

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 13 May 2026

Present: Cllr. S. Tolhurst – Chair
Cllr. D. McBeath – Vice-Chair
Cllr. J. Hartley
Cllr. P. Holowczycki
Cllr. P. Hyde
Samantha Gray, Clerk
1 Resident

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. M. Baldock and Rivers-Simpson, and Borough Cllr. R. Palmer. Cllr. D. Waters has resigned.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. P. Holowczycki and seconded by Cllr. McBeath, the minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on 8 April 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Residents:** A resident asked when the Fernham Homes planning application for land at Sheppey Way would be called to the planning committee. The Chair explained the application is currently at the consultation phase and is on the agenda. The Chair brought agenda item 5.2 forward for discussion:

5.2: 25/502841/FULL: Land At Sheppey Way Iwade Kent. Erection of 165no. residential dwellings, together with associated access, parking, a new junction, open space, landscaping, drainage and infrastructure works.

The Parish Council objects to planning application **25/502841/FULL** for the erection of 165 dwellings, associated access, a new junction, open space, landscaping, drainage and infrastructure works at **Land at Sheppey Way, Iwade**.

This objection is based on **Swale Borough Council Local Plan policies ST1, DM24, DM25**, and relevant sections of the **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), including paragraph 175**. The Parish Council also **stands by and reaffirms its comments submitted on 12 September 2025**, which remain fully applicable.

1. Conflict with Policy ST1 – Delivering Sustainable Development

Policy **ST1** requires development to:

- Protect and enhance the natural and built environment
- Avoid unacceptable harm to landscape character
- Ensure infrastructure capacity is sufficient
- Deliver development in sustainable, well-connected locations

This proposal fails to meet these requirements because:

- It extends the built form of Iwade further into open countryside, contrary to the spatial strategy.
- It places significant pressure on already stretched local infrastructure (roads, drainage, utilities, schools, health).
- It creates a large, visually intrusive expansion on the rural edge of the village, eroding the settlement's defined character.

The development is therefore **not sustainable** in the terms required by ST1.

2. Conflict with DM24 – Landscape and Countryside

Policy **DM24** seeks to protect valued landscapes and prevent development that harms:

- Rural character
- Settlement separation
- The setting of villages
- The openness of the countryside

The site forms part of the **open rural setting between Iwade and the wider countryside**, and its development at the scale proposed would:

- Create a hard, urbanised edge along Sheppey Way
- Remove the remaining sense of openness at this gateway to the village
- Visually coalesce Iwade with development pressure to the south and east

The applicant's own design revisions (as seen in the cover letter) acknowledge concerns about **cramped layout, overlooking**, and **amenity conflicts**, which are symptoms of overdevelopment of a sensitive rural edge.

The proposal therefore **conflicts with DM24**.

3. Conflict with DM25 – Important Local Countryside Gaps

Policy **DM25** protects countryside gaps that prevent **settlement coalescence** and maintain the **separate identity** of villages.

The Sheppey Way corridor forms a **critical countryside gap** between:

- Iwade
- The A249 corridor
- The wider rural landscape to the south

This development would:

- Substantially narrow the remaining open gap
- Extend Iwade's built form southwards
- Increase cumulative pressure for further infill

This is contrary to the purpose of DM25, which seeks to **maintain clear physical and visual separation** between settlements.

4. NPPF Paragraph 175 – Harm to Biodiversity and Local Environmental Quality

NPPF **175** requires planning decisions to:

- Avoid harm to biodiversity
- Protect ecological networks
- Refuse development where significant harm cannot be avoided, mitigated, or compensated

Given the scale of the proposal and its location adjacent to open countryside, the Parish Council is concerned that:

- The ecological baseline has not been adequately demonstrated
- The cumulative loss of habitat along the Sheppey Way corridor is not assessed
- The proposed drainage and landscaping changes may impact local hydrology and biodiversity

Without clear evidence that harm is avoided or fully mitigated, the proposal **fails NPPF 175**.

5. Cumulative Impact – Local Plan and NPPF Requirements

The Local Plan and NPPF require councils to consider **cumulative impact**, not just individual schemes.

