

SHOREHAM PARISH

Parish Clerk:
07912 611048

Amanda Barlow
The Post Box, Shoreham Village Hall
Shoreham, Kent TN14

clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND A MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Shoreham Village Hall, Shoreham on 6 May 2026 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs J Histed (Chair), B Jeffery, N Powell and M Sheward

Also Present: 4 members of the public and Amanda Barlow (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs Irene Roy and Edwards-Winser (District), Cllr Marc Logen (County)

1. Annual General Meeting

1.1 Election of Chairman

(Clerk in the Chair).

Members resolved unanimously to elect Cllr J Histed as Chairman of the Parish Council.

1.2 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr J Histed duly signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office

1.3 Election of Vice Chairman

Members resolved unanimously to elect Cllr B Jeffery as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council.

Cllr B Jeffery duly signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office

1.4 Members' Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Declaration of Office were signed at the start of the new Council.

1.5 Appointment of Committee and Working Parties

a) Planning

It was agreed that any Member of the Council can sit on the Planning Committee, if required.

b) Highways

1.6 Appoint of Members on other bodies

a) Shoreham Village Hall

b) Shoreham Society

c) Lullingstone Park

Members resolved to agree the appointments to the Committee, Working Parties and other bodies as at Appendix A.

2. To receive any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Marc Logen (County), Cllrs Irene Roy and Edwards-Winsor (District) and Cllrs Blamey, Owen and Thorpe.

3. To receive any disclosures of interest from members in respect of items of business included on the agenda for the meeting.

None.

4. Public Forum

Mr Boyle advised that the Deeds for the Byelaws were stored in the Parish Council store cupboard.

5. **County/District Councillor Reports**

There were no County or District Councillors present. Cllr Logen had given a KCC update at the Annual Parish Meeting on 29 April 2026 and his report is attached at Appendix B.

6. To consider, and approve if appropriate, which agenda items are sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Members agreed to discuss Agenda item 13.5 in confidence.

7. To receive and authorise for signature by the Chairman, the Minutes of the meetings held Wednesday 1 April 2026

Members resolved to agree the minutes of 1 April 2026.

8. **Matters arising from the minutes not covered by Agenda items**

- 8.1 Local List

Cllr Powell and the Clerk agreed to submit a proposal to Sevenoaks District Council.

- 8.2 Annual Parish Meeting

Members agreed it was a success despite the low attendance.

9. **Highways and Footpaths**

- 9.1 Highways Improvement Plan

Cllr Jeffery advised there was no update. A copy of his report is attached at Appendix C.

Cllr Jeffery advised that the Council need to look at the footpaths that crossed the cricket ground to see if there was a gate system that could be installed to prevent motorbikes but allowed prams.

10. **Shoreham Recreation Ground**

- 10.1 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, a quote for cabling work in association with the CCTV

Members resolved to agree to have the work carried out on the CCTV cables on the recreation ground at a cost of £520.

11. Shoreham Allotments

- 11.1 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next steps with regard to bonfires and usage of noisy machinery

Members agreed to ask the Allotment Association to attend the next meeting to discuss the matter of bonfires in more detail.

Members agreed that the Allotment Association's solution to the noisy machinery was acceptable.

- 11.2 To agree instruction of a tree survey for the allotments.

Clerk agreed to get a quote for the tree survey of the allotments.

12. Filston Lane Car Park

- 12.1 To discuss and agree, if appropriate, next steps with regard to the potential acquisition of the car park.

Cllr Histed advised that the Parish Council will be meeting with KCC to discuss the acquisition.

13. Finance & Personnel and Governance

- 13.1 To agree the items received, paid and payable

Members resolved to agree the items received paid and payable.

- 13.2 To agree the insurance renewal

**Members resolved to agree to renew the insurance policy at a cost of £1,935.91.
Members resolved to agree the Long Term Agreement Option.**

- 13.3 To review the Grant Policy

Members resolved to agree the Grant Policy.

- 13.4 To review the 26-27 budget with regard to the allocation of grants

Members reviewed the allocation for grants in the budget.

- 13.5 Parish Council Vacancies

There is still one vacancy. **It was agreed to advertise in the Shoreham Gazette.**

14. Next meetings (all starting at 7:30pm in Shoreham Village Hall unless otherwise stated)

a. Planning (if required) Committee – Wednesday 20 May 2026

b. **Planning (if required) Committee and Council Meeting – Wednesday 3rd June 2026 at 7.30pm – this meeting will take place at Well Hill Mission Church**

Shoreham Parish Council

The Post Box
Shoreham Village Hall
High Street, Shoreham, Kent TN14 7TB
Tel: 07912 611048 Email: clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Council

Shoreham Ward

Cllr Jonathan Histed
jonathan.histed@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Gavin Owen
gavin.owen@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Neil Powell
neil.powell@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Martin Sheward
martin.sheward@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr John Thorpe
john.thorpe@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

VACANCY

District Councillors

Cllr John Edwards- Winser, Otford & Shoreham
cllr.edwards-winsler@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Cllr Irene Roy, Otford & Shoreham
cllr.roy@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Cllr Rachel Waterton, Crockenhill & Well Hill
cllr.waterton@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Chairman: Cllr Jonathan Histed

