

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DITTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE **COUNCIL CHAMBER** AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 8TH APRIL 2026

PRESENT: CLLRS M J PORTER [VICE-CHAIR], A R MULCUCK, MRS M NEWMAN,
MRS A THROSSELL, MRS L COX, J COX & D ADLINGTON
MRS N GREENAWAY [CLERK OF THE COUNCIL]
TMBC BOROUGH CLLR R CANNON

462. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Vice-Chair at 7.30pm.

463. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Newman, Waters, Laidouci and White. The previously notified reasons for absence were **ACCEPTED** and **APPROVED** and recorded in the absence book Ref. 608.

464. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

465. **CASUAL VACANCIES**

NOTED no applications had been received and the vacancies would be advertised in the next gazette.

466. **CONFIRMATION & SIGNING OF MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16TH MARCH 2026**

The minutes of the above meeting were **CONFIRMED** and **SIGNED** as a true record.

467. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

468. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD DURING MARCH 2026**

(a) For Confirmation & Signing

(i) COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE, 16TH MARCH 2026

The minutes of the above meeting were presented by Cllr Porter and signed as a true record.

(ii) PLANNING, HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, 23RD MARCH 2026

The minutes of the above meeting were presented by Cllr Mrs Throssell and signed as a true record.

(iii) OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE, 23RD MARCH 2026

The minutes of the above meeting were presented by Cllr Cox and signed as a true record.

469. **CORRESPONDENCE**(a) For Noting

The following items were **CIRCULATED, READ** and **NOTED**:

Ditton Twinning Assoc.	<u>Minutes of Meetings held 04.03.2026 & 02.04.2026</u>
TMBC:	<u>Tonbridge & Malling Safety Advisory Group (SAG)</u> <u>S.106 Information</u>
KALC:	<u>Newsletter April 2026</u>
SLCC:	<u>The Clerk, March 2026</u>
Ditton Heritage Centre:	<u>Thank you for donation</u>
Air Ambulance:	<u>Thank you for donation</u>
Heart of Kent Hospice:	<u>Thank you for donation</u>
NW Kent Citizens Advice:	<u>Thank you for donation</u>

(b) For Decision

KALC:	<u>Pledge for financial support for ACRE</u> A request for a pledge for financial assistance was READ . It was agreed to acknowledge the request and advise all requests for financial support will be considered by the Council in February.
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470. **FINANCE**(a) Accounts For Payment

RESOLVED the following payments be **APPROVED** and **RATIFIED**:-

March Payroll Summary

<i>Monthly</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>£35,465.50</i>
	<i>Net</i>	<i>£24,845.92</i>

Accounts (approved and paid 20.03.26)

Community Centre				
Envirocure	Legionella Risk Assessment		700.00	£910.80
	Legionella Monitoring		59.00	
			151.80	
1 st A Pest Control	Pest Control		60.00	£72.00
		VAT	12.00	
Capital Cleaning	Cleaning Supplies		148.45	

		VAT	29.69	£178.14
KCS	Cleaning Supplies		92.91	
		VAT	18.58	£111.49
EGM	Uniform		164.61	
		VAT	32.93	£197.54
Bar				
Lansdell	Bar Stock		168.03	
			144.37	
			(7.39)	
			113.72	
		VAT	71.15	£489.88
Kent & Sussex	Bar Stock		420.91	
		VAT	84.18	£505.09
TH Electrical	Surge Protection		914.28	
		VAT	182.86	£1,097.14
F&A				
NCS	Photocopy Charges		(57.33)	
			141.65	
			16.86	£101.18
OSA				
Lister Wilder	Kubota Repairs		1649.32	
		VAT	329.87	£1979.19

Accounts (paid 30.03.26)

Community Centre				
Office Boffins	Folding Tables		1679.50	
		VAT	335.90	£2,015.40
Maidstone Cleaners	Window Cleaning		260.00	£260.00
BAR				
Kent & Sussex	Bar Stock		484.98	
		VAT	96.98	£581.96
Lansdell	Bar Stock		188.90	
		VAT	35.78	£224.68
OSA				
Travis Perkins	Redwood – Bench Repair		22.51	
		VAT	4.50	£27.01
KCS	Pitch Marking Powder		75.95	
		VAT	15.19	£91.14