Iwade has already absorbed:

- Significant housing growth over the past decade
- Multiple large developments currently under construction or awaiting determination
- Infrastructure strain (roads, drainage, utilities, GP capacity, school places)

This proposal adds **165 more dwellings**, intensifying:

- Traffic pressure on Sheppey Way and the A249 junction
- Surface water and foul drainage loads
- Pressure on local services
- Landscape erosion along the village edge

The cumulative effect is **material, harmful, and contrary to the Local Plan strategy**.

6. Consultee Concerns – KCC Flood & Water Management and Southern Water

The application documents list responses from:

- **KCC Flood and Water Management**
- **Southern Water**

Both bodies have raised issues requiring clarification or further evidence. Given the site's scale and proximity to known drainage constraints in Iwade, these concerns are **significant**. Until:

- Surface water management is fully demonstrated
- Foul drainage capacity is proven
- Long-term maintenance arrangements are secured

Further flooding risk and inadequate culvert capacity (climate change impacts)

The Parish Council considers that, in the context of increased winter high-rainfall events consistent with climate change, the application has not fully demonstrated how surface water will be managed to avoid increased run-off to the adjacent stream, raised water levels and heightened flood risk in the centre of Iwade, which already lies on a flood plain. In heavy rainfall, the culverts beneath Sheerstone and Springvale are acknowledged to be undersized; once capacity is exceeded, water overtops and discharges down into the village centre. This is not a theoretical risk: flooding events in Springvale occurred in **2002** and **2018**. The Council is concerned that this known constraint has not been adequately addressed in the application, notwithstanding KCC's awareness of the issue and its indication that remediation is currently considered prohibitively costly.

The Parish Council further notes that the applicant has **not addressed the Planning Officer's outstanding concerns regarding the location and distribution of affordable and social housing within the scheme**.

This lack of clarity is a material consideration and prevents the Council from understanding whether the proposal delivers a coherent, policy-compliant, and socially integrated development. The absence of resolved agreement on this matter weighs against the application.

The Parish Council considers the application **premature and unsafe to approve**.

7. Parish Council Position

The Parish Council **stands by its comments submitted on 12 September 2025**, which remain valid and are reinforced by the additional evidence and consultee responses now available.

Conclusion

For the reasons set out above, the Parish Council objects to application **25/502841/FULL** on the grounds that it:

- Conflicts with **ST1, DM24, DM25** of the Swale Local Plan
- Fails to meet the requirements of **NPPF 175**
- Causes unacceptable **landscape, environmental, and cumulative harm**

- Raises unresolved concerns from **KCC Flood & Water Management** and **Southern Water**
- Represents an unsustainable and inappropriate expansion of Iwade into open countryside
- The emerging Local Plan has not allocated this site for development.

The Parish Council respectfully requests that **Swale Borough Council refuses this application**.

Iwade Parish Council would like to call this planning application into the planning committee.

- 2. County and Borough Councillors:** Report received, see appendix A.
- 3. Police Constable:** Report received, see appendix B.
- 5. Planning** – applications are viewable on Swale: <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>; KCC: <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

- 1. 26/501158/FULL:** Continued use of land as Gypsy/Traveller site and the siting of 7 additional Mobile Homes (10 total) (retrospective). Land At Summer Cottages School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8QH.

Following the parish council meeting held on Wednesday 13 May we wish to ask the planning officer to confirm the following:

- 1) The application description states the site will hold 10 mobile homes in total, and neighbour comments report the site is already holding over this number. Please confirm the number of homes on the site.
- 2) Neighbour comments report problems with the electricity substation overloading. Please confirm there will be no impact on neighbour amenity.
- 3) Please confirm the land will be used as a Gypsy/Traveller site.

- 3. 26/501435/FULL:** Erection of single storey rear extension. 1 Shooters Chase Iwade Kent ME9 8TP. Iwade parish council considered the above application at their meeting held on Wednesday 13 May and did not raise any objection or comments.

6. Village Matters

- 1. To consider replacing the planters in School Lane and improving the surrounding area:** Council members agreed the grassed area needs to be levelled due to subsidence, and the planters and knee rail fencing need to be replaced.

