



HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office, Village Hall, Horton Road, South Darent DA4 9AZ

16th January 2026

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 12th January 2026 in the Village Hall, South Darent at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr I Blackamore Chair, T Moyle Vice, N Gurr, D Hollands, D Mitchell, C Page, A White, D Wakefield

District Cllrs: A White, L Ball

Members of the Public: 17 including DRiPS representative M Dunn.

In Attendance: L Johnson Parish Clerk

116 Apologies for Absence

None received

117 Declarations of Interest

None received

118 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held 1st December 2025 were signed to confirm they are a true and accurate record of the meeting's proceedings.

119 Clerks Report –

Minute 131: Strip of land at East Hill/Paddock Close. Solicitor has received 11th December and will review.

103 Police Matters – PC Joe Weatherall has confirmed his attendance to the February PC meeting.

107 Materials Storage Policy and Agreement Form

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact KALC for more information on the legality involved prior to adopting the document. **Action:** Clerk to contact NALC. **To be Started** Parish Councillor Skills Audit - all received Dawn unavailable at the moment. **To be started**

Correspondence:

River Darent – email 18 August – consider designating as a ‘Special Area of Conservation’

120 Police Matters

No officers or reports.

121 Report from District Councillors – *Appendix 1*

District Cllr Alan White's monthly update report had been received as a supporting document and was available on the website.

Sevenoaks District County leader since November 2025, Kevin Maskell, had been invited by Cllr White to meet HK&SD Parish Councillors and residents to talk a little about the County Council's Local Plan, Local Government re-organisation and to listen to any local concerns. Cllr Maskell thanked Cllr White for the invitation and introduced Kelly Webb from He confirmed that a Neighbourhood Plan is a very useful tool for a Parish Council to have and would be incorporated into Local Plans. The National Planning Policy framework (NPPF) overarches planning developments and serves as the central rulebook.

Public services are invited to take part in a statutory consultation regarding Local Government Reorganisation from February 2026 onwards with Government announcing its chosen model July 2026.

Parish Council expressed concerns that by being part of a much larger unitary Council, it may be overlooked as the larger governing body was less familiar with its individual needs and problems.

All Councillors agreed that HK&SD parish Council should be proactive in making itself known once LGR was established.

122 County Councillor for Sevenoaks North & Darent Valley

Cllr Marc Logan was not present, no apologies received and no report submitted.

123 Questions from the Public and Correspondence

Resident of Horton Kirby addressed Cllr Maskell to ask for assistance with the chronic traffic issues that Lombard Street had suffered with for approx. 20 years due to activities on Oakview Stud Farm and was currently as bad as ever. Despite multi agency interventions little had changed and it was a blight on residents and the village. Along with Kelly Webb, Cllr Maskell Advised he would look into this further and would reach out to other agencies to establish their powers.

124 Planning

None received.

125 IT Policy – Assertion 10

To receive and adopt IT Policy to comply with section one of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2025/26.

Action: Clerk will bring to February meeting.

126 KALC Community Award Scheme for 2026

To receive nomination(s) and vote for one recipient of KALC Award at Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Page had one suggestion and would visit the Parish office to submit.

- **Action:** Cllr Page and Clerk

127 2026 Calendar/Events

Clerk confirmed that the date of 2nd May had been confirmed by Cllr Mitchell at January Parish council meeting. Cllr Mitchell said that it should be Saturday 26th April after St. Georges Day.

Action: Clerk to change calendar

128 Newsletter/Events/Social Media

Cllr Mitchell announced that due to lack of news, a spring edition would not be issued.

129 Financial Matters**Schedule of Accounts**

The schedule of accounts totalling £17,155.88 were received and approved. There were no questions.

- **Action:** Cllrs Moyle and White to Authorise

130 Halls Committee Proposed Charges 2026 - 27

Upon receipt of the Halls Committee's proposal for charges commencing Aprils 1st 2026, Cllr Moyle proposed, Cllr Mitchell seconded all were in favour and therefore

- **Resolved** to submit as part of the 2026-27 budget and precept.