Planning Committee

All Members
Mr R Boyle
Cllr Roy Blamey (Chairman)

Highways & Footpaths Working Party

All Members invited to attend

East Hill & Romney Street Ward

Cllr Brian Jeffery
brian.jeffery@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Well Hill Ward

Cllr Roy Blamey
roy.blamey@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk

Amanda Barlow
clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

County Councillor

Cllr Marc Logen
Sevenoaks North & Darent Valley
marc.logen@kent.gov.uk

Vice Chairman: Cllr Brian Jeffery

Members on Other Bodies

Shoreham Village Hall – Cllr Thorpe

Shoreham Society – Cllr Powell

Lullingstone Park – Cllr Blamey

Appendix B

Annual Parish Meeting Address

*Marc Logen | County Councillor | Reform UK
Sevenoaks North & Darent Valley | May 2026*

For those who haven't met me, I'm Marc Logen, your Reform UK Kent County Councillor for Sevenoaks North and Darent Valley. The division covers nine parishes, including yours. I was elected last May when Reform UK took control of KCC from the Conservatives, so this is my first annual report to you.

Headline numbers

We took over a council carrying more than £700 million of debt and a budget under serious strain. Almost half of what KCC spends, £787.5 million, goes on Adult Social Care, up £78 million on last year. Children's Services takes another £421 million. Those two services together account for nearly three-quarters of the whole budget; highways, drainage, libraries, public health and everything else competes for the remaining quarter.

Despite that, in our first year we've driven over £100 million of savings and efficiencies through the council and reduced long-term debt by around £67 million, including repaying a £50 million loan 41 years early at a £5.5 million discount. Those savings let us set council tax at 3.99% for 2026-27, below the 5% maximum and below last year's 4.989% increase. The work to find further savings continues. And unlike Birmingham, Bradford or our neighbours in Medway, KCC has not had to go cap in hand to government for emergency bail-out funding.

Planning

I've been working closely with parishes and residents on planning applications across the division, and we've helped secure several rejections where the scale of development simply doesn't fit the location. Pedham Place is the obvious example, and I'm continuing to fight that one. To be clear: I'm not against building. I'm against building in the wrong place at the wrong scale, and the government is not helping us with mandatory house-building targets on Sevenoaks that are completely unsuitable for our green belt area.

Sevenoaks generates the highest volume of planning consultations of any district in Kent. Many of the deeper problems sit with national legislation, but at a county level KCC formally objects to only around 3% of applications, with no formal policy on site visits or parish engagement before decisions are made. I'm pushing on both.

Highways

I've been working with parish councils on their Highway Improvement Plans, which is essentially the list of changes a parish wants to see on its roads and paths. It's a slow process, held up by limited funding at parish and county level, but we aim for one or two changes a year and we keep at it.

On streetworks, every village has the same complaint: utilities digging up the same road again and again. Their communication and quality of work vary wildly. They have a legal right to do it, and the only real fix is national legislation. I continue to try and bang heads together when issues arise, but long term I've submitted a set of policy proposals to Reform HQ which is being considered for the general election manifesto.

KCC reports more than a million square metres of road improvements since May, including resurfacing equivalent to thirty football pitches. From 1 May 2026, Ringway takes over as KCC's highways maintenance contractor. The aim is faster pothole repairs and a higher standard of finish. Hopefully a significant improvement for everyone all round. Please do continue to report faults at kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults; we rely on those reports.

Drainage

One thing that confuses a lot of people: the drains in the road with grids on top are called gullies. They are KCC's responsibility, and where previously they were only cleaned once someone reported flooding, we

are now cleaning all 250,000 of them on a cycle, typically every two to three years. Ditches alongside roads are usually the adjacent landowner's responsibility under what's known as riparian ownership. If you're unsure, report it through the KCC website and we'll identify who owns it.

Schools

A final note: I can help residents with primary and secondary school admissions and appeals. Most of you won't need it, but if you or someone you know is struggling with the process, do get in touch. I deal with these cases regularly.

Local government reorganisation

You'll hear more about Local Government Reorganisation through the year. The government is pushing this hard and will decide this summer how many councils replace KCC and the district councils from April 2028. KCC's preferred option is a single Kent-wide council to keep Kent together and avoid spending many millions on a reorganisation we don't need. Unfortunately, other councils are choosing more expensive options which would put Sevenoaks in a new West Kent unitary council.

I'm happy to take questions now, or by email afterwards. I'll be back at parish meetings through the year.

