



## MANSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Paul Bell

Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth Carr

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### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held. on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.15pm, Manston Village Hall, Manston.**

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Paul Bell (Chairman), Ian Amato, Roy Matthews, Stuart McRae, Henry Robinson, Graham Elliott & Guy Wilson.

**In Attendance:** Gary Groombridge (Community Warden) Cllr Luke Evans (KCC) and 8 members of the public

#### **135/25-26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence. PC Owen Crush and Cllr Abi Smith were unable to attend but had provided reports.

#### **136/25-26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The declaration form was circulated to those present. There were no declarations of interest.

#### **137/25-26. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March had been circulated to members.

**RESOLVED: The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting. PROPOSED by Cllr Robinson and SECONDED Cllr Matthews as a true record of the meeting.**

#### **138/25-26 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman noted concerns regarding the length of recent meetings and confirmed that he would steer proceedings to ensure business was completed in a timely manner. The Chairman requested that the KCC Planning Application for the Hydrogen Transition Energy plant be considered under the Planning item, as the application had been received after publication of the agenda. The Chairman also reported the closure of St Lawrence College advising those impacted to contact KCC. The Chairman confirmed that secure storage for the Chair's Pendant had been arranged at the Chartered Trustees' headquarters.

#### **139/25-26. FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS**

- a) **Authorisation of Payments:** To approve the monthly payments list, 2 Cllrs to sign the to confirm bank transfers online with Unity Bank. **RESOLVED: All unanimously agreed the payments.**
- b) **Bank Reconciliation:** Bank reconciliations were confirmed by all. The Chairman signed the End of Year Financial Reconciliation. **Resolved: signed by Cllr Bell**
- c) **Final Quarter Accounts:** a copy of the accounts had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting.  
**Resolved: Proposed by Cllr Bell and Seconded by Cllr Matthews**

- d) **Community Grant Application:** a copy of the application had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting.

**140/25-26 REVIEW OF POLICIES 2025/26:** copies of the policies listed below had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllrs were asked to approve updates to the following policies.

- Scheme of Delegation
- Financial Regulations
- Standing Orders
- Publication Scheme

**Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr Bell to accept the above policies, seconded by Cllr Amato, and carried.**

**141/25-26 PLANNING.**

**Applications:**

**FH/TH/26/0185 LOCATION: 40 High Street, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BQ**

PROPOSAL: Erection of part two storey part single storey extensions and roof extensions together with alterations to fenestration following partial demolition of existing dwelling.

**Resolved: Members had no objections.**

**F/TH/25/1093 LOCATION: Portland, Flete Road, Margate, Kent**

PROPOSAL: Retention of existing dwelling, erection of porch and 2no. single storey side extensions following demolition of existing garage canopy, together with alterations to fenestration, landscaping, and parking (part retrospective). This application had first been submitted in November 2025. The council had raised objections related to sight lines which still stand. TDC Planning confirmed this objection does not need to be resubmitted.

**Resolved: Members had no further objections.**

**F/TH/26/0275: LOCATION: 1 Poets Place, Manston, Kent, CT12 5NR**

PROPOSAL: Erection of a two-storey detached garage with gym and home office

**Resolved: Members had no objections.**

**F/TH/26/1092: LOCATION: Treasured Friends Pet Crematorium At Whitebeams, High Street, Manston Kent**

PROPOSAL: Erection of single storey side extension together with installation of gate, formation of vehicular access and parking area.

**Resolved: Members had no objections.**

**KCC/TH/0050/2026: LOCATION: Land at Manston Road, Margate, CT9 4JW**

PROPOSAL: Full planning application for the development of a waste to hydrogen facility with associated ancillary infrastructure, a non-residential innovation and educational facility including offices, new junction onto Manston Road, access and internal roads, boundary treatments, landscaping, and other associated works. Details of the application and the process for comments can be found on the [MPC website](#).

Deadline for comments: **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

## 142/ 25-26. HIGHWAYS

### HIP Update

**Resolved:** to approve the Highways Improvement Plan 2026. **Proposed Cllr Bell and Seconded Cllr Amato**

## 143 /25-26. MANSTON PARK

### a) **Park checks. Three issues were raised.**

**Dog mess and litter** remain persistent concerns within the park. While signage is adequate and TDC have increased the frequency of bin emptying, the situation will require continued close monitoring.

