best practice.</p>	Approved
23FRM/021.6	<p>Committee to consider the quote from Streets Accountants on VAT Registration <i>Note VAT notice 749:</i> www.gov.uk/guidance/local-authorities-and-similar-bodies-notice-749#section2</p> <p>Debate Highlights: Motion deferred to allow Council to review the information received from Streets on the morning of this meeting. Motion to be brought for approval in July 12th Full Council.</p>	Deferred
23FRM/021.7	<p>Review £500 Annual donation and £500 request for fix to Irrigation System from Girton Bowls Club</p> <p>Approval: <i>Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</i></p>	Approved

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	<p><u>Debate Highlights:</u></p> <p>Cllr Muston noted that historically GPC Council had been delayed with discussion around whether donation should be made.</p> <p>Cllr Carney queried the language: 'Annual donation'. GPC Clerk to check the source of the language used and motion to be brought to July Full Council will recommend payment and in addition consider whether the terminology should be 'Annual Donation' or 'Maintenance Contribution'.</p> <p>GPC Clerk to include information on total maintenance amount being paid for maintenance of GPC Asset by Girton Bowls Club.</p>	
23FRM/021.8	<p>Review Financial & Resource Management Report for submission to Full Council</p> <p>Work in progress.</p> <p><u>Debate Highlights:</u></p> <p>Cllr Muston confirmed this was a work in progress.</p>	Deferred
23FRM/022	<p>To Receive Correspondence addressed to the Committee.</p> <p>GPC Clerk noted that questions raised around VAT de minimis limit and VAT Registration had been investigated and answers would be distributed as part of the July Agenda pack.</p>	
23FRM/023	<p>To Approve Communication of items from this Agenda</p> <p><u>Approval:</u> Cllr Carney proposed. Cllr Hayat seconded. Unanimous Approval.</p>	Approved
23FRM/024	<p>Date of next meeting(s): September 6th at 7pm</p>	
Meeting ended: 22:01		

Comments received at Girton Feast, 8th July 2023

1. Litter picking
2. 20mph required
3. Zip wire
4. Big Basket Swing
5. Table Tennis Table
6. Flying Bike
7. Skate Park
8. Table Tennis Table
9. Table Tennis Table
10. Bigger Dog Friendly Zone
11. Teenage Play Area
12. Zip wire
13. Broken Gate
14. Social Events
15. Neighbourhood Plan
16. More Trees
17. Improved Bus Service
18. Wild Flower Verges
19. Social Housing
20. More horses & bikes
21. Footpaths
22. More nature reserves
23. 20mph required
24. Please use Dog Bins

25. A Thank you to Girton Community was received at GPC Stall on Girton Feast Days to 'Thank you for supporting Ukrainians and for welcoming them as part of the Community'. There may be some opportunities to learn more about the Ukrainian culture in Girton in the future.

GPC Facebook Post, 09/07/2023: Thank you to Girton Feast Organisers for giving [Girton Parish Council](#) and all our local councils an opportunity to join in the fun yesterday. And the many many organisations and businesses who do such great work in the village all represented and raising money to do even more yesterday. It was great to get a chance to meet you all.

Many of our Councillors were at the [Girton Feast](#) really enjoyed hearing your views yesterday.

Please keep your comments coming in on the work the Parish Council is doing in many ways and make sure your voice is heard:

Neighbourhood Plan Survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/rp47M6TLxz>

Girton Parish Council Data Alley Feast Survey:

<https://forms.gle/5zDxW45rBP7C2mzx5>

Residents Collection to support Girton Corner Telephone Box:

<https://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/girtoncornertelephonebox>

Join our monthly meetings, next one July 12th 2023

Agendas for all meetings posted here:

<https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/council-agendas/>

Thanks again to [Girton Feast](#) committee.