

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on
Monday 13 April 2026

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

Cllr Coates welcomed everyone to the meeting

<p>1. APOLOGIES Apologies had been received from Cllr Linda Lumsden (personal); apologies accepted.</p>
<p>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None were declared.</p>
<p>3. TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ITEMS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION None identified.</p>
<p>4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2026 It was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting. Cllr Coates duly signed the minutes.</p>
<p>5. MATTERS ARISING <u>Website domain name:</u> Waiting to be approved and for the Council email address to be set up.</p> <p><u>Defibrillator Training session</u> Cllr Coates reported that the session was to give people confidence to use the defibrillator and was attended by eighteen people including four Councillors. It was a positive event and good feedback has been received from attendees. The trainers were excellent and a donation of £100 has been given to Community Life Savers towards the travel costs (cheque no 1439)</p>
<p>6. PLANNING MATTERS i. <u>Proposed Highsted Park</u> <u>Ref: 21/503914/EIOUT Location: Land South And East Of Sittingbourne Kent</u> <u>Ref: 21/503906/EIOUT Location: Land To The West Of Teynham London Road Teynham</u> Awaiting the Inspector's report.</p> <p>ii. <u>Any other planning matter received by 13 April 2026</u> <u>Ref: 26/500744/FULL</u> <u>Address: Gloucester House Dully Hill Doddington Kent ME9 0BY</u> <u>Proposal: Alterations to existing fenestration, including insertion of new French doors to south elevation, relocation of door, installation of canopy portico, and insertion of new window to east elevation.</u> Application permitted.</p>

Ref: 25/503851/PNQCLA Address: Orchard Barn Chequers Hill Doddington Kent ME9 0JW
Prior notification for the change of use of a building and any land within its curtilage from agricultural to 1no. residential dwellinghouse and associated operational development. For its prior approval to: - Transport and Highways impacts of the development. - Noise impacts of the development. - Contamination risks on the site. - Flooding risks on the site. - Whether the location or siting of the building makes it otherwise impractical or undesirable for the use of the building to change from agricultural use to C3 (dwellinghouses). - Design and external appearance impacts on the building. - Provision of adequate natural light in all habitable rooms of the dwellinghouses.

Awaiting decision

7. POLICE REPORT

PC Gary Morris was unable to attend the meeting and had submitted a written report. There were no issues within the parish.

The next Police surgery is on Tuesday 5 May 2026 at Painters Forstal Community Centre.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

9. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Coates reported that the pot holes along the edges of Old Lenham Road have been reported; the enquiry is under investigation

Cllr Jones reported that the road sweep of Old Lenham Road has been chased, Swale Borough Council had said a mechanical sweeper would come out but nothing has happened. The regular six-month inspection of the drains in Old Lenham Road has been requested and a date has not yet been received. Replacing the Ringlestone Road soakaway is part of KCC Highways five-year plan and it might possibly be scheduled for next year. Meantime clearance of the blocked drains at the junction with The Street has been requested.

Cllr Cuthbert reported that he had reported dangerous pot holes where the Old Lenham Road meets The Street and they were repaired quickly.

10. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Invoices for Payment

a. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay the KALC subscription £325.60 (cheque no1440).

b. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Doddington Village Hall £20.00 for hire of the hall for defibrillator training (cheque no1441).

iii. To consider grant request from Citizens Advice Swale

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make a grant of £100 as the service is available to anyone in the village who might need it (cheque no1442).

ACTION: Cllr Jones to write an article for the newsletter.

iv. To consider grant request from Kent ACRE

Councillors considered the request for grant towards supporting village halls across the county and declined to support it. All agreed to continue to support Doddington Village Hall directly if needed.

11. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Fraser reported that Speed Watch sessions continue with encouraging results. Statistics for 2025 reflect the difference the sessions have made in the village; last week a the police conducted an enforcement session on The Street and found no one contravening the limit.

Cllr Coates thanked the volunteers for their sterling work.

ACTION: Cllr Coates to draft Speed Watch article for the newsletter and appeal for volunteers.

12. PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Fraser's monthly report

Cllr Fraser reported that the moss control treatment has continued and is showing results. The grips for the rocker have been purchased and will be installed. The contractor is mowing the peripheral areas; the main field is yet to be cut. The waste bin was overflowing as had not been emptied for some weeks; this was emptied soon after it was reported to Swale Borough Council.

Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Fraser for his excellent work. The bin at the church car park had also been reported and has now been emptied.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 10.03.26- Kent Highways: South East Water - Emergency Road Closure - Slade Road, Doddington - 10 March 2026
2. 12.03.26- NALC CEO bulletin
3. 13.03.26- South East Water's webinar on Water Resources Management Plan pre-consultation
4. 19.03.26- NALC CEO bulletin
5. 19.03.26- Swale Borough Council: update on Community Governance Review
6. 23.03.26- Kent Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Old Lenham Road, Wichling – 22 March 2026
7. 24.03.26- Kent Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Faversham Road, Wichling - 24 March 2026
8. 24.03.26- Swale Borough Council: policy round-up
9. 26.03.26- NALC CEO bulletin
10. 30.03.26- KALC: Training bulletin
11. 12.03.26- NALC CEO bulletin
12. 31.03.26- Swale Borough Council: policy round-up
13. 01.04.26- KALC: newsletter
14. 01.04.26- Maidstone Borough Council: Notice of Heathlands Supplementary Planning Document Adoption
15. 07.04.26- Kent Highways: Road Safety and Active Travel Group newsletter
16. 08.04.26- Swale Borough Council: Community Governance Review stage 2 consultation
17. 09.04.26- NALC CEO bulletin

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

KALC Award presentation

Councillors agreed the arrangements for refreshments. Cllr Clark will write the citation for the evening.

ACTION 1: Cllr Coates to purchase drinks.

ACTION 2: Clerk to request reports from groups

15. STAFFING MATTERS

Clerk's annual appraisal- Deferred to next month.

**Date of next Meetings:- Annual Parish Meeting Monday 11 May 2026
Annual Parish Council Meeting Monday 11 May 2026**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman
Date: 11 May 2026