

## IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 11 February 2026

**Present:** Cllr. S. Tolhurst – Chair  
Cllr. J. Hartley  
Cllr. P. Hyde  
Cllr. D. McBeath  
Samantha Gray, Clerk  
6 Residents

#### 1. **Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. M. Baldock, P. Holowczycki, S. Waters, K. Rivers-Simpson, and D. Waters.

#### 2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations** – None.

#### 3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Hartley, the minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on 8 January 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

#### 4. **Visitors/Public Time**

1. **Residents:** A resident reported they have evidence of support for sports facilities in the village from 180 people. The Clerk will keep this on file and the council will put this suggestion forward for any future S.106 agreements with housing developments. **Action: Clerk**

The Chair advised there is a S.106 agreement in place to install adult exercise equipment in the field at Peach Blossom Drive, the Clerk spoke with Swale Council (SBC) who advise they are aware there is funding available for the village and will look into this and report back to the council.

**Action: Clerk**

2. **County and Borough Councillors:** None attended, no report received.

3. **Police Constable:** None attended and no report received.

The Chair moved agenda item 8.3 forward:

**8.3. New Councillor applications** – Council members **RESOLVED** to co-opt Derek McBeath on to the parish council. The Chair welcomed their new member and he duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

5. **Planning** – applications are viewable on Swale: <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>; KCC: <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

1. **Presentation – Developing Land East of Sheppey Way, ME9 8QW** – A resident spoke to the council about their plans to develop land in their ownership on Sheppey Way. The development would be for up to 11 homes which is going through the planning process, the parish council will receive the planning consultation from Swale Brough Council.

#### 6. **Village Matters**

1. **To approve the schedule for the Traffic Survey** – Members noted the traffic survey has been arranged for the week commencing 16 March 2026.
2. **Parish Council village survey results** – Cllr. Tolhurst advised that the survey received a total of 110 responses, the top issues reported are as follows:
  - i) Traffic congestion and road safety

- ii) Anti-social behaviour
- iii) Safety and policing
- iv) Village cleanliness and upkeep
- v) Wildlife and green spaces
- vi) Infrastructure and development

Members **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Tolhurst will write an outline action plan and report back to council members. **Action: Cllr. Tolhurst**

**3. Updates from Jackson Civil Engineering** – Members noted that Jackson Civil Engineering advised the A249 Grovehurst Road junction is planned to be clear of traffic management by the end of February 2026.

**4. Updates from Southern Water** – Southern Water advised there is a potentially blocked sewer close to where the water is leaking in Ferry Road, but this issue has not been investigated by them yet. Council members asked the Clerk to write to Southern Water to advise an independent water test was carried out on the leak in Ferry Road which tested positive for chlorine, indicating the leak is fresh water. **Action: Clerk**

## **7. Correspondence**

**1. Lamp Light of Peace in Remembrance 11am, 11 November 2026** – Members **RESOLVED** not to purchase a lamp light of peace. The Clerk will forward the information onto All Saints Church. **Action: Clerk**

**2. Devolved Works, Highway Soft Lanscape 2026/27 – to decide whether to return or continue the devolved works for 2026-2027** – Kent County Council advised they anticipate the grant they provide for devolved works will have a positive inflation uplift.

Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Tolhurst members **RESOLVED** to agree to continue the devolved works for 2026/27. **Action: Clerk**

**3. Bellway – residents trespassing and breaking fencing** – Bellway have reported that some residents are breaking through their fencing and trespassing on a weekly basis. They would like to remind residents their land is private property and damaging fencing is criminal damage. If there are any questions around land ownership, Bellway are more than happy to meet with residents to discuss their concerns. Members noted the correspondence.

## **8. Parish Council Matters**

**1. Councillor Resignation** – Council members noted the resignation of Cllr. Chad Gomez.

**2. To adopt the IT Policy** – Council members **RESOLVED** to adopt the IT Policy.

**3. New Councillor applications** – Moved to earlier in the meeting, see above.

**4. To approve and sign the Handyman Contractor Agreement** – Council members **RESOLVED** to agree to the Handyman Contractor Agreement.