The council **RESOLVED** to source quotes for the following:

- i. Level the turf
- ii. Composit planters
- iii. Replace knee rail fencing

Action: Clerk/RFO

- 2. To consider installing a duck house in Woodpecker Park pond:** Members **RESOLVED** to replace the duck house in the Woodpecker park pond. The Clerk will re-circulate options and costs to council members to consider. **Action: Clerk**

Members noted that the damaged duck house has not been removed from the pond and asked the Clerk to follow this up with Swale Borough Council. **Action: Clerk**

- 3. Grovehurst Road junction with A249 – verges, barriers, and small roundabout:** Members reported that the junction has been tidied up and verges have been filled with soil and grass seed. Members asked the Clerk to find out who will be maintaining the verges. **Action: Clerk**

7. Correspondence

1. **To consider request from Kent ACRE – supporting rural communities through our Village Hall – Request for partnership and pledge:** Members agreed to pass this request onto the Village Hall committee. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Request to delay Gas Mains Replacement Works – SOE13426 Sheppey Way, Iwade, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8QT:** Members noted some of the work to be carried out in Ferry Road is scheduled in term time and would like to enquire if the works can be rescheduled for school holidays and discuss the upcoming works with the contractor. The Clerk will arrange a meeting. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Parking area request to ease congestion in Meadow Close and surrounding areas: School Lane green space –** Members **RESOLVED** the green space in School Lane is not suitable to convert to parking due to utilities under the ground that require access and congestion on the junction. The council will pursue other options. **Action: Clerk**

8. Parish Council Matters

1. **To approve the updated Model Publication Scheme:** Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. McBeath, members agreed to adopt the updated document. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Councillor resignation – Cllr. Scott Waters:** Members noted the resignation and advised the Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Scott for his work on the parish council. The Clerk will advertise the vacancy. **Action: Clerk**

9. Finance

1. **Donation request from Kent Air Ambulance:** Members deferred the decision to the next meeting and asked the Clerk to speak to the County and Borough Councillors to enquire if they are in a position to contribute towards the donation. **Action: Clerk/RFO**
2. **Revised Festive Lights Contract – to consider the contract and decide which option to proceed with:** A residents survey was carried out to find out if residents agree that the festive lights are a worthwhile use of council funds. The result of the survey said : 99% enjoyed having the Christmas lights in the village each year, 98% said that they want the lights to continue, and 97% felt that continuing with the Christmas lights was a good use of Council funds.

Members considered the contract supplied by Gala Lights to hire 57 lights and install infrastructure to 6 lamp columns to extend the display to the gateway in Sheppey Way. Members agreed the cost of the contract is too much to commit to for a fixed 5 year term, and to lower the cost of the contract they would like to space out the installation to every other lamp column.

Members **RESOLVED** to install the infrastructure on 6 lamp columns in Sheppey Way and arrange a meeting with Gala Lights to discuss amending the contract. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Insurance Renewal 2026/27 –** Proposed by Cllr. Hartley and seconded by Cllr. McBeath, members **RESOLVED** to renew the 2026/27 premium at a cost of £3,176.85p. **Action: RFO**
4. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting:** Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Hartley, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 30 April 2026. The following payments were agreed, Cllrs. Tolhurst and Holowczycki to log in and authorise payments. **Action: Cllrs. Tolhurst/Holowczycki**

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
13.05.26	BACs	L. Ives	Expenses – Tele., home as office – April	£18.00p
13.05.26	BACs	S. Gray	Expenses – Tele., home as office – April	£44.00p
13.05.26	BACs	H.M.R.C.	Tax April	£336.77p
13.05.26	BACs	McCabe Ford Williams	Quarterly and Year End Payroll Processing	£153.34p
13.05.26	BACs	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Fee and Materials 03.03.26 to	£397.50p

			28.04.26	
13.05.26	BACs	Everyday Play Ltd	Gate, Fencing and Bike Inhibitor School La. Playing Field – Final Invoice	£3190.56p
01.05.26	SO	Staff Salaries	April	£1659.30p
01.05.26	DD	NEST	Pension Contributions April	£85.54p
01.05.26	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£35.99p
27.05.26	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply April	£134.75p
31.05.26	DD	Countrystyle	Supply of Waste Wheelie Bin	£44.59p
INCOME				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Received from	Reason	Amount
24.04.26	BACs	Swale Borough Council	First Half Precept Payment	£41500.00p

10. Projects

1. **To organise a Litter Pick:** Members deferred this item to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Bulb planting:** Members discussed planting flowers around the village, close to roads instead of footpaths to help dog walkers avoid toxic plants. The Clerk will source costs for daffodils, wildflowers, hyacinths, tulips and marigolds and will bring back to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk/RFO**
3. **Future public events:** The next event will be classic cars, a gin tasting experience will take place on 5th June, and the Barn are planning Independence day and rum and reggae themed events.
4. **Tracker:** Cllr. Tolhurst circulated the updated work in progress document.

