

**Monkton
Parish Council**



PARISH CLERK: Sara Archer, 204 Monkton St, Monkton, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4JN
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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 3rd July 2025 at 7:00pm Monkton Village Hall**

Present **Parish Councillors** Gilly Brown [GB], Davina Ransom [DR], Andy Kershaw [AK]

In Attendance Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllr Abi Smith plus 6 members of the public.

14/25-26 **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR**

Following an informal interview, Steve Were had been invited to be co-opted on to the Parish Council. All relevant forms were duly signed and completed.

Proposed: Cllr Brown, Seconded: Cllr Kershaw

15/25-26 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Button (Working), PC Andy Howe, Community Warden Gary Groombridge and Jamie Smith – Monkton Football Club.

16/25-26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No interests were declared.

17/25-26 **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 7th May 2025 as a true record. These were proposed by Cllr Ransom and Seconded by Cllr Kershaw and duly signed by the Chair of the meeting.

18/25-26 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Brown offered her thanks to all those involved with the Village commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day. All events were incredibly well supported and enjoyed. Thanks were extended to Del & Pete and their brilliant team for the tea and supper events in the Village Hall. The firework display organised by the Parish Council was a great success and thanks were expressed to Malcolm Gunton for providing the nostalgic music, Heather Gunton for being the First Aid Responder and Monkton Football Club for running a great bar and organising the snacks.

A meeting with the Football Club regarding the update of the lease will be arranged in due course.

No further update with regard to the CCTV grant application.

Cllr Brown confirmed that unfortunately a few villagers suffered flooding as a result of the recent severe storm, including quite a lot of debris at the bottom of Willets Hill which was cleared by a team of residents for which we are extremely grateful. This would be discussed further under Item 22.

Cllr Brown concluded her report by welcoming Steve to the Parish Council. Steve's background and experience will bring new ideas and a fresh approach to parish issues.

19/25-26 **INDIVIDUAL REPORTS**

To receive updates for the following:

a) County Councillor – **Cllr Luke Evans, Cllr Amelia Randall** not in attendance.

b) District Councillors – **Cllr Abi Smith** advised of the following:

1. **Monkton Nature Reserve anniversary** – Attended the 40th Anniversary event.
2. **Met enforcement at Monkton Nature Reserve re suspicious activity** — I have received a land registry search back on the site adjacent to the Monkton Nature Reserve, but it is not the same name as was mentioned on site. I'm going to send a map over to Clive Nuttall and get him to confirm I am looking at the correct parcel of land. There is no obvious evidence of unsuitable activity.
3. **Brownfield search:** TDC has launched a new call for brownfield sites that may help meet the district's housing needs. The council is inviting landowners, developers, and residents to submit details of suitable brownfield land that could accommodate five or more dwellings. Brownfield land is land that has previously been built on or has had a hard surface on it. There are already brownfield sites identified and allocated in Thanet's current Local Plan, and more have been submitted for potential allocation in the next Local Plan. It is hoped that the call out will identify additional suitable sites that the council is not yet aware of.

Signed.....

Date.....

4. On 25 June, the Thanet Community Safety Partnership, along with members of the Waste and Recycling team and Kent Police, emptied and cleaned the district's **knife amnesty bins**. There are 17 bins in total, placed at key locations including near to parks and railway stations. A total of 150 knives and weapons were safely recovered from the amnesty bins, giving a running total of 4,217 so far this year.
5. The **Teenage Market** is back for the third time. Following the success of the two previous markets in Margate, this time the event is moving to Ramsgate High Street. We're inviting Thanet's young entrepreneurs to apply to sell products or showcase their talents. Happening on Saturday 5 July in Ramsgate, the market will host up to 30 stalls and performers. It is open to budding business-owners and entertainers aged 8 to 24, who can register for a free stall via the Teenage Market website. Two further markets are planned in Broadstairs and Margate later in 2025 and we will share details with you nearer the time.

c) Parish Councillors – **Cllr Ransom** advised the next Thanet Rural Regeneration Group meeting will be held on 15th July.

Cllr Ransom had been contacted by a resident who had raised concern regarding inconsiderate parking and obstruction of driveways, particularly during school times. The concerns were acknowledged, and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the School and ask them to promote more considerate parking. Information leaflets and promotion materials are available from KCC. Details would be forwarded to the School.

Action SA

Cllr Brown confirmed the next Thanet Area Committee meeting would be held on 14th July.

d) Kent Police – PC Andy Howe was on leave and therefore unable to attend the meeting, however, he submitted the following report:

As you may be aware, Thanet CSU (Community Safety Unit) Officers including myself have been abstracted back into the main towns, beaches and to Dreamland events over the last few weeks on a daily basis. The hot weather and its coinciding with college students and sixth formers finishing their academic year, has resulted in large numbers of young persons from all over the county converging on Thanet's beaches.

These issues are very resource heavy and whilst it pains me to have to be away from the villages, it is obviously a policing priority to maintain order. As such, my visibility has been vastly reduced and on my return from leave (good weather dependant), I am likely to continue to be abstracted.

