



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th April 2026 at 7.30pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

Present: Councillors - D. Divers, D. Tweedale, A. Andrews, M. Lawrance, L. Ageros, M. Fentiman, E. Dore
Also, Present: Community Warden Gary Groombridge, Sara Archer – Parish Clerk plus 5 members of public.

142/25-26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Cllr Sonya Smyth, District Cllr Abi Smith, PC Owen Crush.

143/25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests declared.

144/25-26 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 10th March 2026.

These were proposed by Cllr Lawrance, seconded by Cllr Andrews, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

145/25-26 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers expressed his thanks on behalf of the Parish Council and residents, to the handypeople for the exemplary appearance of the Parish. Many compliments had been received from residents of both villages.

146/25-26 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that KALC were offering some free training sessions. Cllr Fentiman and Cllr Andrews expressed an interest in attending Nuts & Bolts Cllr Training, and Cllr Tweedale expressed an interest in Planning training. The Clerk would circulate dates accordingly. The Clerk had attended the first of three AI training sessions. The annual audit documentation had been completed and forwarded to the internal auditors for consideration. The Clerk had submitted the necessary paperwork for the two planned events at Bell Meadow, to TDC. The Clerk gave a brief explanation of the Assertion 10 regulations and confirmed the PC would be compliant following the adoption of the IT policy. An updated Code of Conduct had been circulated from TDC who encouraged Parish Councils to adopt the new version. This would be formalised and included on the next agenda for approval.

147/25-26 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Mo Fentiman echoed the receipt of compliments from residents regarding the appearance of the village.

A new Management Committee for Parish Close had been formed and would be responsible for the completion and upkeep of the Close. In view of this, Cllr Divers advised he would contact KCC to chase the outstanding works at Manor Road.

Cllr Tweedale advised he had spoken to, and received feedback from residents at Summer Road regarding the planning application. The removal of the banners on the A299 had been noted.

Cllr Lawrance raised concerns with regard to the removal of trees along the Canterbury Road during nesting season. The Clerk would make enquiries with the landowners.

The Thursday men's club had worked to remove the soil from Shuart Lane. Residents thanked the group for their hard work.

A Craft Day had been arranged on 20th June 10am-2pm at the Church.

It was noted that the public footpath TE4 from The Length to Frost Farm had been ploughed and not reinstated. This would be reported online to Heather Waller, KCC.

Cllr Andrews had been approached by a resident whose property backed on Bell Meadow, to plant trees on the boundary line, at his expense. The Parish Council advised that they supported the request, however, the resident would require formal permission from TDC as landowners.

Cllr Dore thanked the Community Warden for his presence during school pick and drop off times and speaking to parents about parking considerately. It was noted the situation had improved significantly since his presence.

Cllr Ageros had been maintaining the Village Planters and Flagpole garden. He also thanked the handypeople for their work on TE10 and in the village.

148/25-26 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

No reports received.

149/25-26 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Luke Evans was not in attendance and did not submit a report.

150/25-26 KENT POLICE REPORT

PC Owen Crush was unable to attend the meeting, however, he had submitted the following report:

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the upcoming parish council meeting, so I wanted to send along a police report in lieu of this which I hope councillors will find interesting.

Thanet Villages

Total crime reports: 102 reports (30 marked as non-crime)

6 positive outcomes. (2 charges, 4 community resolutions)

St Nicholas at Wade & Sarre

2 calls for Sarre

22 calls for St Nicholas at Wade

Most of these were traffic-related, with one domestic report created.

In addition to the above statistics, here is a selection of the work I have been carrying out over the past month:

- Static road checks on Monkton St, Monkton by the school and nursery, and enforcement of the 'no stopping' zone.
- I have arrested a male whilst on the beat, as he was wanted for failing to surrender on bail to police custody.
- Checks on multiple suspicious vehicles raised to me by concerned residents across all villages, with tax, insurance, MOT and other queries resolved
- I have arrested a male who was reported to be drink driving. He was caught and arrested for various traffic offences, and was remanded into police custody to present him straight to court. At court, he was given a 36 month disqualification from driving, given a fine, and ordered to carry out 120 hours of unpaid work.
- I have been conducting rural patrols in response to recent poaching calls. As part of these patrols, a quantity of NOS canisters and rubbish were located which I have cleared up and will pay continuing attention to this location.
- An on the beat arrest was made of a male wanted for failing to appear at court in relation to an assault.
- Proactive patrolling in Minster led to the seizure of drugs from a person.
- Attendance was swiftly made by officers at a reported burglary which happily turned out to be a false alarm with good intent.
- I have had Community Protection Warning authorised for an individual who has been causing issues in Minster. This Warning has conditions to both support the individual and prevent further antisocial behaviour in the area.
- I was notified of an ongoing domestic incident while on patrol in Minster, and thanks to help from a passer-by I was able to locate and arrest a male on suspicion of a variety of offences. This male was remanded to court and the victim safeguarded.
- I have been liaising with PCSO colleagues to organise future Speedwatch and traffic enforcement across Cliffsend, Pegwell and Thanet Villages.
- I have arrested two males on suspicion of shoplifting on consecutive days whilst on the beat in the Isle, both of whom were found with the suspected stolen goods still on their person (see below image). These offences remain under investigation.
- My colleagues and I have responded to two high risk missing persons reported in my wards, with both thankfully found safe and well.
- Patrols have continued to be undertaken in hotspot areas raised by councillors for ASB, and I've been engaging with residents around a variety of issues from nuisance parking to incidents of damage.
- I attended an address of interest with colleagues and identified several stolen motorbikes within the property that had been stolen from Cliffsend and other locations in Thanet. A male was taken into custody on suspicion of theft offences and enquiries remain ongoing. I am aware of a reported increase of nuisance motorbikes particularly within Cliffsend, and will continue to take action to combat criminal use of these vehicles.