March BACS Payments (not previously listed)

02.03.26	TH Electrical	Workshop Lights/Heater	£1,566.00
06.03.26	Triple A Events	Staging Deposit – Music Festival	£1,564.45
10.03.26	Ditton Heritage Centre	Donation	£100.00
11.03.26	Air Ambulance	Donation	£250.00
11.03.26	Citizens Advice	Donation	£50.00
11.03.26	Heart of Kent Hospice	Donation	£250.00
13.03.26	Kent & Sussex	Bar Stock	£1,702.30
13.03.26	TH Electrical	Mess Room Water Heater	£276.90
16.03.26	Worknest	HR Support	£1,260.00
20.03.26	J Dowle Fencing	Security Bollard Deposit	£520.00
25.03.26	M Beautridge	Bar Services	£63.55

25.03.26	D Beautridge	Playground Locking	£30.00
31.03.26	J Dowle	Security Collard	£632.00

March Deposit Refunds

02.03.26	Oaken Hall – 21.02.26	£80.00
05.03.26	Carman Room – 28.02.26	£72.50
11.03.26	Carman Room – 07.03.26	£50.00
25.03.26	Carman Room – 21.03.26	£72.50

(b) Direct Debits

RESOLVED the following direct debits be **APPROVED** and **RATIFIED**:-

March Direct Debits

02.03.26	Veolia	Refuse Collection	£472.04
03.03.26	O2	Mobile Phone	£14.18
04.03.26	Carlsberg	Cellar Equipment	£201.60
06.03.26	Kent Commercial Services	Electricity Supply	£7,357.64
06.03.26	Carlsberg	Bar Stock	£1,945.72
09.03.26	Rentokil Initial	Washroom Services	£371.97
09.03.26	SKY	Sky Sports	£510.60
10.03.26	Kent Commercial Services	Gas Supply	£1,445.59
13.03.26	Carlsberg	Bar Stock	£1,415.92
13.03.26	FDMS	Card Charges	£436.43
16.03.26	Bankline	Bank Charges	£102.61
16.03.26	Safety Effect	H&S	£126.00
16.03.26	Sage	Sage Software	£307.80
16.03.26	Kent Commercial Services	Electricity Supply	£7,523.13
16.03.26	DHFE	Till Rental	£369.60
20.03.26	Carlsberg	Bar Stock	£1,575.82
23.03.26	Hugo Fox	Website	£23.99
25.03.26	Everflow	Water Charges	£547.11
25.03.26	HMRC	PAYE/NI	£7,401.61
25.03.26	BOC	Bar Gas	£258.72
26.03.26	Host My Office	IT Support	£840.12
26.03.26	TNT	TNT Sports	£525.80
27.03.26	NEST	Pension Contributions	£1,394.68
27.03.26	Paymentsense	Card Payment Terminals	£84.00
27.03.26	Carlsberg	Bar Stock	£1,515.59
30.03.26	Focus	Telephone Charges	£93.26
30.03.26	Focus	Telephone Lease	£165.00
30.03.26	WEX	Fuelcard	£7.99
30.03.26	Veolia	Refuse Collection	£453.94
31.03.26	Natwest	Bank Charges	£150.12

(c) Debit Card Payments

RESOLVED the following debit card payments be **APPROVED** and **RATIFIED**:-

March Debit Card

02.03.26	Tesco	Refreshments/Raffle	£73.19
09.03.26	Tesco	Refreshments/Stock	£129.54
11.03.26	Amazon	Microwave	£67.99
11.03.26	Amazon	Push Pins	£7.99
11.03.26	Amazon	Cork Board	£25.24
13.03.26	Trent Furniture	Round Tables	£509.40
13.03.26	Amazon	Portable PA System	£326.69
16.03.26	Tesco	Refreshments/Stock	£130.20
16.03.26	Amazon	Fluorescent Pen	£6.21
17.03.26	Amazon	Cork Board	£29.69
30.03.26	Tesco	Refreshments	£69.43

(d) Asset Register at 31/03/2026 – for approval and signing

RESOLVED to accept approve and sign the asset register.

