

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 13 November 2025

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr. S. Tolhurst – Chair	Cllr. K. Rivers-Simpson
	Cllr. S. Waters – Vice-Chair	Cllr. D. Waters
	Cllr. M. Baldock	Samantha Gray, Clerk
	Cllr. J. Hartley	4 Residents
	Cllr. P. Hyde	PC – Skye Williams

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Gomez and Holowczycki, and County Councillor Richard Palmer.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Baldock and seconded by Cllr. Hartley, the minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on 11 October 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Visitors/Public Time

1. Residents: Nothing to report.

2. County and Borough Councillors: None attended, report received from Cllr. Richard Palmer. See appendix A.

3. Police Constable: Skye Williams introduced herself as the new police constable covering Iwade and advised she has been attending friendship cafes in Iwade and Bobbing. To communicate with Skye and receive updates residents can sign up to 'My Community Voice' via the following website: <https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/>

She discussed the following issues:

- Loose horses in Old Ferry Road.
- Speeding vehicles in Sheppey Way.
- Resident present reported three near misses witnessed in Sheppey Way.
- Fly tipping in Raspberry Hill

5. Village Matters

1. New Village Hall Plans – to update council members regarding the interior fitment of the hall: A Teams meeting was held with Bellway Homes to discuss the interior fitment of the village hall, and they advised the parish council that they have no obligation to fit the interior of the village hall. However there is a condition attached to the hybrid application, Condition 13:

“The 'village hall' hereby approved shall be constructed, fitted out and ready for use prior to the occupation of any dwelling not located on phase 1A (as shown on figure 6.1 in the Design and Access Statement) and shall only be available for use between the hours of 0700 and 2300 on Sunday to Thursday and between the hours of 0700 and 0000 on Friday and Saturday.”

Bellway Homes have requested the village hall committee's 'wish list' is sent to them which the Clerk has provided. Send to all council members. **Action: Clerk**

2. Ownership of the Country Park, Land East of Iwade – council members to consider managing and maintaining the country park in the Land East of Iwade development: Council members **RESOLVED** to express an interest to be considered to manage the country park. **Action: Clerk**

3. CCTV:

- a) **To receive an update on processes and discuss the position of cameras:** Council members **RESOLVED** to form a working group to consider the position of cameras.

Action: Clerk/all council members

- b) **To consider quotation for static cameras:** Council members will consider the quotation after the working group meeting.

4. **Residents Village Survey:** Council members **RESOLVED** to hold the survey from 10 December to 15 January.

Action: Cllr. Tolhurst

5. **Community Resilience Report – to consider next steps:** Council members decided to defer to the next meeting when Cllr. Holowczycki is present.

Action: Clerk

6. **Planning** – applications are viewable on Swale: <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>; KCC: <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

1. **25/502115/FULL: 30 School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8SE. Extension of existing drop kerb to the site frontage providing an open frontage enabling easier vehicle access and parking.**

The parish council supports this application.

2. **25/503659/FULL: Change of use of land for siting of 6no. huts for overnight stay visitor accommodation, erection of associated ablutions building and parking, along with a change of use from an agricultural building to a rural worker dwelling. Land At Raspberry Hill Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8SP.**

Council members object to this application for the following reasons: Increase in traffic will have a negative impact and Inappropriate development - no need proven. The parish council request a holding opposition on the above application and reserve the right to add to the above comments. The parish council request this application is considered by the Planning Committee

3. **25/504438/HYBRID: Section 73 - Application for variation of conditions pursuant to planning permission ref: 25/500824/HYBRID to make amendments to approved plans condition 4 (to allow changes to the design of the country park), and variation of conditions 5 (country park landscape details), 7 (to allow delivery of the country park in phases), 24 (landscape and boundary to country park), 26 (surface water drainage masterplan), 27 (surface water drainage details), 30 (infiltration), 43 (ecological mitigation strategy), 44 (detailed ecological mitigation strategy), 46 (landscape and ecological management plan), 47 (habitat creation plan), 50 (lighting plan) and 57 (biodiversity net gain). Land East Of Iwade Iwade Kent ME9 8ST.**

Council members asked the Clerk to write to the planning officer with the following questions: What is the square footage of the country park? What the impact of the different phases are? Can the order of phasing of the Country park start in the phase with the Village Hall?