11. Policies

Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Holowczycki members reviewed and approved the following council policies:

1. Complaints	8. Recording social media
2. Criteria for awarding grants	9. Safeguarding
3. Grievance	10. Social media
4. Health and Safety	11. Social media a guide for parish councillors
5. Memorial plaque	12. Statement of intent as to community engagement
6. Operating framework	13. Training and development policy
7. Proposed document retention and disposal	14. Unreasonably persistent and vexatious

12. Reports from Representatives:

1. **Village Hall Committee:** No updates.
2. **KALC Area Representative:** No updates.
3. **Western Area Committee:** The meeting was held on the same evening as the parish council meeting therefore no representative could attend. The name of the committee has changed to Councillors and Residents Forum and the next meeting will be held on 2nd July.

13. Items to note for the Next Agenda: None to note.

14. **Next Meeting(s):** Full Council meeting, Wednesday 10 June 2026 7.30 p.m. in Iwade Barn, All Saints Close.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Appendix A: Borough Cllr Report:

Introduction — May 2026

Welcome to my May 2026 monthly report. May is a particularly significant month combining solemn remembrance with joyful celebration. On Friday 8 May, we mark VE Day — commemorating the 81st anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe in 1945 and honouring the generation who secured our freedom.

This has been a productive month at Kent County Council, with continued progress on Local Government Reorganisation, excellent news on primary school places, and the arrival of our new highway's contractor from 1 May. Please contact me with anything you would like me to take forward on your behalf.

Cllr Richard Palmer

Email: Richard.Palmer@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ

1. First Year Delivering for Kent

As we reach the first anniversary of Reform UK taking control of Kent County Council in May 2025, here is a summary of what has been delivered in twelve months in office.

Strong Financial Management

In May 2025 we inherited a debt of £732 million. We have reduced that to £590 million — a reduction of £142 million — saving over £1 million a year in debt interest payments. We cancelled £39.5 million of future Net Zero spend, set a balanced budget with no extra borrowing, and increased investment in Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Highways. Our Council Tax increase of 3.99% was lower than 86% of comparable councils across England.

Protecting Community Services

A third of our libraries were threatened with closure under the previous administration. We have saved every single one. Country Parks, Community Wardens and School Crossing Staff have equally been protected — all services that were under genuine threat before May 2025.

Education

98% of Early Years settings in Kent are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. 96% of pupils secured a place at one of their preferred schools. Over 48,000 children with SEND are receiving support across the county.

Supporting Kent Business

We produced Kent's first ever Commercial Strategy, directed £55 million more in contracts to Kent companies, and provided enhanced support to 500 local supplier businesses — keeping Kent's money working in Kent's economy.

2. Local Government Reorganisation

The Government's public consultation on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Kent and Medway closed on 26 March 2026. A decision is expected during summer 2026, with new unitary authorities anticipated from April 2028.

KCC's preferred option remains Option 1A — a single unitary 'Kent Council' supported by three area assemblies. This delivers the fastest financial payback (3.3 years), annual savings of £69 million, and

cumulative savings of £457 million over 10 years. It keeps Kent together and protects less wealthy areas from having to fund core services independently.

I will keep all parish councils fully informed as the Government's response becomes clear.

3. Primary School Offers — Excellent News

98% of pupils have been offered one of their preferred primary schools for September 2026. This reflects the hard work of KCC's Education team and the quality of Kent schools. Families not offered their first choice can join waiting lists. A second round of offers will be held on 21 May 2026 for any spaces that become available.

4. Highways — New Contractor from 1 May 2026

On 1 May 2026, Ringway Infrastructure Services officially began as KCC's principal highways contractor under a new Highways Term Maintenance Contract. Ringway, a Kent-based business, replaces Amey after more than 12 years. The new 21-year contract is worth around £50 million a year and covers the full range of highways services including gritting, pothole repairs, bridge maintenance, drainage, road markings, street lighting and vegetation management across Kent's 5,400-mile network.

