

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Doddington Village Hall on
Monday 9 March 2026

Present: Cllr Steve Coates (Chairman), Cllr Colin Jones (Vice Chairman), Cllr Kirsty Clark, Cllr Graham Cuthbert, 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 Kevin Attwood (work): apologies accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

3. TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ITEMS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

None identified.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY 2026

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
Cllr Coates duly signed the minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING

White lines on Faversham Road

Cllr Coates reported that KCC Highways have assessed the site and say no action is necessary; the Council will monitor this.

Cllr Cuthbert said there are multiple potholes in the Old Lenham Road.

Cllr Fraser said the edges of the road are collapsing creating potholes.

ACTION: Clerk to report the state of the road edges

Wychling, Doddington and Newnham History Group's request to add a record of the Roman road foundations at Playing Field to KCC Historic Environment Records has been permitted by Mr Leigh-Pemberton.

6. 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

Awaiting the Inspector's report.

ii. Ref: 26/500744/FULL

Address: Gloucester House Dully Hill Doddington Kent ME9 0BY

Proposal: Alterations to existing fenestration, including insertion of new French doors to south elevation, relocation of door, installation of canopy portico, and insertion of new window to east elevation.

Councillors considered the application and had no objections to the proposal.

iii. Any other planning matter received by 9 February 2026

Ref: 25/503851/PNQCLA Address: Orchard Barn Chequers Hill Doddington Kent ME9 0JW

Prior notification for the change of use of a building and any land within its curtilage from agricultural to 1no. residential dwellinghouse and associated operational development. For its prior approval to: - Transport and Highways impacts of the development. - Noise impacts of the development. - Contamination risks on the site. - Flooding risks on the site. - Whether the location or siting of the building makes it otherwise impractical or undesirable for the use of the building to change from agricultural use to C3 (dwellinghouses). - Design and external appearance impacts on the building. - Provision of adequate natural light in all habitable rooms of the dwellinghouses.

Awaiting decision

7. POLICE REPORT

PC Gary Morris was unable to attend the meeting.

Police surgery 10 March 2026 at Painters Forstal Community Centre; theft of number plate from The Street reported; no reports of anti-social behaviour.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

9. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Coates reported that a road sweep of Old Lenham Road was requested on 5 November 2025 and was not carried out despite numerous follow-ups. A formal complaint has been lodged.

Cllr Jones informed Members that he is still pursuing the flooding issue by the Ringlestone Road water works with KCC. The regular six-month inspection of the drains in Old Lenham Road has been requested.

10. FINANCE

i. Councillors Expenses

There were none.

ii. Clerk Salary and expenses

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mrs W Licence salary £1275.76 + expenses £63.68 January - March £1339.44 (cheque no 1437).

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay HMRC: £81.44 PAYE (cheque no 1438).

iii. Invoices for Payment

None

11. REVIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE AND EMAILS

Councillors reviewed the Council's website and emails and noted that the current provider offered a free.gov.uk domain name.

Cllr Coates informed Members that having a .gov.uk domain name and email is not mandatory but recommended as good practice.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation from HugoFox for an email address for the Clerk at £2.49 per month and to request the new domain name for the Parish Council website as doddingtonkentparishcouncil.gov.uk

12. SPEED WATCH

Cllr Fraser reported that Speed Watch sessions continue with encouraging results.

Cllr Coates thanked the volunteers for their sterling work. The Chairman of Teynham Parish Council has asked to observe a session following interest from their parish.

13. PLAYING FIELD

i. Cllr Fraser's monthly report

Cllr Fraser reported that the moss control treatment has not been as effective as had been expected so another method may be required. Household rubbish is being put in the bin. Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Fraser for his excellent work.

Cllr Lumsden said that one of the old signs have been removed from the Playing Field.

ii. To consider quotation for tree survey

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation of £395, being no increase from 2023, from Lushland.

14. DEFIBRILLATOR/ CPR TRAINING

Cllr Coates reported that the defibrillator is listed on The Circuit, administered by the British Heart Foundation which encourages regular training sessions. The training session for members of the public will be held on 14 March but that he was disappointed with the take –up from residents

ACTION: Cllr Coates to liaise with the trainer regarding the arrangements for the training.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 12.02.26- NALC CEO bulletin
2. 19.02.26- Kent Highways: Temporary Road Closure - Down Court Road, Milstead - 20 March 2026
3. 19.02.26- NALC CEO bulletin
4. 20.02.26- KALC training bulletin
5. 24.02.26- Kent Highways: invitation to the Road Safety & Active Travel Group seminar
6. 24.02.26- Swale Borough Council: policy round-up
7. 26.02.27- NALC CEO bulletin
8. 04.03.26- KALC newsletter
9. 04.03.26- Swale Borough Council: policy round-up
10. 06.03.26- NALC CEO bulletin

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

KALC Award presentation

Cllr Coates reported that the High Sheriff is not available and Neville Hudson, Chairman of KALC will present the award. Cllr Clark will collect the trophy and will write the citation for the evening.

ACTION: Cllr Cuthbert to purchase the keepsake.

Community Warden

Cllr Coates informed Members that he is meeting with Claire Jones, the Community Warden at the village hall on 10 March. Councillors are welcome to join him at 11.30.

War Memorial

Cllr Cuthbert reported that SBCllr Thompson is liaising with the volunteers regarding the wood needed.

ACTION: Cllr Cuthbert to follow up.

Pavement Parking

Cllr Lumsden will circulate the revised notice.

Date of next Meeting:- Monday 13 April 2026

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.17pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman
Date: 13 April 2026