## Godstone Parish Council

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

Clerk to the Parish Council
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# Christmas Lights in the Villages of Godstone and South Godstone

A letter to all Godstone Businesses, Community Groups and Residents

#### Challenges with the Christmas Tree Lights

It is only a few months away until Christmas and the Parish council has been working during 2023 to try and ensure that the necessary testing on the Christmas lights (in the trees around the village) is completed to make sure that they comply with Surrey Highways licence requirements and can be lit for Christmas. However, this has proved far more challenging and frustrating than it could possibly be imagined after being let down by last year's contractor and exorbitant cost quotations for what is required.

So, although there are plans afoot for the council to try and establish a better long-term solution for the future of Christmas lights in the villages, Christmas 2023 is approaching fast, and the council have decided that the priority and focus for the moment now needs to be on ensuring that Godstone and South Godstone are made as festive as possible if the councils tree lights cannot be turned on.

#### Request for help to light up the Villages!

The council wants to enlist your support and ask as part of the local community if you are willing and able to rally around and help get as many Christmas lights on show in the village as possible, both in houses and businesses in the village. Who knows what might be possible!

The council knows how much everyone enjoys the lights and are extremely disappointed that this year it is likely that there will be no lights on in the trees, but also know how the community has a great way of coming together and hope a way can be found to bring as many Christmas lights as possible and festive cheer to the village despite the disappointment of the tree lights.

### **Contribute for future Christmas lights**

If you are able to contribute with lights this year then that is truly fantastic, but if that is not possible, but you are in a position to make a donation to assist with future Christmas lighting, then the Parish council is always very grateful to the businesses and community that offer support by making monetary contributions.

If you wish to donate, cheques should be made payable to Godstone Parish Council, or alternatively an online payment can be made to:

Bank Name: Lloyds TSB Account No. 01436378 Sort Code 30-91-72

Please include a reference 'Christmas2023' to help identify the payments so council can ringfence the contributions.

#### **Celebrating Success**

The Council would love to share your ideas and contributions and celebrate the support of the community by including information on our website, Instagram and in the Parish Magazine, please let us know via Sarah the Clerk by emailing <a href="mailto:clerk@godstone-pc.gov.uk">clerk@godstone-pc.gov.uk</a>, what you plan to do and if you contribute so we can thank and celebrate you accordingly!

We know its early, but Godstone Parish Council would like to extend our best wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas.

Yours faithfully

Jim Gardner Chairman of Godstone Parish Council