

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on
Monday 14 July 2025

Present: Cllr Steve Coates (Chairman), Cllr Colin Jones (Vice Chairman) Cllr Kevin Attwood, Cllr Kirsty Clark, Cllr Graham Cuthbert, and Cllr Linda Lumsden; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Coates welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Apologies had been received from Cllr Kevin Fraser; apologies accepted.
Apologies had also been received from Ward member Terry Thompson (at another meeting); apologies noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Attwood declared a pecuniary interest in item 9.i. Proposed Highsted Park development as landowner within the application.
It was agreed to move the items to the end of the meeting.

3. TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ITEMS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

None.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 JUNE 2025

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
Cllr Coates duly signed the minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING

All matters on the agenda.

6. POLICE REPORT

PC Jez Chittim was unable to attend the meeting and reported that on 11/07/2025 there was a caravan on fire in a field along Homestall Road. It appeared that this was an unwanted caravan which had been set alight.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were in attendance.

8. HIGHWAYS

The Clerk reported that there was no progress in the request for a road sweep of the Old Lenham Road this has been ongoing since 8 January. Assistance has been sought from SBCllr Thompson and KCCllr Lehman. The issues with the pavements have been reported to KCC Highways.

Cllr Jones reported that the bi-annual drain inspection on the Old Lenham Road will take place on 21 July. Concern has been raised by a resident regarding HGVs using the Old Lenham Road; this will be part of the evidence being drawn up for a potential future approach to KCC.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

i. Proposed Highsted Park

Ref: 21/503914/EIOUT Location: Land South And East Of Sittingbourne Kent

Ref: 21/503906/EIOUT Location: Land To The West Of Teynham London Road Teynham

Deferred to end of meeting.

ii. Ref: 25/502600/FULL

Address: Amber Lodge Lady Margaret Manor Road Doddington Kent ME9 0NT

Proposal: Demolition and removal of the existing first floor bedroom flat roof extension and erection of a two storey chalet style side extension to form a bedroom and living room area below, a single storey rear bedroom extension, and an infill extension to the rear court yard to form a kitchen.

Councillors considered the application and had no objections to the proposal.

iii. Any planning matter received by 14 July 2025

25/500835/FULL The Granary The Street Doddington Kent ME9 0BH

Proposal: Erection of a single storey side extension to boot room and installation of roof light

Application permitted

24/503017/FULL Solomons Temple Frangbury Doddington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 0NX

Proposal: Erection of a single storey side extension, erection of a new replacement double garage with garden/log store, shower and home office above Loft conversion with roof lights including replacement windows and changes to fenestration. Erection of a boundary wall with pedestrian gate a vehicle entrance gate including widening of existing driveway and creation of a courtyard garden.

Revised details - Amended plans and change of description

Application refused

10. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Clerks pay and expenses April- June 2025

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mrs W Licence, salary and expenses, £1317.15 (cheque no 1414).

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay HMRC, PAYE, £72.80 (cheque no 1415).

iii. Invoices for Payment:

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mr L Robbins, internal audit, £105.00 (cheque no 1416).

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Maylow Construction, play area repairs, £889.20 (cheque no 1417).

iv. Internal Auditor's report

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the report.

11. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Coates informed Members that he and Cllr Fraser had attended the Speed Watch conference which was very interesting. Friday 11 July was the Community Speed Watch National Day of Action and the Police attended the session in Doddington on that day.

12. PLAYING FIELD

i. Cllr Fraser's monthly report

Cllr Fraser had reported that the Playing Field is being kept tidy and that he is satisfied with the repairs to the play equipment.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 10.06.25- KCC Highways: Urgent Road Closure - Sharsted Road, Doddington - 16th June 2025
2. 11.06.25- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Faversham Road, Newnham - 10th June 2025
3. 12.06.25- NALC CEO Bulletin
4. 13.06.25- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Old Lenham Road, Wychling - 12th June 2025
5. 16.06.25- Swale Borough Council: JKC policy round-up and the Refer Kent Newsletter
6. 17.06.25- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Old Lenham Road, Doddington - 13th June 2025
7. 17.06.25- KALC Bulletin
8. 19.06.25- NALC CEO Bulletin
9. 20.06.25- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Old Lenham Road, Doddington - 19th June 2025
10. 20.06.25- Swale Borough Council: JKC policy round-up
11. 23.06.25- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Faversham Road, Wychling - 23rd June 2025
12. 26.06.25- NALC CEO Bulletin
13. 01.07.25- KALC newsletter
14. 03.07.25- KCC Highways: Road Safety & Active Travel Group newsletter
15. 03.07.25- NALC CEO Bulletin
16. 03.07.25- Swale Pride: Urgent Request for Support in Light of a Recent Statement by KCC Councillor

Councillors considered the request and noted that the application did not fulfil the Council's grant making criteria.

17. 07.07.25- Swale Borough Council: Rural Task Force Update
18. 12.07.25- resident email regarding the Post Office

Councillors considered that the Post Office is an asset to the village and a lifeline to help vulnerable residents pay bills. It was agreed that if the Post Office does not come on Wednesday, the Council will look into the matter.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Fraser had informed the Council that there was little to report of interest to the council from the Swale Eastern Area Committee meeting.

Cllr Coates said a request has been received from Faversham Food Bank to support a hub at Eastling Village Hall. This will be considered at the next meeting.

Cllr Lumsden said the salt bin on Wychling Hill had been reported to her as being knocked over and damaged. KCC Highways had attended and made the bin safe. The winter funding starts in September and the bin will be replaced and replenished in October.

Cllr Lumsden reported that there is an issue with parking on pavements, especially by visitors.

ACTION: item for newsletter.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Cllr Attwood left the meeting and did not take part in the discussion of this item.

i. Proposed Highsted Park

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Ref: 21/503906/EIOUT Location: Land To The West Of Teynham London Road Teynham

Cllr Coates gave an update on the Public Inquiry and areas of further fund-raising for The Action Group were discussed.

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 8 September 2025

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 8 September 2025