



## **BEKESBOURNE-WITH-PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7:30pm Bekesbourne Pavillion.

**Minutes to be formally agreed at the next meeting.**

### **1. Those present**

Parish Cllr David Sladden (Chair)  
Parish Cllr Christine Sladden (Vice Chair)  
Parish Cllr Mark Rhodes  
Parish Cllr Andrea Nicholson  
Parish Cllr Christine Ash  
Parish Cllr Caroline Tuffey

Mrs V. S. Illsley (Clerk/ Officer to Council)

There were 2 members of the public present.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Parish Cllr J. Watt  
Parish Cllr M. Evans

### **3. Declarations of Councillor interests relevant to this agenda**

Cllr M. Rhodes is an allotment tenant.

*19:32 The meeting was suspended for 13 minutes to allow discussion with members of the electorate of the parish of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne present at the meeting. Chair Cllr D. Sladden was happy to discuss Agenda Item 14.*

### **4. Public representation**

Resident spoke regarding the progression of installation of a community Defibrillator.

*Please see appendix A.*

## **5. External Reports**

### **5.1 County Councillor Reports**

Cllr Sole's monthly report was received and circulated to councillors ahead of the meeting.

### **5.2 City Councillor Reports**

Cllr Castle's monthly report was received and circulated to councillors ahead of the meeting.

*19:45 Parish Council meeting resumes*

## **6. To confirm minutes from the previous meeting**

**Resolved:** It was proposed by Cllr M. Rhodes and seconded by Cllr C. Sladden that minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 are TRUE and ACCURATE record.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

## **7. To report any matters arising (from the previous meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda)**

No matters to report.

## **8. S101 Delegated Authority**

Council noted under s101 Delegated Authority in the Agenda Pack the Resolution of the instruction of Safe Play Playground services to carry out quarterly playground inspections in addition to the annual inspection.

**Quarterly inspections:** £80.00 x 3 = £240.00

**Annual inspection:** £355.00

**A total cost of £595.00**

## **9. Any updates from representatives from external groups (if any)**

### **9.1 Recreation Ground Management Committee**

Council noted correspondence received. Cllr. A Nicholson raised concerns regarding the proposed plans for the recreation area and pavilion. The Clerk requested that discussion be deferred until Agenda Item 12.4, to allow for a more detailed and formal consideration of the plans. Council agreed, and the Chair suspended further discussion until the relevant item later in the meeting.

### **9.2 Village Hall Management Committee**

Correspondence was received and noted. The Clerk reported an update advising that there is currently a vacancy for the position of Secretary at the Village Hall.

### **9.3 The River Group**

Council noted correspondence received. The Council considered a request for an increase in the annual donation, including proposals for future increases. Cllr. A Nicholson provided a brief update.

**Resolved:** That the proposed increase in the donation to the River Group be approved. Proposed by Cllr. C Sladden and seconded by Cllr. C Ash.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

### **9.4 KALC**

No update received.

### **9.5 Traffic Management Group**

Council noted correspondence received. Cllr. M. Rhodes confirmed that he will continue to serve as the Parish Council's representative on the Traffic Management Group.

**Action:** Clerk to confirm that the Group has the updated email address for Cllr. M. Rhodes.

## **10. Highways matters**

### **10.1 20mph limit at Patricbourne**

Council noted receipt of the Deposit Documents relating to the Speed Limit Order. The Council also noted correspondence received from residents

regarding the extension of the 20mph zone. The Clerk advised that the Highways Improvement Plan could be updated and resubmitted to Kent County Council should the Council wish to pursue an extension.

Following discussion, it was:

**Resolved:** That the council has requested that the 20mph scheme be extended from the roundabout at the foot of Bifrons Hill by approximately 150–200 metres, to include and extend beyond the junction with Hode Lane. Proposed by Cllr. A Nicholson and seconded by Cllr. C. Ash.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

### **10.2 Highways Improvement Plan**

**Action:** Clerk to update the Highways Improvement Plan to include the agreed 20mph zone extension and submit the revised plan to Kent County Council prior to the meeting on 2nd April.

### **10.3 Any new matters to raise.**

The Council discussed the possibility of raising with Kent County Council concerns regarding the slowing of vehicles exiting the A2 slip road at Littlebourne.

**Action:** Clerk to make enquiries with Kent County Council regarding this matter.

## **11. Allotments**

### **11.1 Any Updates**

The Council considered a quote provided by the contractor for the cutting back of overhanging trees. The Clerk provided details of the proposed works, including the recommended height.

**Resolved:** That the Council proceed with the contractor's quote of £216.00 inclusive of VAT and approve the proposed tree heights. Proposed by Cllr. C. Ash and seconded by Cllr. C. Sladden.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

### **11.2 Any new matters to report**

The Council noted correspondence received regarding problematic parking on

Aspinall Close. The Council considered the Clerk’s recommendation to create a laminated sign with a polite reminder to be displayed on the gates, and to post the notice on the Council’s Facebook page.