Please be assured that I have an overview of the daily calls to the Villages and am still able to respond to enquiries.

e) KCC Community Warden – Gary Groombridge was unable to attend the meeting, however, he submitted the following report:

Continue to support the Monkton Wellbeing group on a Wednesday morning.

Continuing to be a visual presence on a regular basis around the village, getting to talk to people, keep my eyes open for fly tipping and potholes.

My contact details are on the notice boards so that people can contact me with any concerns.

I have been into see the staff at Monkton Primary School, not for a while, so I will make sure I do that soon.

I have recently been involved with the Thanet Extravaganza being a presence and talking to many people concerning scams, rogue traders, giving away safety freebies like anti spiking lids, covers and straws, also mini window security alarms.

Visual presence in the rest of the villages, Minster, St Nicholas at Wade, Sarre, Acol and Manston.

Reporting potholes, fly tipping in those areas.

Holding community information events at Minster Library and St Nicholas at Wade Church, with more events planned on a more regular basis.

I would also like to do this at Monkton Village Hall so people can come, meet, and speak to me. Other venues and input from the council would be welcomed and appreciated.

Continue to support the Men's Shed in Minster when I can.

Scam talks have been arranged for the Men's shed and Minster Bowls Club, I will be looking to do this at some point for the Monkton Wellbeing group.

Helping support a shop owner with nuisance shop lifting.

Trying to work more closely with Kent Police.

20/25-26

PLANNING

a) To note any new Planning Applications.

F/TH/25/0508 - Barn Studio , Canterbury Road, Monkton

Application considered – Granted Permission by TDC.

b) To receive an update on previous applications:

L/TH/25/0424 - Thatched Cottage , 62 Monkton Street, Monkton

OL/TH/24/1119 - W S Cole And Son, 116 Monkton Street, Monkton

OL/TH/24/1460 - Land South Of, Monkton Street, Monkton, Kent

F/TH/24/1067 - Brooksend Service Station Canterbury Road

GRANTED

PENDING

PENDING

PENDING

Signed.....

Date.....

21/25-26

RECREATION GROUND & PLAY AREA

a) A written inspection report had been completed by Cllr Kershaw.

The safety surfacing repairs were outstanding. The Clerk advised that Playdale had confirmed the guarantee would not be affected if repairs were carried out direct. It was discussed and agreed therefore, to order the repair kit.

Action SA

This was proposed by Cllr Kershaw and seconded by Cllr Were.

It was noted that the litter bins were not being emptied regularly. This had been reported to TDC, however, it remained an issue. The Clerk would contact Matt Elmer to enquire about a larger bin being installed at the Recreation Ground.

Action SA

The improvement in litter picking following football matches had been welcomed.

Cllrs Ransom and Brown would liaise and assess the growth of the ragwort and deal with the situation accordingly.

Action GB/DR

22/25-26

HIGHWAYS

a) Cllr Kershaw advised of the following updates:

- loose, noisy manhole inspection cover outside 48 Monkton St – Contractor responsible is Bellco Ltd, being chased for action.

- double rainwater drains at Willets Hill have sunk. Reported to KCC – been assessed awaiting repair.

- Millers Lane road closure. SGN not intending for the closure to remain in situ until December, expected to reopen by end of week.

b) The severity of the recent storm created a back-up with the drainage system, which was unable to cope with the excess rainwater causing a large amount of flooding throughout the Village. The storm drain at the rear of Seamark Close appeared to be clear and helped to alleviate the issue.

It was discussed and suggested a meeting was arranged with a representative from Highways to discuss the flooding issues, particularly at Willets Hill/Seamark Close.

Action SA

23/25-26

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN

No further update. Due to the difficulties encountered with efforts to collaborate with neighbouring Parishes, Cllr Ransom may suggest Monkton create an independent Plan.

24/25-26

FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Members resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments below, which had been previously circulated.

This was proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Kershaw.

T. Kilbee - Internal Audit fee	£100.00
Tree Doctors - Tree work at Rec Ground	£250.00
SNS - Domain hosting	£40.54
SLCC - Clerk's membership	£150.00
Viking Fireworks - VE Day event	£2,500.00
Hugofox - Website hosting fee	£11.99
ATS - Payroll admin fee	£60.00
S. Archer - Clerk's salary & expenses	
Unity Trust - Service Fee	£6.00
NEST DD - Clerk's pension	
Defib Store - Replacement defib battery	£336.00
Hugofox - Website hosting fee	£11.99
NEST DD - Clerk's pension	
Unity Trust - Service Fee	£6.00

Receipts:

HMRC - VAT Reclaim	£1,107.93
1/3 Clerk's stationary repayment from APC	£45.48
1/3 Clerk's stationary repayment from SNAW PC	£45.48

b) The banking reconciliations for May & June were approved.

This was proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Kershaw.

25/25-26

DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

Future Parish Council meetings would be held on 4th Sept, 6th Nov, 7pm Monkton Village Hall

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- Thanks were received for replacing the defibrillator battery.
- Parish Council support was requested towards the VJ Day celebrations on 15th August. This would be considered and the Event Planning Committee advised of the contribution accordingly.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8:00pm.

Signed.....

Date.....