

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at

John Spanton Sports Pavilion, St Mildreds Road, Minster

on 7th July 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Quittenden, Crow-Brown, Fordyce, Bates, Ingleton, Smith, Andrews

Also present: Kyla Lamb (Clerk to the Council), Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Clerk), Cllr Abi Smith (TDC), Gary Groombridge (Community Warden)

111. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence: Cllr Low, Webzell, Jones, Mogridge. Cllr Luke Evans (KCC), Cllr Peter Evans (TDC), PC Owen Crush

112. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 2nd June 2026 be approved.

113. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No members interests noted.

114. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

PC Owen was on annual leave and not present.

Community Warden Gary Groombridge provided a report as follows:

- Continues to be a visual presence within the village.
- Contacted TDC enforcement regarding parking at CO-OP parking bay and general parking on yellow lines and bus stops, particularly outside the chemist.
- Reported more nitrous oxide cannisters, asbestos and general waste along the old top road to TDC Street Scene enforcement again. Has requested they carry out regular checks there.
- Reported more potholes
- The rough sleeper was back in Minster, Rise were dealing with this.
- Will be present at the Minster Show
- Supporting several elderly residents through the positive wellbeing programme.

115. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

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

- A new **Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)** takes effect on **Wednesday, 1 July 2026**. The order, designed to last for 3 years, includes:
 - **Alcohol bans:** A year-round blanket ban on consuming alcohol in targeted areas of **Margate High Street** and **Ramsgate High Street**.

- **Disorder control:** Prohibitions on alcohol-related nuisance across multiple mapped areas of Margate, Cliftonville West, Ramsgate, and Broadstairs.
- **Public urination:** A ban on urinating or defecating in any public place (other than serviced public conveniences).
- **"Simpler Recycling" Disruptions**

Following delays and disruptions in the waste rollout, councillors on the **Overview and Scrutiny Panel** met to review the situation. An extraordinary meeting has been scheduled to formally address the service issues.

- **Local Plan and Strategy Consultations**

Following the recent approval of the New Local Plan 2026 timeline, the council is preparing scoping consultations for a long-term development blueprint. Additionally, public feedback collected regarding the district's natural environment will be reviewed by the Cabinet in August 2026.

Cllr Abi Smith reported on the items above in Cllr Peter Evans report at the meeting.

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

- Took part in Reform UK clean up Britain campaign this weekend supporting litter picks in Minster and other areas.
- Has set up a petition which is now live to reduce parking fees in Birchington and Cliftonville to encourage more use of High Streets
- KCC 2026/27 Budget consultation is now live and urges all residents to complete the consultation to have their say.
- The council voted in favour in May to recite the Lords Prayer at the start of all Full Council meetings and to sing the National Anthem at the end of every Full Council Meeting

116. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

Cllr Quittenden reported as follows:

- Attended a Joint Transportation Board meeting- Paul Valek and the North Thanet Link Road manager were available via satellite link for questions.
- Open Gardens had taken place and was a success despite the weather.
- Attended the ceremony to remember Operation Dynamo in Ramsgate.
- Attending the Drum Head service on Armed Forces day on the 27th June in Ramsgate.
- Attended the ordination of Sally Willins at Canterbury Cathedral.
- Will attend the memorial service for Roger Latchford ex KCC Councillor.

117. **REPORT OF THE CLERK**

The Clerk reported that the 3G pitch mat replacement will start on Monday 13th July and is expecting the outcome of the application for the Pride in Place fund this week.

118. **PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Highways & Transportation meeting held on 30th June, be received and the recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Ingleton reported as follows:

Parking on double yellow lines- will follow this up with our HIP review.

Local Plan timetable- we must stay alert as a Parish Council and ensure we keep residents informed and encourage their comments to TDC. Thanked Cllr Bates for his extensive work to prepare a summary of the previous call for sites

119. NATIONAL GRID – SEALINK COMMUNITY FUND

Following a recent meeting with Sealink members, the Clerk has received notification of a public survey. Members considered a response.

AGREED Cllr Ingleton and Bates will prepare a response to the survey and circulate it to members before the Clerk submits it online.

The following comments at the recent Parish Forum were noted:

Parish Councils must work together to consolidate their position on the community fund. The goal is to focus funding on projects in Cliffsend and Minster that directly relate to the project's impact, rather than using broad criteria like the 45-minute drive radius proposed in the National Grid employment and skills plan.

Regarding the community fund, the District Council's role is not to negotiate on behalf of parishes but to provide oversight and ensure that prioritised schemes align with district needs.

The Council aims to support parishes in their direct negotiations with National Grid and will advocate for damage limitation measures, such as addressing road conditions and potential sinkholes resulting from construction traffic.

120. USE OF VILLAGE GREEN AT HILLHOUSE DRIVE FOR COMMUNITY ESTATE SALE

A request was received from Laura Portanier, an events manager for permission to arrange a community estate sale on Sunday 11th July 2026 which would include the use of the Village green area at Hill House Drive.

RESOLVED: That the estate sale can be held providing that the area is left clear and any rubbish removed when the event has finished.

121. REVIEW OF CODE OF CONDUCT

Thanet District Council have updated their Code of Conduct, that we have previously adopted. Members reviewed the document.

RESOLVED: To adopt the revised Code of Conduct.

122. REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 2025/2026 AND CONSIDER ANY RECOMMENDATIONS

Members considered the audit report and its recommendations, prepared by the internal auditor, David Bucket for the 2025/2026 audit, including increasing the NEST employers contribution from 3% to 5% and referring the issue of how long land registry is taking to Sir Roger Gale as it has been taking up to 3 years.

RESOLVED: to agree the above recommendations.

123. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC – Cllr Quittenden reported that he and Councillor Crow Brown had attended the TALC AGM last night. James Wraight KCC was present to give an update on the North Thanet Link Road proposals. Informed that Monkton Parish Council are struggling to remain quorate due to a lack of Councillors. It was suggested that a small sub-committee be formed to consider the local plan consultations. Section 106 policy was

discussed and the Committee will be pressing TDC for more transparency of the money raised from these agreements. The next meeting is on 4th September.

Minster School – Cllr Webzell was not present therefore there was nothing to report.
Village Hall. – Cllr Smith had nothing to report.

124. 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 June 2026 be approved.**
- (c) the budget/income expense report to 30th June 2026 be received.**

125. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Watson asked if the CCTV's footage is used to fine people parking on double yellow lines. It was confirmed this can only be carried out by TDC enforcement officers.

Time concluded: 7.50pm

7th July 2026