131 ROS Committee Proposed Charges 2026 – 27.

Upon receipt of the ROS Committee's proposal for charges commencing Aprils 1st 2026, to include £30 per allotment (half) plot, Cllr Gurr proposed, Cllr Page seconded all were in favour and therefore

- **Resolved** to submit as part of the 2026-27 budget and precept.

Under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2), that press and public be excluded from the following agenda item as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. HK & SD Parish Council Standing Order 11 (a & b) plus 19(f) also applicable; disclosure of such would breach the obligations of a Council under the Data Protection Act 1998.

132 HR Committee Proposed Salary Scales 2026-27

Councillors had received information to support the proposed amendments received from the H.R. committee. Cllr Blackamore resolved, Cllr White seconded and all were in favour and

- **Resolved** to submit as part of the 2026-27 budget and precept

133 2026-27 Budget and Precept.

Following committee meetings in December and January, Councillors were able to conclude many nominal accounts. It was agreed that further discussion of ear marked and general reserves were necessary to establish the final precept amount to submit to SDC.

Action: Clerk to notify SDC

Clerk to work on figures as discussed

Cllr Gurr to work with Clerk prior to next meeting.

134 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 1st February 2026

The meeting finished at 8.50pm

Chair: _____

Date: _____

Appendix 1

District Councillor Update

Road Closures

The gas maintenance in Horton Kirby was completed ahead of schedule and the school and bus service has been resumed.

That said, there has been a recent report of a gas leak at the junction of Bull Hill. The inspection will determine if the road needs to be dug up once more.

The verge along Reynolds Place had been severely churned. WCB stated they would put this right but no action as yet. I'm not away if the grass has begun to grow at Saxon Place where the spoil had been placed.

The gas maintenance has now moved to the A225 and Calfstock Lane. It will gradually move along the A225 towards the Station.

The schedule for Station Road, Horton Road and School Lane is yet to be confirmed.

PSPO

The Parish Council have been asked to detail the incidents that have occurred during the course of this year and for them to be submitted by 7th January in order for the PSPO to be progressed to the next level.

I have reviewed the content and I have no further comments to add.

I am mindful that the volume of incidents at Eynsford are significantly greater than those for Horton Kirby. That is no doubt, a result of the Ford, being more sensual and visible to the residence when ASB occurs.

Residents continue to report ABB in Westminster Field with two recent incidents of motorbike, quad bikes and r-bikes being ridden across the field.

Together with a recent report of a Harris Hawk being flown in Westminster Field.

West Kent Housing Association

A resident in School Lane was unhappy with the growth of vegetation that has occurred that was encroaching her garden and drive.

I engaged with WKHA who agreed to review the vegetation along the footpath and gave consent for any overgrowth to be cut down and be placed in the garden premises.

Lombard Street

There is a significant number of parked cars along Lombard Street that haven't moved for many days.

14 vehicles were reported to DVLA and SDC for either having no tax, no MOT or a SORN registered.

Kent Police were also informed and following a site inspection two vehicles were removed.

Two residents from Lombard Street and The Street have also complained about the numerous vehicles.

Policing

On Tuesday 6th January I will be meeting with our new neighbourhood police officer – PC Joseph Weatherall.

I have extended an invite to C/Insp Rik Spicer to attend our February PC meeting and await his confirmation if he can attend.

Bollards

A number of bollards along Lombard Street were reported for being knocked out of position by vehicles. No sooner were these repaired that a couple have been knocked out of position again which has necessitated further reporting to KCC to be resolved.

There are still bollards being knocked out of position.

Cllr Kevin Maskell - Leader of Sevenoaks District Council

You will no doubt be aware that Councillor Maskell became the new Leader of Sevenoaks District Council - see below.

<https://www.hortonkirbysouthdarenthparishcouncil.gov.uk/community/orton-kirby-south-darenth-parish-council-13687/news/meet-sevenoaks-district-council-s-new-leader-85152>

Cllr Maskell has accepted my invitation to join our Parish Council meeting in January 2026.

I have asked Cllr Maskell to talk a little on the Local Plan and have shared with him the submission from Horton Kirby and South Darent Parish Council. I have also asked if he can talk about Local Government Re-Organisation and how this may relate to parish council activities.

Do you let me know if you have any further questions for Cllr Maskell or on this update.