What residents can expect

- Faster repairs — streamlined processes for potholes, drainage faults and other defects.
- Clear performance targets — measurable standards with real accountability to residents.
- Better value for money — transparent pricing focused on visible results.
- 24/7 emergency coverage — round-the-clock response for emergencies and severe weather.

Please report potholes and highway defects at: kent.gov.uk — Report a highway problem

You can also check current roadworks in the division at: one.network/uk/kent

5. KCC Services & Campaigns

- Forever Active Kent — launched 1 April 2026, helping residents aged 50+ stay mobile and independent. Community groups can apply for grant funding for activity sessions.
- Mental Health Grants — the 2026 Kent & Medway Better Mental Health Fund offers grants from £500 to £10,000. Email suicideprevention@kent.gov.uk.
- Family Hubs — free courses and support for families available countywide.
- Mental Health Support (24/7) — text SHOUT to 85258 or call 0800 107 0160.

6. Kent Tourism — Record Success

Visit Kent reported an 11% growth in overseas visits in 2024, with 1.3 million international trips generating over £374 million for the local economy. In total, 66 million domestic and international trips were made to Kent, generating £4.1 billion in revenue — the first-time visitor spending has returned to pre-pandemic 2019 levels. Tourism now supports 82,265 jobs and accounts for 11% of all jobs in the county.

KCC Newsletters — Spotlight Reports

Each month Kent County Council publishes a range of newsletters across its service areas. Below are highlights from three May 2026 editions that are particularly relevant to our division and to residents across Swale West.

Spotlight: Community & Regulatory Services — May 2026

Read the full newsletter: news.kent.gov.uk

Trading Standards — Protecting Residents

From 1 May 2026 the Renters' Rights Act came into force, bringing wide-ranging changes for tenants and landlords across Kent. KCC Trading Standards has been supporting landlords and letting agents to understand their new responsibilities ahead of implementation. Landlords can sign up to the Trading Standards mailing list for ongoing guidance.

Trading Standards officers at the Port of Dover seized 2,360 unsafe bread oven/grill appliances in a single intervention, preventing dangerous goods — posing serious fire and electric shock risks — from reaching UK homes. Separately, bun-shaped fidget toys marketed at children were stopped at the border over chemical safety concerns.

Joint operations with Kent Police have resulted in significant seizures, the identification of illegal workers and financial penalties for offenders. More than three million illegal vapes have been seized since 2021, reflecting sustained enforcement work. Trading Standards safety messages were viewed over 18 million times in the last financial year.

Community Safety

The Kent Community Warden Service received a very positive reception at the Growth, Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 10 March. Several members spoke about the value and impact of wardens in their local areas. There is clear support for growing the service where funding allows. Parish council contributions to fund additional wardens have been welcomed.

Of particular relevance to Swale West: Community Wardens Claire Jones, Dave Osborne and Team Leader Jackie Worthington were deployed to the Faversham Hub to support the NHS meningitis response, helping over 80 people access vaccinations and antibiotics. Swale Borough Council's Incident Team was able to return to core responsibilities once procedures had been handed over.

Libraries — Sittingbourne Library and Family Hub Reopens

Sittingbourne Library reopened following a refurbishment of the Central Avenue building. From 22 April, it also began hosting Family Hub services, offering additional support for families and children. The updated library provides study space, free Wi-Fi, computer access, and residents can now register births and deaths and book the ceremony room for weddings or civil partnerships — all under one roof.

More information: [Sittingbourne Library and Family Hub reopens after revamp](#)

Spotlight: Economic Development News — May 2026

Read the full newsletter: kent.gov.uk/business

International Collaboration

KCC has been representing Kent on the Straits Committee, working alongside colleagues from France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Discussions in Ostend focused on economic growth, infrastructure and cross-border alignment. There is a strong appetite among European partners to continue working closely with the UK, with Kent well placed as a gateway between the two.

Skills Bootcamps

In Wave 6 of the Government-funded Skills Bootcamps programme, 500 learners signed up and all completed their training by 31 March 2026. Nearly 200 have already moved into a new job or better role. The satisfaction score from learners was 98%. Wave 7 opened on 1 April 2026. For details on available courses contact the provider directly at: kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk — Skills Bootcamps

Kent & Medway Business Fund

Since its relaunch in late 2023, the Kent and Medway Business Fund has recommended 80 loans totalling £9.75 million up to 18 March 2026 — an increase of five loans and £370,296 since the previous update. Recent recipients include businesses in Maidstone, Medway, Gravesham and Tunbridge Wells, ranging from baby product suppliers to specialist care providers.