**Linda Samme Bench.** Cllr Matthews offered to sand and varnish bench and submit and expense claim for time and materials.

**Resolved: Cllr Matthews to varnish the bench. Proposed Cllr Bell and Seconded Cllr Amato**

**Car park surface damaged.** Cllr Bell to provide an estimate for the cost of resurfacing prior to work commencing.

### b) **Repairs to football pitch and new goal posts**

The work is scheduled to commence w/c Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May. Goal posts to be delivered to Cllr Bell. Work to be undertaken by Hughes and Son. Awaiting the outcome of Community Grant Application.

## 144/25-26. INDIVIDUAL REPORTS TO NOTE

### **Cllr Luke Evans (KCC)**

- Thanet Way repairs would commence in June/July 26. Sections of the road will be closed.
- Plan Bee supports pollinator habitats. Cllrs asked to identify new areas where wild flowers can be grown in the parish.
- Veterans Dinner, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Veterans Association, Birchington. Cllrs to advise Cllr Evans of any veterans from parish would like to attend.
- KCC has declared an Illegal Migrant Emergency in Kent. Illegal migration puts pressure on local services and costs every taxpayer in Kent an additional £600 p.a. The Declaration of a Migrant Emergency is not an indication that Reform objects to migration, but it does enable KCC ask central government for funding / support.

### **Gary Groombridge (Community Warden)**

Gary continues to deliver Community Hub Drop-In Sessions in Manston Village Hall on Wednesdays from 2pm to 4pm. Attendance is increasing and with consistent sessions it is hoped that numbers will continue to grow. Cllrs have assisted Gary with delivering leaflets to houses in the village and the events continue to be published on the MPC website and social media.

A Scam Talk will be provided on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May from 2pm to 4pm in Manston Village Hall. A Trading Standards Officer will be present. Tea and coffee will be provided.

### **Cllr Abi Smith (TDC)**

Simpler Recycling

From today onwards, approximately 27,000 Thanet households not already receiving them will begin to receive the new weekly food waste collections. You can look up whether changes will apply to your postcode on the [website](#).

If the change affects you, your collection schedule will look like this:

- A weekly food waste collection
- General waste collected every two weeks.
- Paper, cardboard, glass, tins, and plastic collected together, every two weeks (mixed recycling)

UK Town of Culture Bid

Sadly, Thanet was not successful in reaching the City of Culture shortlist, but Margate now hopes to become the first-ever UK Town of Culture in 2028. With a potential £3 million investment at stake, support at a recent stakeholder meeting was very positive.

Cliftonville division by-election Including Cliftonville East and West

After the holder lost this KCC seat for legal reasons, a hotly contested campaign saw it won convincingly by former Mayor of Margate, Cllr Rob Yates, who also continues to hold a seat on Thanet District Council.

### **Kent Police, Owen Crush**

#### Thanet Villages

Total crime reports: 102 reports (30 marked as non-crime)

6 positive outcomes. (2 charges, 4 community resolutions)

#### Manston

- 42 calls made to Kent Police
- 1 report for possession of a bladed article, with the suspect issued a community resolution.
- 1 theft report.
- 4 domestic incidents which had reports raised for them.  
6 crime reports in total.
- Road checks and traffic enforcement around Monkton school.
- Multiple arrests while on patrol, including wanted individuals, a drink-driver, and shoplifters.
- Responded to suspicious vehicles, domestic incidents, missing persons, and a reported burglary (false alarm).
- Rural patrols following poaching reports; cleared discarded NOS canisters.
- Drug seizure during proactive patrols in Minster.
- Community Protection Warning issued to address ongoing ASB.
- Coordinated upcoming Speedwatch and traffic enforcement with PCSOs.
- Recovered stolen motorbikes from an address of interest; one arrest made.
- Continued ASB hotspot patrols and engagement with residents.

### **145/25-26. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

The meeting was adjourned at for public comments.

**The following items were put forward by members of the public:** There were none.

### **146/25-26. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 7.15pm.**

**The meeting closed at 8.05pm**