**Action:** That the Clerk proceed with the creation and placement of the sign and the online notice.

## 12. Finance matters

### 12.1 To note February payment schedule & approve any new payments.

#### Payments Made Since the last meeting as per financial Regulation 6.8 iii.

Date	Type	Recipient	Amount
14.01.2026	FPO	Viking Direct Ltd	£ 255.32
15.01.2026	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Website	£ 23.99
16.01.2026	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Emails	£ 20.99
28.01.2026	FPO	SLCC ILCA Course	£ 168.00
28.01.2026	FPO	SafePlay – Equip repair	£364.80
28.01.2026	FPO	Forvis Mazar LLP	£ 378.00
30.01.2026	SO	V. Davidson – Work Phone	£ 8.00
30.01.2026	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
04.02.2026	FPO	V. Davidson Dec/Jan Pay	As per Salary Slip
04.02.2026	FPO	HMRC	£267.33
05.02.2026	FPO	HMRC	£300.00
05.02.2026	FPO	C. Strickson – Payroll (annual fee)	£312.00
16.02.2026	DD	Hugo Fox Ltd - Emails	£20.99
16.02.2026	DD	Hugo Fox Ltd – Website	£23.99
27.02.2026	BP	V . Davidson Feb Pay	As per Salary Slip
27.02.2026	BP	HMRC	£171.80

#### Payments Due for Approval:

Recipient	Detail	Amount
Hart Lee (Tree Surgeon)	Cut back overgrown vegetation	£216.00 Including VAT
V. Illsley	Clark expenses	£45.46
Safe Play Playground Services	Annual playground inspection	£426.00 Including VAT

**Resolved:** It was proposed by Cllr C. Tuffey and seconded by Cllr A. Nicholson to approve the January/ February payment schedule.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

**Resolved:** It was proposed by Cllr. C. Ash and seconded by Cllr C. Sladden to approve Hart lee – payment of £216.00 for works to be carried out at the allotments.

**Resolved:** it was proposed by Cllr C. Ash and seconded by Cllr A. Nicholson to approve the Clerk expenses sheet for £45.46.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

**Resolved:** It was proposed by Cllr C. Sladden and seconded by Cllr M. Rhodes to approve Safe Play annual playground inspection payment of £426.00.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

## **12.2 To Amend bank signatories**

The Clerk presented the Lloyds Bank Change of Signatory document to the Council for approval, appointing V. Illsley as a new signatory on both accounts and remove N. Purcell as a signatory.

**Resolved:** That the Change of Signatory document be approved and signed. Proposed by Cllr. D. Sladden and seconded by Cllr. M. Rhodes.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

## **12.3 Q4 Accounts January – March 2026**



**Resolved:** That the Q4 Accounts and bank reconciliation be approved.  
Proposed by Cllr. A Nicholson and seconded by Cllr. D. Sladden.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

#### **12.4 Funding (Updates)**

The Council discussed the playground works scheduled to commence on 23rd March. The Clerk presented a digital image received from Creative Play showing the proposed new additions.

Discussion took place regarding the Recreation Ground, with concerns raised over some items in the breakdown provided by the contractor. Cllr D. Sladden suggested a meeting between the Pavilion Committee and the Councillors to mark out the proposed works for visual clarification.

**Resolved:** That a meeting be arranged with S. Gilham at the Recreation Ground to mark out the proposed works to the car parking area. Proposed by Cllr. A. Nicholson and seconded by Cllr. M. Rhodes.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

**Action:** Clerk to email the contractor a list of questions from the Council for response prior to the meeting.

### **13. Planning**

#### **13.1 Update received**

**Gladman Planning appeal - Land at the Hill Littlebourne, CT3 1UX**

**REF: CA/23/00484**

**Update:** Council will monitor for a formal response on Canterbury City council Website.

#### **13.2 To discuss any new applications**

No new applications received.

### **14. Defibrillator**

**Resolved:** It was proposed by Cllr. D Sladden and seconded by Cllr C. Ash that the Council proceed with London Hearts under the current scheme to provide an AED at a reduced cost of £950.00 excluding VAT, to be installed at the entrance of Chalkpit Farm, and to contribute £15 per year towards the annual power supply. The Clerk is to obtain quotes from electricians for the installation.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

**Action:** The Clerk is to advertise for volunteers to host an AED on Aerodrome Road.

### **15. Contingency Planning**

The Council continued discussions regarding the development of a contingency/emergency plan for residents. The Clerk presented a draft guide outlining the necessary components of the plan, which the Council reviewed and Cllr. C. Sladden volunteered to lead and coordinate the creation of the plan in conjunction with the Clerk.

**Action:** The Clerk is to create a poster to advertise the need for volunteers, to be displayed within the village.

### **16. Correspondence**

Council noted the correspondence received. Councillor C. Ash expressed concerns regarding Property Services' proposed repairs to the fence along the public footpath.

**Action:** The Clerk is instructed to follow up with a formal and strongly worded email regarding this matter.

### **17. Kent Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (any updates) KALC**

No updates available on their website.

### **18. Annual Parish Meeting**

**Resolution:** It was proposed by Cllr C. Sladden and seconded by Cllr M. Rhodes to hold the Annual Parish meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm at the village hall.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

**Action:** Clerk to advertise to the relevant groups and organise refreshments for the meeting.

**19. Calendar of Meetings 2026/27**

**Resolution:** It was proposed by Cllr C. Ash and seconded by Cllr M. Rhodes to approve the calendar of meetings.

**Outcome:** All in favour, motion carried.

Next meeting date to be **April 27th, 2026.**

*Meeting Closed 20:55pm*

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**It was agreed that these minutes are a TRUE and ACCURATE record:**

**Signed (Chairperson)**

**Date.....**

## **March 2026 Appendices**

### **Appendix A – Public Participation**

**Resident:** Enquired about the status of defibrillator installations.

**G. Waters (Highland Court Farm):** Attended the meeting to respond to any queries regarding the lighting issues raised at the previous meeting. No concerns were raised.

*End of Appendices.*