Many thanks

Cllr Alan White

Sevenoaks District Councillor for Farningham, Horton Kirby and South Darent (9th May 2023)

List of Payments made between 01/12/2025 and 31/12/2025

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Authorized Ref	Transaction Detail
01/12/2025	British Gas	BRITGAS	470.40	LGA 1976 s 19	0976VH GasOct-Nov
01/12/2025	Valda Energy	VALDA	117.20	PCAct 1957 s301	2469 MPAN 350
01/12/2025	Valda Energy	VALDA	703.78	PC Act 1957 s 301	2471 MPAN 350609
01/12/2025	Sevenoaks District Council	SDC	180.00	LGA 1972 s 133	Bus Rates VH
04/12/2025	Hugo fox	HUGOFOX	20.99	LGA1972 s 133	20850 10 email accounts
12/12/2025	Hugo fox	HUGOFOX	23.99	LGA1972 s 133	1154 Silver IT
16/12/2025	Castle Water Limited	CASTLE	130.64	LGA1972 s 19	8152 VH
16/12/2025	Adobe Systems software	LLOYDS	13.14	LGA1972 s 144	Acrobat Std 02 Dec 25
16/12/2025	Amazon	LLOYDS	15.98	LGA1972 s 101/11/12	4301 A4Lever Arch files
16/12/2025	Amazon	LLOYDS	23.27	LGA1972 ss 101/111/1	pins/mouse/mat/pins
16/12/2025	Lloyds Credit Card	LLOYDS	3.00	LGA1972 ss 101/11/12	monthly card charge
17/12/2025	Castle Water Limited	CASTLE	50.75	LGA1976 s 19	5764 Pavilion
17/12/2025	British Gas	BRITGAS	545.91	LGA1976 s 19	4685 Elec VH
20/12/2025	Wages	WAGES	4,167.25	LGA 1972 s 133/s145	December 2025
23/12/2025	Sevenoaks District Council	SDC	62.00	LGA1976 s 19	Rates Pavilion
29/12/2025	British Gas	BRITGAS	55.12	LGA1976 s19	6520 Pavilion elec
29/12/2025	Valda Energy	VALDA	85.24	H/Ways act 1980 s301	9570 MPAN 350609
30/12/2025	Valda Energy	VALDA	766.88	H/ways act 1980	9571 MPAN 350609
30/12/2025	TalkTalk	TALKTALK	47.89	LGA1972 ss 101.11.12	8815 Phone/WiFi
31/12/2025	British Gas	BRITGAS	868.04	LGA1972 s 133	3199 VH Gas
31/12/2025	NEST Pensions	NEST	299.57	LGA1972 s 133	Dec 25 pension
31/12/2025	Unity Trust Bank	UNITY	14.70	LGA1972 ss 101.11.12	Bank charges
31/12/2025	ZA Pristine Property Services	ZAPPS	2,014.00	LGA 1976 s 19	Inv 34/35 Cleaning/caretaking
31/12/2025	LothLorien Landscape Services	LOTHLORIEN	951.74	PHLth1875s164/lit	Inv 93/25
31/12/2025	Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	RIALTAS	162.00	LGA1972 ss 101/112	Budget Module training
31/12/2025	Phoenix Fireworks Ltd	PHOENIX	2,370.00	LGA1972 s 145	25166 02 Nov 26 fireworks
31/12/2025	Phoenix Fireworks Ltd	PHOENIX	40.00	s139 LGA1974	25383 2 x armistice rockets
31/12/2025	Kent Association Local Council	KALC	70.00	LGA1972 ss 101	7623 Finance conference
31/12/2025	NALC	NALC	42.00	s175 LGA1972	1161 NG beyond the precept
31/12/2025	Streetlights	STREET	90.00	H/Act 1980	15851 Station Rd pruning
31/12/2025	Sevenoaks District Council	SDC	312.00	EnvProtAct1990 order	1083 dog bins Oct - Dec
31/12/2025	Streetlights	STREETLIGH	1,910.40	Highways act 1980 s3	works as email of 16/10/25
31/12/2025	Quay Facilities Ltd.	QUAY	528.00	LGA1972 s 133	9585 Investigate JH Shutter

Total Payments

17,155.88