MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at

John Spanton Sports Pavilion, St Mildreds Road, Minster

on 3rd November 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Quittenden, Crow-Brown, Fordyce, Bates, Smith, Low, Webzell, Jones, Mogridge, Ingleton, Andrews.

Also present: Kyla Lamb (Clerk to the Council), Clare Beamand (Assistant Clerk), Cllr Luke Evans (KCC), Gary Groombridge (Community Warden)

203. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence: Cllr Abi Smith (TDC), Cllr Peter Evans (TDC), PC Owen Crush.

204. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 6th October 2026 be approved.

205. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No members interests noted.

206. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

PC Owen was not present but had provided a report which was circulated to all Councillors and summarised the calls below:

- Attended 22 calls in support of my response colleagues. These included fraud incidents, disturbances, welfare concerns and assaults. I have also continued to liaise with councillors and clerks.

Community Warden Gary Groombridge reported as follows:

- Continues to be a visual presence within the village.
- Reported again, fly-tipping and more nitrous oxide cannisters.
- Continue to support the Mens Shed.
- Continues to support several elderly residents through the positive wellbeing programme.
- Reported a pothole in Taylor Road
- Will be attending the Winter Wellness event on Friday 6th November which is a multi-agency event.
- Will be attending Minster Firework display with two other wardens on Friday 6th November.
- Reported a fallen tree branch to Kent Highways in Hill House Drive which was responded to very quickly.
- Reported damage to the footpath from Molineux Road to St Mildreds Road.

Cllr Ingleton thanked the Warden Gary Groombridge for attending and giving updates at meetings and also to Cllr Peter Evans and PC Owen Crush for sending reports when they cannot attend the meeting.

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207. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Peter Evans (TDC) was not present but had sent a report as follows:

- Summarised the Government changes to Thanet District Planning committees from 1st November 2026
- Summarised the current position on Local Government Reorganisation
- Gave an update on the increasing amount of roadworks causing chaos all over the District.

Cllr Luke Evans (KCC) provided a report as follows:

- Summarised the current position on Local Government Reorganisation
- Southern Water hope to carry our repairs to leaks within five days.
- Reported on 144 crimes linked to the Manston Immigration Centre
- Assisting to get the extension works to a building at Minster School moving forward and releasing old S106 monies to pay for it.
- Visited Minster Shed
- KCC voted to no longer pay for translators
- HTE hydrogen plant application will be going to KCC planning committee on 2nd December 2026 and will be recommended for approval

Cllr Ingleton thanked Cllr Evans for his support with the Way Hill application.
Cllr's Mogridge, Jones, Ingleton, Low and Crow-Brown raised various questions with Cllr Evans.

Cllr Abi Smith was not present but had sent a report as follows:

- The Secretary of State granted permission for the Sealink Convertor Station despite her submission requesting its refusal. Any high court challenge must be lodged by 11 December 2026.
- F/TH/25/0179 – 55 High Street – application revalidated on 6th October after the applicant served notice on the landowners and submitted a new red-line plan. The 'call-in' can no longer be heard due to the changes to the planning system. If access issues and ecology are resolved approval is likely.
- Gave an update on LGR
- Fallen leaf scheme is oversubscribed all 400 free leaf bins have been allocated.
- Stagecoach briefs TDC councillors on 23rd November, members should contact Cllr Smith or Cllr Luke Evans with any concerns regarding Minster bus services before then.

208. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Cllr Quittenden reported as follows:

- Attended the Minster Show AGM which is in good shape and will continue.
- Will attend the Twinning Association AGM
- The Clerks are in the process of setting up all Councillors new laptops. The Chairman reminded all Councillors to check their laptops regularly for emails
- Will review the emergency plan information
- Asked Councillors to advise the Clerk if they intend to stand for re-election in May 2027.
- Reported that the Secretary of State has granted permission for the Sealink.National Grid convertor station. This will open a community fund of

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£1M. He reminded members to inform Cllr Ingleton of any projects that could be sought from this fund.

- Reminded Councillors of the Fireworks Display on Friday 6th November and the Remembrance Day service on Sunday 8th November starting at the Royal British Legion Club at 10am.
- Attended the Art Show and Ploughing match that had taken place recently.

209. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reminded all Councillors to let the office know if they and their partners were attending the Remembrance Day Service to reserve seats in the church.

210. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

None.

211. PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Highways & Transportation meeting held on 27th October, be received and the recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Ingleton reported as follows:
Some Committee members had a Teams meeting this morning with our new Community Engagement Officer, Fiona Wiles and Paul Valek and reviewed the Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)
Awaiting responses from BDW and TDC to advise whether 50 houses are now occupied. This would trigger the Southern Water enhancement requirements and the emergency access should then be in use.
Have sent a further response regarding 55 High Street.
The new planning system at TDC is now in place putting more onus on officer decisions and less on the for planning committee. The new planning portal is proving difficult to navigate.

212. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Members are asked to consider whether to move forward with preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan following Cllr Mogridge paper which was circulated previously, along with responses from Adrian Verrall and Worth and Ash Parish Clerks, regarding their Neighbourhood Plans.
Cllr Ingleton reported that as TDC are currently refreshing their Local Plan including call for sites, so now would be a good time to consider a NDP if MPC were to go ahead.
A discussion ensued and Cllr Mogridge explained that Place Standard approach could be a starting point.

AGREED to defer back to Planning Highways and Transportation Committee for further consideration.

213. MANSTON AIRPORT

Members considered a response to the consultation by Manston Airport for comments on the responses of RiverOak Strategic Partners Ltd dated 25 August and 8 October.

RESOLVED to respond that: as an interested party Minster Parish Council have NO FURTHER COMMENTS on the above application.

214. CCTV LOAD TESTING AND CHANGE OF MAINTENANCE PROVIDER

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The Clerks explained that KCC had informed us that in order to keep our CCTV cameras in place we are required to have load testing carried out on all 7 columns. They have further advised that testing is necessary every 3 years. The day rate for testing is £1000. Cllr Evan, undertook to investigate this further as the cameras are used for community safety and the columns would require testing by KCC anyway.

RESOLVED to go ahead with the testing at a cost of up to £1000 which may be lower if shared with another Parish.

Maintenance has been poor since WJ Sunstone our current maintenance provider, have been taken over. Staff have left and set up their own company and have approached us to quote for the maintenance renewal which is £2675. Members are asked to consider and approve moving our maintenance agreement to Fyrfly Systems at an annual cost of £2675 (this amount is already in our budget)

RESOLVED to change CCTV maintenance provider to Fyrfly Systems.

215. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC – Cllr Quittenden reported that the next meeting is on 23rd November. He and Cllr Mogridge are attending the KALC AGM at Ditton on the 25th November.

Minster School – Cllr Webzell had nothing to report.

Village Hall. – Cllr Smith reported that the Art Show will continue next year. The village hall will continue to be a polling station for the next elections.
It was noted that the Twinning Association have their AGM on 12th November. There is a motion to wind the Association up as membership is very low.

216. REPORT OF THE RFO

RESOLVED:

(a) the Bank balance statement be received and noted,

(b) the statement of Receipts and Payments for the month of October 2026 be approved.

217. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Hall reported that he is a new resident in Monkton Road and would happily support community engagement to find out what residents would like to see in the village. He commented on the speed of traffic in Monkton Road. The Clerk reported that a speed count had been carried out approximately a year ago and two Councillor's live in Monkton Road. The count showed that vehicles are travelling within the speed limit although there is often the perception that they are speeding.

Time concluded: 8.45pm

1st December 2026

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