

# Guideacres Gossip



November 2019

## Chairman

After seventeen years Pat Muller plans to step down as Chairman of the Guideacres Committee by the end of 2020. She would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to lead Guideacres into another successful decade.

For the job description, see overleaf; and get your application in by the 1st of March.



Planning permission has been received, so work will begin soon on the woodland gazebo in memory of Lesley Jenkins. It will stand in the south west corner of the field.

During the year we have had a new soakaway dug across the field, and installed gravel around Great Oaks, both of which have improved drainage.

## Happy campers

We were delighted to receive this feedback: 'we have had such a wonderful stay, despite the mixed weather the facilities are so perfect, with the veranda for shelter and the Little Acorns porch with all the coat hooks, plus the washing lines etc, we were so well catered for.'

Participants at a First Response course at the beginning of October could scarcely believe their eyes when they spotted a small muntjac deer grazing at the edge of the trees.

This is a first for the site.



## Cancellation Policy

We are pleased to have been able to hold our site fees for 2020. However, we have made changes to our deposits policy. The deposit has been increased to £50 for overnights and residentials, and £25 for a day's hire, or the full amount (if this is less). This is non-refundable if cancellation is less than 8 weeks before the event.

This comes into force from January 1st, 2020.

If you struggle to fill your event, try asking neighbouring Units to join you to make up numbers.

**Great Oaks will be 21 years old this coming year. Look out for news of a party for all.**



## Role of Chairman of Guideacres

The Chairman is a Trustee of Guideacres (as are all the Committee) with the responsibilities that entails. See further information on role of Trustees (below) and the Mission Statement.

The Chairman has overall responsibility for running regular meetings – setting the Agenda and approving Minutes.

The Chairman encourages and supports links with guiding and liaises with Divisions, Districts and Units as necessary.

The Chairman co-ordinates events or projects determined by the Committee; ie. meeting with contractors, arranging planning permission, researching processes or equipment.

The Chairman is the “responsible person” for Legionella testing. This involves regularly testing temperatures of water, cleaning taps and shower heads etc and entering onto a schedule.

The Chairman has overall responsibility for Health & Safety – this involves being aware of current regulations, ensuring risk assessment and fire risk assessments are updated. Noting the maintenance schedule and meeting contractors etc as required.

The Chairman ensures there is an annual Development meeting.

The Chairman applies for grants when necessary/ available.

The Chairman participates in fundraising events.

The Chairman maintains links with the treasurer concerning finance decisions and is a signatory on the account.

The Chairman attends Work days (whenever possible), and helps with jobs.

The Chairman writes the annual report each year at the end of December.

## The Essential Trustee 6 main duties



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>

### Mission Statement for Guideacres:-

“To maintain and preserve the natural woodland and meadow (Guideacres) for the benefit of Girlguiding members.

To maintain the site to enable camping and other outdoor opportunities.

To provide buildings and accommodation appropriate to the needs of Girlguiding.

To manage the site by, where possible, using ecologically sound and sustainable methods to reduce the impact on the environment such as climate change and energy use.”



find 'Friends of Guideacres' on Facebook