471. **REPORTS FROM BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Borough Cllr Cannon reported on the following items:

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

17 Scott Close 25/02178/FL

The planning officer is going to refuse this application so it will not need to be “called in”.

Government Changes re planning

From September a planning committee will no longer be able to consider less than 9 applications.

From 10th May applications that are refused will have to be referred to the Secretary of State.

Parking

The head teacher from the Infant school had been in contact about the possibility of double yellow lines near to the infant school in Pear Tree Avenue. The Parish Council confirmed it would support this request. An article about considerate parking could also be included in the next gazette.

Cllr Cox asked for clarification on the proposed process of dealing with planning applications.

The Clerk asked if it would be beneficial for the parish council to have an independent traffic survey undertaken to establish the increase in traffic on Kilnbarn Road since the development of Ditton Edge, to use as evidence for the objection to the Bradbourne application. Cllr Cannon said he would try to find out and would speak to Cllrs Newman and Waters about this.

Cllr Cox asked if there would be local elections next year. Cllr Cannon said yes it was likely but he could not say if it would be for borough or a new unitary council at this stage.

472. **REPORTS FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM**

Anti-Social Behaviour

There was no report available. The Clerk reported that there had been incidents involving motorbikes on the recreation ground and quarry and a pony and trap driven on to the rec and

the verge in front of the Community Centre main entrance. She said she had sought advice from the local police and TMBC ASB officer.

473. **DATE SENSITIVE PLANNING MATTERS**

(a) Plans Received for Comment

TM/26/00170/FL - Conifers 66 Priory Grove Ditton Aylesford Kent ME20 6BD

Removal of existing detached garage. Removal of existing chimney stack, and construction of a ground floor rear and side extension

<https://publicaccess.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/26/00170/FL>

RESOLVED Ditton Parish Council notes the proposed removal of a parking space in the garage and the proposed reduction of space in the driveway – the council is therefore concerned about the removal of two potential off-road parking spaces.

TM/26/00250/RD - Cobdown Sports Ground Station Road Ditton Aylesford Kent

Details of floodplain compensation strategy submitted pursuant to condition 8 of planning permission TM/25/01144/FL (Re-laying of 1 no. grass pitch into a new hybrid football pitch with associated infrastructure, installation of internal and external boundary treatment, and associated hard and soft landscaping)

<https://publicaccess.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/26/00250/RD>

RESOLVED this council has no comment to make.

TM/26/00328/FL - Park Farm Cottage Bradbourne Lane Ditton Aylesford Kent ME20 6PE

Section 73 application to discharge condition 5 (Historic Building Recording) of planning permission TM/24/00271/FL Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and the erection of 2no semi-detached dwellings, with associated landscaping and parking

<https://publicaccess.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/26/00328/FL>

Members agreed with the Chair's concern that the demolishing of the house took place before planning permission was granted. This is a retrospective application to show there was a house and to have it recognised as demolished.

It was agreed to contact the TMBC councillors to discuss the application and the concern that this has gone against the planning process and to ask whether calling it in is suitable.

(b) Decisions from TMBC Area 3

The following decisions were **NOTED**:

TM/26/00168/FL - 43 Pear Tree Avenue Ditton Aylesford Kent ME20 6EB

Access ramp with hand rails to front of property and replacement front door with wider opening

Approved 30/03/2026

TM/ 25/01676/LDP - Unit 1 Newsprint Avenue Panattoni Park Aylesford Kent ME20 7XH

Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Internal alterations to the existing warehouse
Certified 24/03/2026

(c) Orchard Mill (Ditton Edge)

Cllr Mrs Throssell reported that there was a lot of litter coming from the contractors working on this site close to the public right of way. The Clerk will pass this concern on to the site manager.

(d) Bradbourne – EMT Proposal

NOTED that a request had been made to the Borough Councillor regarding the benefit of a traffic survey.

474. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

NOTED arrangements all in hand. Cllr Mrs Throssell gave her apologies.

475. **MATTERS ARISING FROM “CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING”**

There were no matters arising.

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and Standing Orders 27 & 50 the Chairman to move that due to the confidential nature of the next item the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting.

476. **CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

(a) CM453

READ and **AGREED**.

(b) Changes to Staff Salaries from 01/04/2026

READ and **NOTED**.

477. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Chairman
6th May 2026

