

Lydden Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th October 2026 at 7.30 pm in Lydden Village Hall

Present: Lydden Parish Councillors: R Booth (Chairman), M Cregeen (Vice Chairman), B Collins, P Collins, A Tullett

In Attendance: None. Minutes of the meeting were taken by the Chairman.

1. Apologies.

1.1 Apologies for absence received and confirmed by the Council Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings; under Section 75(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted.

Apologies were received from the Clerk due to ill health.

1.2 Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests. There were none.

1.3 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers. There were none.

1.4 Requests for Dispensations. There were none.

1.5 Declarations of Lobbying. There were none.

2. Public comments and observations. (Maximum 15 minutes)

The meeting will be adjourned to allow members of the public to speak. Individuals may speak for up to three minutes, at the discretion of the Chairman, on agenda items only. The minute book will be closed. There were no members of the public present.

3. Co-option of Parish Councillor/s: To consider candidates for co-option.

RESOLVED unanimously to co-opt Mr Allen Tullett as a Parish Councillor. The Clerk will send Cllr Tullett the co-option paperwork and set up a council email address.

4. Reports from external parties (if present).

Kent County Councillor, Dover District Councillor, Kent Police. There were no reports.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2026 were not available at the meeting and will be brought to the next meeting for approval.

Members requested that, going forward, draft minutes are circulated two weeks before a meeting, meeting papers no later than seven days before a meeting, and correspondence received by the Clerk is circulated to members.

6. Planning:

6.1 To table planning applications received for consideration. There were none.

6.2 To table decisions by Dover District Council (DDC) since the last meeting. There were none.

6.3 To Table and Validate Planning Applications dealt with since the last meeting. There were none.

6.4 To Table late planning matters. There were none.

7. To receive Reports

7.1 **Chairman's Report**

Correspondence had been received about the boundary between the Lydden Bell and the field. The Council had responded that the boundary was cut back on professional advice. Replacement trees will be planted when appropriate, probably in Spring 2027.

Grass cutting outside the school: the Council had previously voted for this area to be cut and an update is needed on whether this has been done. It was **AGREED** unanimously that the Council will arrange the cut on this occasion and then report the matter to KCC, whose responsibility it is. Cllr Cregeen will forward a map of the area to the Clerk.

7.2 **Clerk's Report** (on matters not included in other agenda items)

Deferred owing to the Clerk's absence.

7.3 **Councillors' Report** (on matters not included in other agenda items)

There were no reports.

7.4 **Allotments Report and Update**

Cllr Cregeen requested a copy of the allotment waiting list. The Clerk will confirm as soon as possible that the notice letters agreed at the last meeting have been sent.

7.5 **Village Hall Report and Update**

Cllr B Collins reported that the flush in the disabled toilet does not appear to be working. This will be reported to the Village Hall committee and/or a notice put up.

7.6 **Lydden Speedwatch**

No update had been received since the previous councillor responsible for Speedwatch stepped down. The Clerk will contact the Speedwatch team and provide an update as soon as possible.

7.7 **Village Events**

7.7.1 Christmas 2026. The Clerk will confirm as soon as possible that the tree and additional lights have been ordered and that Cherished have been asked to erect the tree. The Clerk will also check with the Church regarding any planned services or events.

It was **AGREED** to hold the Council's Christmas event on Friday 18th December 2026 at 7.00 pm

7.7.2 Remembrance Sunday, 8th November 2026. The Clerk had confirmed that the wreath has been ordered. Cllr P Collins will lay the wreath on behalf of the Council.

7.7.3 D-Day Celebration 2027. A date of Saturday 12th June 2027 was proposed. Volunteers will be needed to help with refreshments.

8. Highways:

8.1 To receive the parish portal report. Deferred to the next meeting.

8.2 To receive updates on the KCC Highways Improvement Plan. The Clerk will provide an update on the actions from the September meeting as soon as possible.

8.3 To receive any other Highways Matters. There were none.

9. Finance:

9.1 To receive and authorise payments listed on the schedule.

9.2 Late Payment Request/s to be discussed for approval and payment.

9.3 To consider any request for grants or donations.

9.4 To table any late financial matters.

9.5 To receive the bank reconciliation.

Finance items 9.1 to 9.5 were deferred to the next meeting.

10. Correspondence:

10.1 To table items of late correspondence. There was none.

10.2 Items circulated or received. There were none.

11. Agenda Items for the next meeting:

Minutes of 16th September 2026; Clerk's report; finance and bank reconciliation; parish portal report.

12. Consideration of items to be taken in private (Exclusion of Public and Press):

There are only a few reasons as to why, legally, the public and press can be excluded from a meeting. The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2) states "A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies." It is generally considered acceptable to exclude the press and public if the agenda item relates to the consideration of tenders, leases, purchases of assets, for matters relating to staffing covered by the Data Protection Act and to consider complaints against the council or a code of conduct complaint.

There were no matters to be discussed.

2026 Meeting Dates: 4th November, 2nd December. Future meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month.

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting but a record of resolutions made.

There being no further business to be transacted, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.28 pm.

Chairman: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____