**5. To note the contract for the Raspberry Solar Farm Community Fund** – Council members have read and agreed to the terms of the contract and authorised the Clerk to sign on behalf of the council.

**6. To adopt the Anti-Bribery Policy** – To meet the terms in the contract for the Raspberry Solar Farm Community Fund the council are required to have an anti-bribery policy.

Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Hyde, members **RESOLVED** to adopt the policy.

**7. To arrange a Highway Improvement Plan meeting** – Members deferred this item to the March agenda. **Action: Clerk**

## 9. Finance

- 1. Quotation – Festive Lights 2026** – Gala Lights have provided a quotation of £9,055.00p + VAT for the installation and takedown of festive lights for 2026, plus repairs for seven lights at a cost of £860 + VAT.

Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Hartley, members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation.

**Action: RFO**

- 2. Request for support – Sheppey Pulse Network Housewarming Starter Packs initiative** – The council received a request for a £2,000.00p donation for 15-18 starter packs. The council do not have the budget for this donation, but agreed to share their newsletter to promote the initiative.

**Action: Clerk**

- 3. To appoint a member to the Finance Committee** – Members deferred this item to the March agenda.

**Action: Clerk**

- 4. Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** – Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Hyde, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 31 January 2026. The following payments were agreed, Cllrs. Tolhurst and Hyde to log in and authorise payments.

**Action: Cllrs. Tolhurst/Hyde**

### EXPENDITURE

Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
11.02.26	BACs	L. Ives	Expenses – Tele., home as office AVG Ultimate (Clerk & RFO – January	£127.99p
11.02.26	BACs	S. Gray	Expenses – Tele., home as office – January	£44.00p
11.02.26	BACs	H.M.R.C.	Tax January	£290.23p
11.02.26	BACs	Kent Community Rail Partnership	S137 Donation	£100.00p
11.02.26	BACs	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Fee 02.12.25 to 27.01.26	£248.00p
11.02.26	BACs	Forvis Mazars LLP	External Audit 2024/25	£378.00p
11.02.26	BACs	Streetlights	28 Col. Door Locks and Repairs to Col 10, Sheerstone	£858.77p
11.02.26	BACs	McCabe Ford Williams	Quarterly Payroll Preparation	£179.33p
01.02.26	SO	Staff Salaries	January	£1599.86p
01.02.26	DD	NEST	Pension Contributions January	£78.52p
01.02.26	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£35.99p
29.01.26	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply – December	£225.33p
27.02.26	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply January	£218.43p
31.01.26	DD	Countrystyle	Supply of Waste Wheelie Bin	£64.62p
INCOME				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Received from	Reason	Amount
19.01.26	BACs	K.C.C.	Grant for Devolved Maintenance 2025/26	£4160.17p

## 10. Projects – Updates on Current and New

- 1. Future public events:** Council members would like to plan a litter pick event in the Spring. The Clerk will add this to the March agenda.

**Action: Clerk**

Members discussed the maintenance needed for the pond in Woodpecker Park and asked the Clerk to write to Swale Council to advise it is an attenuation pond, members are concerned about the risk of flooding if maintenance is not carried out.

**Action: Clerk**

2. **Tracker** – Cllr. Tolhurst circulated the updated document to all council members and discussed the following:
  - Crocus bulb planting – this has been carried out and can be removed from the document.
  - Speed Indicator Device funding – Swale council advised the grant application to fund the Speed Indicator Device is on a waiting list due to the funding being over subscribed, they will let the parish council know if funding becomes available.

11. **Reports from Representatives**

1. **Village Hall Committee** – Cllr. Hartley volunteered to join the Village Hall Committee as the Parish Council representative. The Clerk will confirm the date for the AGM. **Action: Clerk**
2. **KALC Area Representative** – No update, the next meeting will be held on Monday 16 February 2026.
3. **Western Area Committee** – The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12 February 2026.

12. **Items for the Next Agenda**

- Planters
- Grovehurst Road junction with A249 – verges, barriers, small round about

13. **Next Meeting(s)** – Full Council meeting, Wednesday 11 March 2026 7.30 p.m. in Iwade Barn, All Saints Close.

**The meeting closed at 8.29 p.m.**