MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at

John Spanton Sports Pavilion, St Mildreds Road, Minster

on 6th October 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Quittenden, Crow-Brown, Fordyce, Bates, Smith, Low, Webzell, Jones, Mogridge, Ingleton.

Also present: Kyla Lamb (Clerk to the Council), Cllr Abi Smith (TDC), Cllr Luke Evans (KCC), Gary Groombridge (Community Warden)

175. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence: Cllr Andrews, Cllr Peter Evans (TDC), PC Owen Crush, Clare Beamand (Assistant Clerk)

176. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 1st September 2026 be approved.

177. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No members interests noted.

178. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

PC Owen was not present but had provided a report as follows:
Calls to Minster: 51, these were a real mix of calls and disproportionate as the A299 runs through it.

Items of note:

- Intercepted a suspicious vehicle sighted in fields around Minster suspected of poaching offences and the Rural Task force will continue investigations.
- Organised a tool tagging event on Friday 13th November 10-12 at Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas.
- Made 10 arrests since 1/9/26 including shoplifting, recall to prison, driving offences and domestic offences. Stop searches resulted in seizing stolen property, drugs and weapons.
- Dealing with neighbourhood disputes, responding to Councillor's from across my ward and organising multi agency visits.
- Have seized e-scooters and illegal e-bikes, issued traffic offence reports for no licence and no insurance, seized a car.
- Has a police surgery on 4/12/26 1800 to 1900 in Minster.

Community Warden Gary Groombridge reported as follows:

- Continues to be a visual presence within the village.
- Reported again, fly tipping and more nitrous oxide cannisters along the old top road to TDC Street Scene enforcement.
- Continue to support Mens Shed.
- Received a complaint about a man sitting outside the CO-OP and shoplifting. Informed PC Crush who moved him on.

- Had a report regarding an incident with a dog that the Clerk was aware of in the rec.
- Visited the Sisters at Minster Abbey due to a report that children had been riding their bikes in the grounds.
- Had a contact from a residents niece regarding parking across her driveway.
- Received a complaint about a resident burning kitchen units causing a lot of smoke and fumes.
- Continues to support several elderly residents through the positive wellbeing programme.

179. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Peter Evans (TDC) was not present but had sent a report as follows:

- £150,000 Community Action Grant opens for Ramsgate Projects.
- Thanet District Council is preparing a comprehensive improvement plan to address findings from the Regulator of Social Housing, following the publication of its inspection report on Wednesday 30 September 2026.

Cllr Abi Smith (TDC) provided a report as follows:

- Council Tax direct debits were delayed due to an administrative error this month.
- Waste and recycling collections are now back on schedule after the disruption of recent months.
- The free leaf collection scheme is back after a successful trial last year, when it collected eight tonnes of leaves.
- Three public consultations are open with TDC. The Local Plan scoping consultation and the Dog Control consultation both close this Friday, 9 October. The Local Plan will shape where development goes over the coming years, so it matters for the villages. The Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy consultation is open until 25 October. All three are on the council's "Your Voice" consultation website: https://yourvoice.thanet.gov.uk/en-GB/
- Minster Primary School's "Protest Wall" artwork, made with the Thanet Coast Project, is on display in the ticket hall at Margate railway station until the end of November.
- Thanet District Council has been given about £450,000 by Kent County Council for the first year of the new Crisis and Resilience Fund. This replaces the Household Support Fund and runs for three years. The rules are tighter than before. Being on a low income is no longer enough on its own: residents need to show they've been hit by an acute crisis or sudden financial shock, such as an unexpected bill, a sudden loss of income, or leaving domestic abuse. Until the end of November, help is being given through Citizens Advice, Age UK and two housing associations, Orbit and Riverside.

Cllr Luke Evans (KCC) provided a report as follows:

- Reported that planning application F/TH/25/1169 Way Hill 4 houses has been refused.
- The new road repair works with a guarantee for 12 months have commenced with the first works being carried out in Garlinge.
- Has been voted on as a parent governor at Minster Primary School.
- Ongoing issue of blocked gulleys not having an annual cleaning just being responded to as necessary. Clerk will report any issues directly to Cllr Evans.

Cllr Ingleton thanked Cllr Evans for his support with the Way Hill application.

180. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Cllr Quittenden reported as follows:

- Attended the Joint Transportation Board Meeting and raised the number of water leaks around minster with Paul Valek.
- Attended a KCC planning site visit to the proposed hydrogen plant in Manston.
- Attended the Parish Forum Meeting with the Clerk. Iain Livingstone gave an update on the new government regulation regarding planning coming into force form 31st October 2026. This removes the opportunity of planning applications to be called in unless they fit a certain criteria putting more onus on Officer's to make delegated decisions to speed up decisions.
- LGR was discussed and Parish and TDC elections will tale place in May 2027. LGR vesting date if it goes ahead will be April 2029.
- TALC arranged a visit to the new fire station in Ramsgate which was an rye opener.
- Attended the Art Show and Ploughing match that had taken place recently.

181. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk had nothing to report.

182. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

None.

183. PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Highways & Transportation meeting held on 29th September, be received and the recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Ingleton reported as follows:
Had provided a response to the Local Plan Scoping Consultation, Cllr Low asked to review it and respond tomorrow with any further comments before the Clerk sends the final draft.
Will bring back a Neighbourhood Development Plan for discussion as an agenda item following Cllr Mogridge request for this to be considered and the discussion of the paper he prepared.

184. CARNIVAL COURT REQUEST FOR CONTINUED GRANT

Miss Minster Carnival Court is no longer continuing. However, Roy and Carol Bailey have agreed to continue arranging visiting Carnival Courts to take part in Minster Shows Parade and The Minster Show Princess will still head the parade. There is a reciprocal arrangement that the carnival courts are provided with refreshments after the carnival events. A request has been made to continue to fund this. Approximately 7 other carnival courts attend the parade. The Baileys arrange the parade and stewards for this. The request is for £200-£250. A discussion ensued and it was

RESOLVED to support the Minster Show Parade refreshments up to the maximum amount of £250 if the parade continues subject to the Clerk receiving receipts for the expenditure.

It was further AGREED that the Clerk will write to the Baileys expressing thanks for the years they have arranged the Carnival Court representing Minster.

185. INSURANCE RENEWAL

Members were asked to ratify the renewal of the insurance renewal 1/10/2026 – 30/09/2027 for the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED to ratify the Insurance renewal for the ensuing year in the sum of £4850.87 with Ecclesiastical Insurance.

186. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC – Cllr Quittenden reported that in relation to the Local Government Review collaborative working is important.
TALC are putting more pressure on TDC planning to disclose the holding and distribution of section 106 monies. Requested a TDC representative to discuss this, this was declined on the grounds that Mr Livingstone had attended earlier in the year. Next meeting 23rd November. AGM is at Ditton on 25th November.

Minster School – Cllr Webzell reported that there are plans to try and revitalise the link with Armbouts Cappel and Twinning Association.

Village Hall. – Cllr Smith reported that the 55th Art Show went ahead. It is hoped that the show has broken even. Sir Roger Gale attended the event. Depending on the outcome of the finances and having volunteers to run it, the event may not continue next year.

187. REPORT OF THE RFO

RESOLVED:

(a) the Bank balance statement be received and noted,

(b) the statement of Receipts and Payments for the months of September 2026 be approved.

(c) The Annual Audit of Accounts external audit report be received and noted the comment of Box 11 of Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) has been incorrectly completed. Box 'No' was recorded where 'Yes' would have been appropriate.

(d) the budget income/expense report to 30th September 2026 be received.

188. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Time concluded: 8.25pm

3rd November 2026