



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



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

Present: Councillors - D. Divers, M. Fentiman, M. Lawrance, D. Tweedale, S. Smyth, A. Andrews, E. Dore

Also, Present: KCC Cllr Luke Evans, Community Warden Gary Groombridge, District Cllr Abi Smith, Sara Archer – Parish Clerk plus 3 members of public.

27/26-27 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Following discussion and a vote, the Chairman welcomed Anna Roberts who has been co-opted onto the Council following the vacancy which arose from the resignation of a previous Councillor. The necessary documentation was completed and returned to the Clerk. **Proposed: Cllr Smyth, Seconded: Cllr Dore.**

28/26-27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from District Cllr Peter Evans, PC Owen Crush.

29/26-27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

30/26-27 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 9th June 2026. These were proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Dore, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

31/26-27 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers had reported concerns regarding the overloaded harvest vehicles to the farm manager at St Nicholas Court Farms. The manager had responded that the contractors would be approached to cover the trailers appropriately, and measures were in place for their own trailers to be covered. Cllr Divers advised he and Community Warden Gary had been in contact with the KCC highways representative to chase the ongoing issues at Manor Road. KCC confirmed that they will be placing Gemselect Limited in default of their obligations contained within their signed Section 278 Agreement with the Council. This will formally notify the developer/surety, who have guaranteed the developer's performance by placement of a cash deposit, of the default Notice. This document will outline the specific details of the default and identifies the outstanding works that need to be completed. It will also set out the key options and procedural steps for the surety, which typically involve either paying the default costs to the council or providing a counter notice of their intention to complete the outstanding highway works themselves within a specified timescale.

32/26-27 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had chased KCC regarding the overgrown footpath TE10 between Sarre and St Nicholas villages, however, the works were yet to be completed.

The PiPF grant application had been submitted, a decision had not been received to date.

The annual play safety inspection had been completed, the report would be circulated to the handypeople for attention.

The persistent issue of unemptied waste bins had been reported to TDC for urgent attention.

The alarm on the defibrillator cabinet at the Village Hall was intermittently sounding. An electrician had inspected the fault and advised that a new cabinet was required. The Clerk was making enquiries and advised that a replacement would cost in the region of £600. It was discussed and agreed to delegate the power to purchase a suitable replacement cabinet to the Clerk.

An email regarding the details of the Mayor Deputy of Sarre had been received. Enquiries would be made for any further details.

KCC had advised that no HIP meetings would be arranged or held for approx. 3 month to enable the officers to catch up on their backlog of work.

33/26-27 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Fentiman advised that the residents of Parish Close had paid to have the roads and pavements completed, with works due to start in August.

Cllr Tweedale raised road safety concerns regarding the A28. He enquired about the installation of a pedestrian crossing. The Clerk would forward information from the Highways Improvement Pack for information.

Cllr Evans confirmed a motion was being debated at KCC with regard to school transport.

Cllr Tweedale had been litter picking along the Orchard Road and Chambers Wall.

A tree audit at Bell Meadow was requested. The Clerk would contact TDC accordingly.

Cllr Lawrance advised the millennium tree had been damaged with low branches being removed.

The men's club would be removing some of the overgrowth at TE10 to make the public footpath more accessible for residents.

The build up of detritus and chaff along the A28 required sweeping. The Clerk would report accordingly.

Cllr Andrews enquired about the water leak on the pavement at The Length, this had been reported to Southern Water.

It was noted that the waste bins were overflowing. The issue was exacerbated following hirings of the Pavilion. All hirers would be reminded to take their waste home with them and not use the public bins.

Cllr Smyth noted the lengthy delay in delivery of bins following the introduction of the simpler recycling scheme.

Cllr Dore advised that footpaths TE2, TE3 and TE4 were now inaccessible and had been reported to the footpaths officer. Bookings at the BMP were increasing.

34/26-27 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Smith reported as follows:

- PSPO approved by TDC Cabinet From Wednesday 1 July, targeted restrictions are in place to curb alcohol-related disorder, public urination, and defecation, for a period of three years. This has been hampered for years by a Free Speech organisation.
- Councillors agree Margate Town Council following overwhelming public support Proposals to set up a new town council for Margate were agreed by Councillors at an Extraordinary Council meeting held on 18th June.
- Waste Management motion denied debate: Sadly, on the same occasion TDC councillors did not see fit to allow debate or discussion of a cross-party motion in relation to the poor performance of Waste Management services following the introduction of Simpler Recycling procedures in May. I will update you following the Overview & Scrutiny meeting on 14th July, where the Director of Environment will report.
- I toured the Margate Digital Campus: Impressive facility for video production, which is available to students now, bringing C21 technology & skills to Thanet.
- Local Plan timetable published in June: There will be a Scoping Consultation towards the end of August for six weeks, during which people will be invited to share their views on what the plan should contain and how future public engagement should be carried out. TDC will also be running a further "call for sites", and publishing some background studies for people to view. <https://www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/notice-to-commence-local-plan-preparation/>
- Spitfire Way vehicle Workshop Project: Contract to be awarded via a competitive open process for delivery of the Spitfire Way vehicle Workshop Project with a construction value of circa £980k and a total estimated project value of £1.310m. TDC is transferring £525,000 from its Manston environmental and infrastructure budget to help fund the relocation and refurbishment of its street cleansing and vehicle fleet workshop at Spitfire Way.
- St Nicholas 20MPH petition: This should go to KCC, because TDC cannot act on this before receiving the S106 funds.