151/25-26 KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

CW Gary Groombridge reported as follows:

- Continue to do Visual Presence around the Villages
- Continue to support and attend the Wellbeing group in the Bell Meadow Pavilion at St Nicholas at Wade, speak to the residents and support with any issues and concerns.
- Continue to support and attend the Wellbeing group in the Sun Inn at St Nicholas at Wade, speak to the residents and support with any issues and concerns.

- I have carried out some visual presence outside the Primary School at St Nicholas at Wade, concerning people parking on the new double yellow lines that have been installed. (I will continue be a presence when I can)

- Continue to support and attend the Men's Wellbeing group at the Church Café, in the Church at St Nicholas at Wade, speak to the residents and support them with any issues and concerns.

152/25-26 BELL MEADOW WORKING GROUP REPORT

Cllr Divers advised that the St George's Day event had been scheduled for 23rd April, the bar would be opened and Pie 'n' Mash available.

Works on the tennis court were due to start in early May.

A Classic Car show had been arranged for 20th June and a Sports Day arranged for 5th September.

153/25-26 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) OL/TH/26/0324 - Land East Side Of, Summer Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Application discussed in detail. Noted previous applications have been refused. Access issues, concern regarding additional traffic, road unsuitable. Size of house not proportionate. Impact on water pressure, already affected, sewage system at capacity. Proposed to call-in application.

Vote taken – unanimously object to application.

b) None.

154/25-26 FINANCE

a) The Clerk presented the monthly bank reconciliation between the cash book and bank accounts.

RESOLVED: To approve the monthly bank reconciliation for March. (Proposed: Cllr Andrews, Seconded Cllr Dore).

b) The Clerk presented the monthly payment schedule which included the following payments:

SNS - Domain Hosting	£60.51
Employee salaries & expenses	£2242.79
M. Savage - Handyman Equipment	£450.00
BMP deposit return	£25.00
Business Stream - BMP water	£92.30
Clerks & Councils Subscription	£15.50
Lloyds Bank CC	£200.04
EDF - Electricity	£70.65
Hugofox - Website hosting	£11.99
EDF - Gas	£152.45
Business Stream - Allotments	£96.31
D. Divers - BMP Cleaning sundries	£19.87
NP Electricals - Lighting repairs BM	£390.00
Unity Trust - Service Charge	£7.00

Receipts:

BMP Hire - Ukelele	£136.00
BMP Pitch Hire - Frames	£80.00
Allotment Plot 5	£60.00
Allotment Plot 4b	£30.00
Allotment Plot 2b	£30.00
BMP Hire - various	£48.00
Allotment Plot 2a	£30.00
Allotment Plot 3b & 4a	£60.00
BMP Hire various	£89.00
BMP Hire various	£80.00
BMP Hire - Meadow Market	£50.00
Unity Trust - Interest	£493.23

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoices included in the monthly payment schedule for April.

(Proposed: Cllr Fentiman, Seconded: Cllr Andrews)

c) Cllr Divers outlined the position with regard to the Bell Meadow Improvement project. It was discussed and agreed that a firm financial forecast would be prepared for the next meeting, to enable a fully informed decision to be made with regard to the funding of the fencing for the MUGA.

d) The Clerk confirmed the current utilities contract with EDF was due for renewal. Figures were provided to Councillors. It was discussed and agreed to renew the contract with EDF for a further 3 year fixed contract.

RESOLVED: To approve the proposal to renew the utilities contract with EDF for a further 3 year fixed contract. (Proposed: Cllr Dore, Seconded: Cllr Andrews)

155/25-26 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Clerk provided a brief explanation of the requirement for the IT Policy which was taken from the NALC template, to meet the guidelines of Assertion 10.

The policy had been circulated prior to the meeting. No comments were made. It was therefore agreed to adopt the policy in its current form.

RESOLVED: To adopt the IT Policy for 2026/27. (Proposed: Cllr Lawrance, Seconded: Cllr Tweedale)

156/25-26 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No issues raised.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 8:40pm.