



## HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office, Village Hall, Horton Road, South Darenth, DA4 9AZ

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HALLS COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026 in the Parish Room, Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** I Blackamore, D Hollands, T Moyle, C Page,

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Lisa Johnson, Parish Clerk

The meeting started at 7.30pm

#### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mitchell sent in apologies and suggested that the Committee either appoint a different Chair as due to work commitments Tuesday evenings were no longer viable, or, move to Monday evenings, in line with other meetings. The committee agreed to move the meetings to the **third Monday bi-monthly** dates.

**Action:** Clerk to amend calendar/website and advise councillors.

Cllr Moyle Chaired the meeting in Cllr Mitchell's absence.

#### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

#### 3 MINUTES

It was **Resolved** to agree and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 as a true and accurate record.

#### 4 CLERKS REPORT/MATTERS ARISING

*Appendix 1* – including

Update on the shutter repairs in the Jubilee hall

Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council insurers Ecclesiastical agreed that

- professional caterers with the correct liability insurance, h&s policies, risk assessments and hygiene certificates could use the outside areas only.
- Private hirers using gas cylinders/barbeques/electric cooking equipment was not covered and not allowed to operate on any parish council owned land as they would not be insured.

All other items were either completed or appear as a Maintenance or Agenda item.

## 5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND CORRESPONDENCE

There were no questions or correspondence.

## 6 MAINTENANCE

The maintenance list was discussed and updated where appropriate - *Appendix 2*

The Halls Maintenance file was reviewed and updated. Cllr Blackamore had completed the emergency lighting test and the fire exit doors had an approved contractor initial site test. Clerk advised the fire risk assessment for the whole Village hall building was due in 2027.

**Action:** Legionella testing to be completed, Clerk to complete the summary sheet

## 7 PLANNING

### 26/01172/PIP

Whitefields

Dean Bottom

South Darenth

Kent

DA4 9JX

Erection of dwellings with a minimum of 1 or maximum of 5 net dwellings and associated ancillary works.

**Action:** Objection with comments

The Parish Council has considered application 26/01172/PIP for the erection of between 1 and 5 dwellings at Whitefields, Dean Bottom, South Darenth.

Whilst recognising that this is an application for Permission in Principle only, the Parish Council considers that concerns remain regarding the suitability of the site for residential development in principle.

The Parish Council considers that the limited level of detail submitted makes it difficult to properly assess the site's overall suitability for residential development at this stage. In the absence of sufficient technical information regarding access, highways and other site constraints, it is not yet clear whether the proposed scale of development would be appropriate.

In particular, the site has limited pedestrian connectivity to local services and facilities, with the surrounding rural road network lacking suitable pedestrian infrastructure. Future occupiers would therefore be heavily reliant on private vehicles.

The Parish Council is also concerned about the narrow and constrained nature of the surrounding rural lanes and the ability of the local highway network to safely accommodate additional vehicle movements arising from the proposed development.

The Parish Council, therefore, requests that Sevenoaks District Council carefully consider whether sufficient evidence has been provided at this stage to demonstrate that the site is suitable in principle for residential development.

A resolution to exclude the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2); press and public will be excluded as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. HK & SD Parish Council Standing Order 11 (a

& b) plus 19(f) also applicable; disclosure of such would breach the obligations of a Council under the Data Protection Act 1998.

## 9        **REGULAR HIRERS**

Request from a regular hirer was considered and after discussion it was proposed, seconded with all in agreement and

**Resolved:** that the current hire charges would remain.

## 10       **DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chair\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_