7. **Correspondence**

1. **Community Governance Review – To agree supporting evidence to submit to Swale Borough Council:** Council members **RESOLVED** to submit resident emails and council minutes as supporting evidence to Swale Borough Council.

Action: Clerk

2. **To note National Highways response – Road Closure:** Noted by council members.

3. **Jackson Civil Engineering – to note response regarding village hall car park repairs:** Proposed by Cllr. Rivers-Simpson and seconded by Cllr. S. Waters, council members are in support of Jackson Civil Engineering's solution to make the car park safe to avoid closure of the village hall due to health and safety concerns raised by the village hall committee. The Clerk will write to the village hall committee.

Action: Clerk

4. **Flood Action Group Forum – to note meeting date:** Meeting to be held on 26 November, 6.30pm – 7.30pm. The Clerk will re-circulate the meeting details to council members. **Action: Clerk**

8. **Parish Council Matters**

1. **ROSPA Garden Inspection – To consider the quotation to repair the garden surface:** Uneven garden surface has been reported and the handyman has supplied a quotation of £265.00p to repair this. Proposed by Cllr. Baldock and seconded by Cllr. S. Waters, council members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Iwade Village Website community engagement 3-month review:** Council members **RESOLVED** to continue with the agreement with Iwade Village Website. **Action: Clerk**
3. **To consider publishing draft minutes and news updates:** Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Rivers-Simpson, members **RESOLVED** to publish the draft council meeting minutes on the parish council website, and to publish a summary on the Iwade Village website. **Action: Clerk**

9. **Finance**

1. **To appoint a Bank Signatory:** Council members appointed Cllr. Rivers-Simpson. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Quotation to repair streetlight no.10 in Sheerstone:** Proposed by Cllr. Baldock and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, members agreed to the cost of £380.64p + VAT to supply and install the replacement LED gear tray. The lead time from point of order is seven weeks.
3. **Projects to be included in the Budget for 2026/27:** Noted by council members.
4. **Quotation to cut back and clear brambles next to Iwade Village Hall:** Proposed by Cllr. Baldock and seconded by Cllr. S. Waters, members agreed to the quotation of £350.00p + VAT from Goldfinch Tree Surgery. **Action: RFO**
5. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting –** Proposed by Cllr. Rivers-Simpson and seconded by Cllr. Hyde, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 31 October 2025. The following payments were agreed, Cllrs. Tolhurst and Hyde to log in and authorise payments. **Action: Cllrs. Tolhurst/Hyde**

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
13.11.25	BACs	L. Ives	Expenses – Tele., home as office - October	£18.00p
13.11.25	BACs	S. Grey	Expenses – Tele., home as office, 1 st Aid Kit – October	£55.99p
13.11.25	BACs	H.M.R.C.	Tax October	£424.49p
13.11.25	BACs	The Boston Bulb Company Ltd	5,000 Crocus Bulbs	£386.00p
13.11.25	BACs	KALC	Mastering Planning Applications – Cllr. Tolhurst	£60.00p
13.11.25	BACs	McCabe Ford Williams	Quarterly Payroll Processing	£125.33p
13.11.25	BACs	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Fee 03.09.25 to 14.10.25	£464.00p
13.11.25	BACs	The Mews Brewhouse	Village Clean Up Volunteer Drinks 12.10.25	£13.02p
01.11.25	SO	Staff Salaries	October (back pay due to pay rise)	£1837.49
01.11.25	DD	NEST	Pension Contributions October (inc. due to pay rise)	£102.10p
01.11.25	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£35.99p
21.10.25	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply- April to September	£605.30p
30.10.25	DD	Countrystyle	Supply of Waste Wheelie Bin	£40.63p
INCOME				

Pay Date	Pay Method	Received from	Reason	Amount

10. Projects – Updates on Current and New

1. Future public events: None to report.

2. Christmas Lights Switch On Event:

- Help from council members is needed to switch on the lights.
- The event will run from 3pm with a lantern parade, a FOC santas grotto, the micropub will be open and seasonal food will be served.
- A real Christmas tree and lights will be purchased for the event.

