

# Luddesdown Parish Council

Email: [clerk@luddesdown-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@luddesdown-pc.gov.uk) Website: [www.luddesdown-pc.gov.uk](http://www.luddesdown-pc.gov.uk)

Minutes of the Budget Meeting of Luddesdown Parish Council  
held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7:30pm  
in Luddesdown Village Hall



**Members Present:**  
Cllr P Crow  
Cllr L Martin  
Cllr J Rossouw  
Cllr L Rossouw  
Cllr G Mead

**In Attendance:** Charles Amis – Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer  
7 parishioners

**1. Apologies for Absence: To receive and accept apologies –**

Cllr D Dibben (unconfirmed), Cllr S Jassal (unconfirmed), Cllr D Morton (meeting)

**2. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. To co-opt Gill Mead as a Councillor to Luddesdown Parish Council**

All of the Parish Councillors present agreed to the co-option of Gill Mead.

**4. To approve minutes of the previous Parish Council Budget meeting held on 8.12.2025**

Cllr Martin proposed the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Parish Council Budget meeting as a true and accurate record and Cllr Rossouw seconded.

**5. Public Session & External Reports**

**5.1 Public Session** - The landowners had not trimmed back the hedges and trees beside the roads. An HGV had

KCC Highways had patched the potholes at Lockyers Hill but the surface has broken up and needs to be resurfaced. Leywood Road had been resurfaced three times.  
**Action:** Clerk to chase KCC Highways about the resurfacing of the Lockyers Hill. Clerk to raise with Cllr Morton.

KCC Highways had not installed the equestrian signs along Gold Street and Batts Road to warn motorists about the possible presence of horse riders. **Action:** Clerk to ask KCC Highways about the equestrian signs.

**Action:** Clerk to share traffic data provided by KCC Highways with Silverhand. Clerk to report the flooding by Great Buckland Farm. The pipe that leads to the pond needs to be unblocked.

## **5.2 Borough Councillors & County Councillor**

The Borough Councillors and the County Councillor did not attend the meeting. The County Councillor had sent a report which was circulated amongst the parish councillors.

## **5.3 Crime Report**

There local police officers did not attend the meeting. The Clerk had added the most recent Crime report to the LPC website

There was still an issue with the nuisance off road motorcycles. It appeared that most of the riders were in their 50s and 60s. Silverhand staff had chased off some off-road motorcycles at Upper Bush. Fly tipping also remains a problem. Residents were asked to be aware and to check their camera footage.

There was a burnt-out car on the byway between Cobhambury Farm and Cobhambury Road. A couple of local residents had picked up 140 nitrous oxide cannisters whilst they had been litter picking. Concern was expressed about the motorists driving under the influence of the nitrous oxide.

## **6. Update from Silverhand – Silverhand had a good harvest and sales year in 2025. Their No.1 and No.2 wines are the biggest sellers in Aldi. Silverhand have signed an agreement with the National Trust and selling their wines at six National Trust sites and are hoping to grow that market beyond Kent.**

Silverhand are holding active discussions with GBC Planning Department to move the wine vats to another more suitable site in Gravesham. Silverhand had supplied traffic data to GBC. The wine vats submission is with GBC. The wine vats will remain for the moment and no further vats be added. 18 wine vats are inside the barn. The lighting for the Cellar Door illuminated sign had been dimmed.

The refurbishment of the Lion PH continues with the digging of the foundations for the new extension at the rear. The temporary pop-up public house is open and has been running darts and quiz nights. The temporary planning permission expires on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

Silverhand had installed three interior rooms inside the Cellar Door. There will not be an exterior extension.

## **7. Update on Planning**

### **7.1 Land East of Yew Trees, Oakenden Road – GBC Planning Enforcement had paid a site visit recently. The planning staff had said they were happy with the steepness of the gradient. The owner had brought a dumper truck and excavator on to the site and a lorry had made six visits to drop off Type 1 aggregate. There should not be a gate on to Oakenden Road. The owner had said they were using the land to keep horses. Action: Clerk to speak to GBC Planning Enforcement regarding Land East of Yew Trees, Greenacres and the Red House, Wrangling Lane.**

### **7.2 20251249 & 20251250 Boughurst Farm, Leywood Road – Cllr J Rossouw to provide feedback.**

### **7.3 There have been no further planning applications.**

## 8. Council Finance

- 8.1 Schedule of Payments** – The Clerk had circulated a payment report to all of the parish councillors before the meeting. All of the parish councillors that were present approved the Recents & Payments Report.

### Parish Council Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025

#### Payments made since the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Date of payment	Company	Reason	Amount
20/11/2024	Clerk	Reimburse for payment of tax and NICS to HMRC	£242
20/11/2024	Clerk	October and November 2024 Salary	£686.40
20/11/2024	Clerk	Mileage	£12.87
20/11/2024	Clerk	A4 plastic document wallets	£6.65
30/11/2024	Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	£6
3/12/2024	Royal British Legion	Wreath for Remembrance Sunday	£27.50
6/12/2024	Luddesdown PCC	Grant towards Luddesdown Churchyard maintenance	£400
6/12/2024	Luddesdown PCC	Grant for free copy of the parish magazine at Christmas and Easter	£118
9/12/2024	Hugo Fox	Hosting website	£11.99
31/12/2024	Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	£6
9/1/2025	Hugo Fox	Hosting website	£11.99

#### Payments to be made at the Meeting

Date of payment	Company	Reason	Amount
20/1/2025	Clerk	Salary for December 2024 & January 2025	£668.40
20/1/2025	Clerk	Mileage for 20 <sup>th</sup> January	£12.87

Our current bank balance is: Current Account: £16,046.92

- 8.2 Bank Statement** – The bank statements were circulated amongst the parish councillors. All of the parish councillors that were present approved the Bank Statements
- 8.3 Budget & Forecast Spreadsheet** – The Clerk had circulated the most recent Budget and Forecast spreadsheet.
- 8.4 To agree precept request for 2026-27** – It was agreed that the precept should remain the same at £8,295.
- 9. The next Securing the Landscape Meeting** – The dates for the next Securing the Landscape Meeting will be either 24<sup>th</sup> February or 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

10. **KALC Community Awards Scheme 2026 – Nominations** – LPC discussed several names and a local resident has been chosen. **Action:** Clerk to complete the KALC Community Awards Scheme form and return to KALC.
11. **Litter Picking Day** – The litter picking day will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Silverhand kindly agreed for a skip being temporary on their land. **Action:** Clerk to order a 6 yard skip from Pinden Ltd and to request litter pickers, hoops and sacks from GBC.
12. **Items for Information – Action:** Clerk to ask KCC Highways if the ATC tubes could be installed on Luddesdown Road between Cutter Ridge Road and Buckland Road in February.
13. **Date of Next Meeting:** Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm followed by Full Council Meeting at 8.30pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at Luddesdown Village Hall.