Cllr Peter Evans was not in attendance, however, he had submitted a report which has been appended to these minutes.

35/26-27 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Luke Evans was in attendance and submitted the report appended to the minutes.

In addition to this report, Cllr Evans advised he had raised a petition campaigning against the expensive parking charges in Birchington. He would send the link and details to the Clerk for publishing on the website and social media pages.

36/26-27 KENT POLICE REPORT

PC Owen Crush had been on leave therefore no report submitted.

37/26-27 COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Community Warden Gary Groombridge reported as follows:

- The well-being group in the Sun Inn, there to support the residents, with any questions or advice that they may need
- The well-being group in the Bell meadow Pavilion. Support the residents again with any queries advice or questions they may have.

- I'm currently Supporting a resident in getting a grab rail installed at the rear of house, through adult social services. I have had them respond to me. The info has been sent to the relevant department. I'm currently waiting for them to contact her and myself.
 - Continue to attend the Men's group in the Church on Thursdays, there for people to speak to me.
 - Concerning the pathway that is overgrown with shrubbery leading up to the St Nicholas at Wade roundabout. Along the Canterbury Road. I was told by the end of May but it still hasn't been done. I will get on to the Highways manager again to get an update.
 - I contacted The Kent highways manager regarding the unfinished work along Manor Road.
- I did receive an email/document back from KCC's Development Agreements Team. Which I forwarded to David and Sara.
- Continue to do Visual Presence around the Village of St Nicholas at Wade, speak to the residents.

38/26-27 BELL MEADOW REPORT

The works to the tennis court had commenced with a delay due to the weather and finances being in place. Four pickleball courts would be painted in addition to the tennis court. The MUGA refurbishments would commence in September. A Family Fun Sports Day had been arranged to be held in September. The next working group meeting would be held on 10th August.

39/26-27 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- No applications received.
- None noted.

40/26-27 FINANCE

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

RESOLVED: To approve the monthly bank reconciliation for June. (Proposed: Cllr Andrews, seconded Cllr Divers).

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

Chubb - Fire equipment service	£111.84
Employee salaries and expenses	£2402.19
SNS - Domain hosting	£60.51
St John's college - SJG Lease	£60.00
Business Stream - Water cemetery	£74.23
EDF Electric BMP	£65.70
Lloyds DD - Handyperson exp	£102.66
BMP Hire - Smith	£25.00
PPL PRS Licences	£175.20
R. Hassan - bolts for zipline	£5.00
Sovereign Sports - tennis court	£6,429.60
Hugofox - website domain	£11.99
EDF - Gas BMP	£53.26
Unity Trust - Service charge	£7.00

Receipts:

BMP Hire - Meadow Market	£80.00
BMP Hire - Stokes	£44.00
BMP Hire - Bingo	£25.00
Roberts - Headstone	£70.00
WS Cole - Cemetery fees	£135.00
BMP Hire - Meadow Market	£80.00
Unity Trust -Interest	£423.38

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

(Proposed: Cllr Andrews, Seconded: Cllr Dore)

- Cllr Smyth advised of concrete planters that had been sourced and proposed they were placed at various points in Sarre Village to improve the aesthetics of the Village.

Photographs and information was circulated to members.

The Clerk advised she had contacted KCC to enquire about permission to place the planters in front of the village gates and was awaiting a response.

It was confirmed that the Councillors would be responsible for maintaining the planters once in situ.

The proposal was supported in principle, subject to a response being received from KCC. All were in agreement.

RESOLVED: To purchase the sourced planters for £250.00 and place at appropriate places in the village of Sarre.

(Proposed: Cllr Dore, Seconded: Cllr Lawrance)

41/26-27 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No concerns/comments raised.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 9:05pm.

APPENDIX

Cllr Peter Evans

July 2026 TDC Monthly Report:-

1. New Antisocial Behaviour Powers (PSPO)

- A new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) takes effect on Wednesday, 1 July 2026. The order, designed to last for 3 years, includes:
- Alcohol bans: A year-round blanket ban on consuming alcohol in targeted areas of Margate High Street and Ramsgate High Street.
- Disorder control: Prohibitions on alcohol-related nuisance across multiple mapped areas of Margate, Cliftonville West, Ramsgate, and Broadstairs.
- Public urination: A ban on urinating or defecating in any public place (other than serviced public conveniences).

2. "Simpler Recycling" Disruptions

Following delays and disruptions in the waste rollout, councillors on the Overview and Scrutiny Panel met to review the situation. An extraordinary meeting has been scheduled to formally address the service issues.

3. Full Council Meeting (July 2026)

An ordinary meeting of the Full Council is scheduled for Thursday, 9 July 2026. Residents and members of the press are permitted to ask questions at this session, provided submissions are made correctly and in advance per the council's guidelines.

4. Local Plan and Strategy Consultations

Following the recent approval of the New Local Plan 2026 timeline, the council is preparing scoping consultations for a long-term development blueprint. Additionally, public feedback collected regarding the district's natural environment will be reviewed by the Cabinet in August 2026.

Cllr Luke Evans

See attached report.