More information: [Kent and Medway Business Fund — Standard Loans](#)

Visit Kent — Record Tourism Numbers

Visit Kent released new economic impact data showing overseas visits increased by 11% in 2024, with 1.3 million international trips generating over £374 million for the local economy — exceeding pre-pandemic levels. In total, 66 million trips were made, generating £4.1 billion. Tourism now supports over 82,000 jobs in the county.

Visit Kent: www.visitkent.co.uk

Spotlight: Kent Highways & Transport Newsletter

Subscribe to the newsletter: kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel

10,000 New On-Street EV Chargers for Kent

A major government-funded Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Programme is being rolled out across Kent, supported by significant private investment. More than £12 million has been awarded from the Department for Transport's Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Capital Fund, making it the largest LEVI project in England for any local authority. The project will be delivered without drawing on KCC's own funding.

New Ringway Highways Contract — Starts 1 May 2026

The 21-year Highways Term Maintenance Contract with Ringway, worth around £50 million a year, started on 1 May 2026. It covers everything from gritting in winter and fixing potholes to maintaining bridges and responding to emergencies 24/7. The contract is designed to keep Kent's roads safe, reliable and ready for the future.

Potholes — Report and Track

January and February 2026 saw more than 17,000 potholes reported across Kent — a rise of 35% on the previous year. Gritter crews carried out 42 treatments between November and mid-February. The resurfacing programme continues into 2026, with several projects completed in January and February.

Report a pothole online: kent.gov.uk — Report a highway problem

Check roadworks in your area: one.network/uk/kent

Contact Your County Councillor

I am here to help. If you have issues to raise, questions about KCC services, or matters you would like me to take forward on behalf of your parish, please get in touch.

County Councillor — Swale West Division

Cllr Richard Palmer

Email: Richard.Palmer@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ

Roadworks enquiries: one.network/uk/kent

Report highway problems: kent.gov.uk — Report a highway problem

This report covers the Swale West Division: Borden, Bobbing, Lower Halstow, Iwade, the Meads, The Grove, Hartlip, Newington and Upchurch.

Appendix B: Police Report

My name is PC Adam Blakeman, and I am now in my third month as the Beat Officer for Iwade. As I continue to develop in the role, I am actively engaging with the local community and building on the strong relationships already in place to help keep Iwade safe.

As I further embed myself within the area, please feel free to contact me if you are organising any events where a police presence would be beneficial, or if any local groups, of any age would welcome police advice or engagement. I am always happy to attend or deliver a talk when I am

on duty.

What are some of the results and what have we been

doing this month?

- Vehicle seized for no insurance on Sheppey Way having been left abandoned at the location.
- Police attended reports of two males suspected of poaching, details taken.
- High visibility patrolling in the area of Old Ferry Road following reports of youths driving dangerously on off road motorbikes. There have also been traffic stops in this area.

Now let's look at what matters to you and what is being

done about it:

Your Top 3 priorities in your area have changed:

Kent Police have sent out another survey on My Community Voice to find out your top 3 priorities.

Iwade Ward top 3 priorities:

1. Fly tipping
2. Nuisance E-Scooters & E-Bikes
3. Road safety issues - speeding

What am I doing to reduce these problems?

Fly Tipping –

- Liaise with the Council for clearance of rubbish
- Consider feasibility of camera deployment in repeat locations
- Hi Visibility patrols in repeat& rural locations

E-Scooters/E-bikes –

- Proactive Hi-Vis patrols in village areas.
- Liaison with schools' officers for educational inputs around the dangers/requirements for using such vehicles.
- I will deal robustly with any stopped scooters/bikes and consider powers of seizure.
- OP Fold to be utilised to deal with E-scooters/Bikes

Speeding –

- Liaison with Road Safety/Camera partnership to look for support in the Iwade area.
- Arrange speed checks utilising Special Constable assistance to show visible presence and act as a deterrent (times of reports – the most common time is between 1100 – 1130 hours. Other times are all around school pick up and drop off.