3. Tracker – Cllr. Tolhurst circulated the updated document to all council members.

11. Reports from Representatives

1. Village Hall Committee – No update.

2. KALC Area Representative – Cllr. Baldock has been nominated to Chair the KALC (Kent Association of Local Council's) area committee meetings. The next meeting will be held in February.

12. Items for the Next Agenda

- Follow up on fence removed in Cormorant Road, pass correspondence to Cllr. Baldock.
- Look into fines raised by KCC to Southern Water.
- Water leak in Ferry Road – contact Southern Water/KCC to organise a convenient time for road closure to carry out the repair required.
- Follow up on the Highway Improvement Plan – high kerb to be installed on junction of Sheppey Way/Ferry Road.
- Consider ownership of Woodpecker Park to prevent future housing developments – find out cost.
- Traffic issues in The Street.
- Follow up on pond maintenance in Woodpecker Park with Swale Borough Council.

13. Next Meeting(s)

Full Council meeting, Thursday 11 December 2025, 8.00 p.m. in Iwade Barn, All Saints Close.
Finance Meeting – Time and date TBC.

The meeting closed at 9.36 p.m.

Appendix A – Report from County Cllr. Richard Palmer

Activity during October and November

Main local issues have been appeals and representing resident on school places and transport appeals plus SEND transport –

On Monday's citizenship award at Oakfield House

Attended a meeting working of the Kent Coroners service

Chaired the Kent & Medway Military Partnership Board looking at how the military and businesses and the community work together – reserves and cadet

Attended Kent police looking at how they manage armed incidents to use of dogs in drugs

Attended the Justice Service at Canterbury Cathedral

Attended the Lord Mayors civic service in Canterbury

Kent Children services award (Chris)

Held the great public service event in Maidstone

Attended the Lord Lieutenants award in Tonbridge

Attended the Rochester Festival of Remembrance

Remembrance Service in Canterbury Cathedral

Roadworks and potholes – important people are encouraged to report as many as possible plus poor roads. KCC are now starting to fix stretches/sections of roads as well as busily fixing pothole.

KCC Budget – ASC is currently overspent – However the administration is looking at better ways of commission plus working jointly with the NHS in Kent and Medway to help reduce costs.

The abandoned caravan on Iwade Road has now been reported and the police are aware and have an interest in it.

A big KCC project was to bring the Eurostar back to Kent. After organising and hosting an event held in September with interested parties It has been confirmed that Virgin Trains will be taking on the service, and they have given their assurance in writing that the Eurostar will resume services at Ashford and Ebbsfleet.

Education is stretching budgets particularly SEND and transport – KCC is looking at send provision and the high costs of Transport

Integrated children's services – some provision is being brought back in house owing to the high cost of private provision – this will save a minimum of 1.5 million a year. If all goes well this is a project that can be expanded on. The first property has been identified, purchased and is Swale. The home is a 2 bedded unit and will be for Kent looked after children with profound difficulties.

Recruitment drive on fostering families following the launch of a short film commissioned jointly with other authorities "Run". A hard-hitting film highlighting the enormous benefits a foster family can make to a child's life. The film is available to watch on YouTube.

KCC are working on a new project in the youth justice system, around restorative justice. More to follow.

KCC are working with the CEO to get a cap removed for in-house apprenticeships for social workers. This will enable us to recruit more and rely less on expensive agency staff.

Looking at changing the policies around ECHP's assessment for the armed forces.

KCC Youth Voice hosted an event at Detling Showground, The Big Mental Health Conversation, showcasing the work being done to support people suffering with mental health issues.