

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on
Monday 10 March 2025

Present: Cllr Steve Coates (Chairman), Cllr Kevin Attwood, Cllr Kirsty Clark, Cllr Kevin Fraser and Cllr Linda Lumsden;
and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Cllr Coates welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from, Cllr Graham Cuthbert (recuperating) and Cllr Colin Jones (holiday): apologies accepted.
Apologies had also been received from County Councillor Rich Lehmann (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 matter 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 10 FEBRUARY 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

Cllr Coates reported that Faversham Town Council is preparing new promotional material for the Community Shopper Bus.
Cllr Coates informed Members that he had attended the KALC Swale Area Committee meeting at Iwade, Larissa Reed, Chief Executive of Swale Borough Council, gave a presentation on devolution and Local Government. Kent Police gave a detailed briefing on matters in Swale.

6. POLICE REPORT

Cllr Coates reported that PC Chittim is still on restricted duties. There had been a burglary in Down Court Road which has been reported to the Police.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

8. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Coates reported that the road sweep for the Old Lenham Road has been chased and KCC Highways will be clearing the blocked drains at The Street and Faversham Road ends of Old Lenham Road shortly. The recently refreshed white lines by West End are worn.
ACTION: Clerk to report both issues

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 Kent

Deferred to end of meeting.

ii. Any planning matter received by 10 March 2025

Cllr Coates said that an application has been submitted for The Granary, The Street, 25/500835/FULL and this will be discussed at the April meeting

Ref: 25/500066/FULL The Old School Cottage Church Hill Doddington Kent ME9 0BD

Proposal: Fenestration amendments including new doors, windows and insertion of rooflights and removal of existing rear entrance canopy.

Awaiting decision.

24/504360/LBC Homestall Farm Homestall Road Doddington Kent ME9 0HF

Proposal: Listed building consent retrospective for structural repairs- removal of cement pebbledash and replacement with traditional lime render. Replacement of cill removed following timber failure exposed during works on North elevation. Introduction of 1 No. additional downpipe to ease pressure on rainwater evacuation. Relocation of the soil pipe. Removal of internal gypsum plaster locations and replace with lime-based render with breathable paint.

Awaiting decision.

24/504831/FULL 6 The Retreat The Street Doddington Kent ME9 0DB

Proposal: Erection of a ground floor front extension, demolition of existing side porch and replaced with the erection of a two storey side extension and installation of front and rear pitched roof dormers.

Awaiting decision.

24/504755/FULL Brewster House Brewster Road Doddington Kent ME9 0AY

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and removal of existing lean-to conservatory, erection of a single storey rear orangery style extension and rebuild Double Garage with Home Office with pitched roof.

Awaiting decision.

23/503908/FULL Southdown And Periwinkle Cottage Chequers Hill Doddington ME9 0BN

Proposal: Conversion of existing dwelling to 4no. residential apartments including part demolition and erection of a single storey side extension and a two storey rear extension, erection of two storey extensions to either side of existing cottage, and erection of 4no. new residential dwellings, with associated parking, biodiversity and landscape enhancements.

Awaiting decision.

10. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Clerk Salary and expenses

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay HMRC PAYE £65.60 (cheque no 1402).

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mrs W Licence salary and expenses £1285.33 (cheque no 1403).

iii. Invoices for Payment

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay TMPI Ltd £252.00 in respect of play area inspection (cheque no 1404).

11. IT

Cllr Coates said the current laptop is not working, it is over nine years old and needs replacing.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** for the Clerk to purchase a new laptop, Microsoft Office and an antivirus within a budget of £600.

12. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Fraser reported that the Speed Watch sessions continue in the village. He had attended the Co-ordinators meeting which was very informative.

Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Fraser and the team for their sterling work.

13. PLAYING FIELD

i. Cllr Fraser's monthly report

Cllr Fraser informed Members that there has been another cut of the Playing Field.

ii. Play area inspection report

Cllr Fraser said the report did not raise any significant issues. The baby swing seat needs replacing; the gaiter on the rocking horse needs replacing; and the shackles and chains need replacing on the swings.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations.

iii. To consider quotation for peripheral maintenance

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation from Mr Nick Swatland of £500 for the peripheral maintenance of the Playing Field.

14. NOTICE BOARD

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation of £180.00 from AD Grantham Group, to install the notice board.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 12.02.25- KALC bulletin
2. 20.02.25- NALC CEO bulletin
3. 24.02.25- Swale Borough Council: JKC Policy round-up
4. 25.02.25- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Lady Margaret Manor Road, Doddington - 24th February 2025
5. 25.02.25- KALC: update on the latest developments regarding local government reorganisation in Kent
6. 28.02.25- Swale Borough Council consultation on a new Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy
7. 28.02.25- NALC CEO bulletin
8. 28.02.25- KALC CEO bulletin
9. 04.03.25- Swale Borough Council: JKC Policy round-up
10. 05.03.25- KALC: Newsletter
11. 05.03.25- Swale Borough Council CEO devolution presentation
12. 06.03.25- NALC CEO bulletin
13. 06.03.25- KALC Training Bulletin

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Lumsden asked for an update on the Playing Field Signs.

Cllr Fraser said they will be installed as soon as possible.

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

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

Cllr Coates gave an update on the campaign and reminded Councillors that the Public Inquiry starts on 11 March. The THCAG Fighting Fund now stood at over 82% of target (£31k) and councillors should use word of mouth to encourage donations. Councillors briefly discussed the public meeting which was held on 2 March and the widespread public support for opposing the applications.

Cllr Lumsden said that NHS Kent & Medway has raised concern about the planning applications and the ability of local services to cope with the added demand from 8,400 new households. They say that it is important to ensure that the current population's access to healthcare services is not negatively impacted as a result of the population growth from new housing developments. The NHS does not have the funds to provide extra services and would be unable to staff it.

Date of next Meeting: Monday 14 April 2025

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 14 April 2025