Appendix C

06 May 2026 (2026-2027)

RECEIPTS LIST - 1 APRIL TO 6 MAY 2026

Code	Date	Description	Supplier			Total
Interest on Precept	30/04/2026	Bank interest	NatWest Bank	X	21.52	21.52
Tennis courts	30/04/2026	Tennis Subscription	Tennis Club Member	X	60.00	60.00
Precept	30/04/2026	Precept	Sevenoaks District Coui	X	29,500.00	29,500.00
			Total		29,581.52	29,581.52

PAYMENTS LIST - 1 APRIL TO 6 MAY 2026

Code	Date	Description				Total	
Office telephone	01/04/2026	Office telephone	O2	S	15.22	3.04	18.26
Broadband	01/04/2026	Broadband	Mrs A C Barlow	X	10.00		10.00
Clerk's mileage	01/04/2026	Mileage	Mrs A C Barlow	X	18.36		18.36
Office Rent/Storage	01/04/2026	Office Allowance	Mrs A C Barlow	X	30.00		30.00
Subscriptions - KALC/SLCC/Other	01/04/2026	KALC Subscription	KALC	S	706.86	141.37	848.23
Grant	01/04/2026	Grant to Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Services	Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Services	X	200.00		200.00
Computer/Printer Consumables	01/04/2026	Website	Hugo Fox	S	29.99	6.00	35.99
Grant	01/04/2026	Grant to Sevenoaks's Men's Shed	Sevenoaks Men's Shed	X	200.00		200.00
Car Park	01/04/2026	Business Rates	Sevenoaks District Council	X	94.00		94.00
Office telephone	07/04/2026	Office telephone	O2	S	15.22	3.04	18.26
Street lighting	24/04/2026	Electricity	npower	X	89.38		89.38
Allotments	30/04/2026	Water Charges - Allotments TW2378728040	Castle Water	X	339.38		339.38
Computer/Printer Consumables	01/05/2026	Website	Hugo Fox	S	29.99	6.00	35.99
Car Park	01/05/2026	Business Rates	Sevenoaks District Council	X	94.00		94.00
Office Rent/Storage	01/05/2026	Office Allowance	Mrs A C Barlow	X	30.00		30.00
Broadband	01/05/2026	Broadband	Mrs A C Barlow	X	10.00		10.00
Toilets	05/05/2026	Electricity	EDF Energy	L	131.96	6.60	138.56

PAYMENTS LIST 7 MAY 2026

Code	Date	Description				Total	
Hall/Emergency Room Hire	07/05/2026	Hall hire	Shoreham Village Hall	X	66.00		66.00
Tree surgery	07/05/2026	Tree work at Recreation Ground	Down to Earth Trees Ltd	S	1,740.00	348.00	2,088.00
Grant	07/05/2026	Grant to PCC	Shoreham PCC	X	1,000.00		1,000.00
Printing Gazette/Shoreham Post	07/05/2026	Printing Shoreham Post	Shoreham PCC	X	365.91		365.91
Grant	07/05/2026	Grant to DRIPS	DRIPS	X	500.00		500.00
Emptying litter bins	07/05/2026	Dog waste bin Jan to Mar 26	Sevenoaks District Council	S	370.50	74.10	444.60
Email Hosting Charges	07/05/2026	Email Hosting	Vision ICT	S	35.00	7.00	42.00
Email Hosting Charges	07/05/2026	Annual Email Hosting Charge	Vision ICT	S	180.00	36.00	216.00

Appendix D

Cllr Jeffery gave this update at the Annual Parish Meeting and his report is below:

Some 18 months ago we asked the residents of the parish to tell us what concerns they had regarding traffic and parking and most important what solutions they thought were appropriate to deal with the issues.

- > we had 200 plus suggestions from over 90 people.

- > These were all looked at and were condensed down to 14 ideas.

- > A year ago at the Parish AGM the ideas were shown as a presentation and the residents present were given the opportunity to say whether they agreed with any of the proposals or were against any of them.

- > Another presentation was given a short time after and again residents could agree or disagree with what they were shown. Residents who were not able to come to the presentations were able to email the clerk with their views.

- > From the feedback we received the 14 proposals were reduced to 12 and these formed the initiatives that were put forward on our Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)

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- > The HIP was submitted to KCC Highways on the 19th Sept 2025 and we awaited their reply.

- > To date we have only had responses to 4 proposals.

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- > No.1 on the HIP, installing a kerb outside Copt Hall on the A225 opposite the station, The parish council can do this but KCC will not fund it as they say there is no data showing that this is an accident area.

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- > No.2 on the HIP, installing a traffic island on the A225 opposite the station. KCC will not allow this to be done as the speed of 40mph is too fast for this to be done and would put pedestrians at risk if it was used for crossing the road.

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- > No.9 on our HIP, was rejected straight away. This was the extension of the 30 mph speed limit along Filston Lane from Water Lane to Twitton Lane.

- > Nigel Rowe from KCC said that it would not be considered as there is no change in the environment and the lane widens at this point.

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- > No.10 On the HIP, 30 mph speed limit throughout the village confines has approval.

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- > We have not received any other news on the remaining 8 items on the HIP.

- > The Parish Council has decided to wait for all the proposals to be answered before setting up a meeting with KCC Highways to strongly argue the case for all items that have and may be rejected by KCC.

- > Another reason for waiting for answers on all the items is that many of our proposals will need a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) A TRO costs approximately £4000 per item. By grouping them all together we may be able to get them under one TRO.

- > The Parish Council continues to press for a resolution from KCC on the remainder of the items on the HIP but because of resourcing at KCC this is taking an extremely long time.