

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at John Spanton Sports Pavilion

St Mildreds Road, Minster

on 7th October 2025 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Quittenden, Crow-Brown, Jones, Bates, Ingleton, Smith, Webzell, Low

Also present: Kyla Lamb (Clerk to the Council), Clare Wilsdon (Assistant Clerk to the Council), PC Andrew Howe, Cllr Peter Evans (KCC)

208. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Andrews, Fordyce, Mogridge. Cllr Abi Smith (TDC). Cllr Luke Evans (KCC), Community Warden Gary Groombridge.

209. MINUTES

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

210. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No members interests noted.

211. POLICING AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

PC Andy Howe was present and reported as follows:

- Increase in fly-tipping incidents on rural tracks and lanes. TDC have been helpful in clearing quickly. Encourage members of the public to pass on any information about suspicious activity but not to approach or put themselves at risk. Incidents of fly-tipping can be reported by members of the public using the following link to TDC.
- www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/fly-tipping/
- 53 calls to Kent Police from Thanet villages during September, mainly traffic related and some domestic incidents. Four drugs related calls.
- Criminal damage to the ticket machine at minster train station is being investigated by BTP.
- Poaching patrols being carried out.
- Speed checks planned in the local area.

Community Warden Gary Groombridge was not present but provided a report as follows:

- Information drop-in sessions booked at Minster Library.
- Working with wellbeing charity 'Heart' who are starting a group at the Salvation Army Hall on 17th October at 10am.
- Trying to organise a wellbeing group for Minster residents at the library with help from the library staff.

- Continues to be a visible presence in the village, meeting residents and dealing with any concerns raised.
- Supporting the Mens Shed.
- Reporting fly-tipping incidents.

212. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Peter Evans reported on behalf of Cllr Luke Evans, as follows;

- LGR councils Cost over £100M
- Minster Primary School is in consultation to become an academy with EKC. This will be a positive move.
- Has offered grants of £500 to the Mens Shed and £1000 to Minster Parish Council for additional CCTV.

Cllr Peter Evans reported as follows;

- TDC are borrowing money and selling assets.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Randall has also offered £1000 towards CCTV costs.

Cllr Abi Smith was not present but reported as follows:

- Two members of 'Save Minster Marshes', George Cooper and Nik Mitchell, were recognised at this years, BBC Make a Difference Awards.
- Community Champions Awards are held in partnership with Social Enterprise Kent and celebrate the people and organisations dedicated to improving life in Thanet. Nominations close on 31st October.
- Has been chasing TDC for information about the completion of yellow lines and these should be installed during October.

213. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Cllr Quittenden reported as follows:

- Attended CPRE meeting who are trying to obtain 1000 signatures to object to the convertor station.
- Attended the presentation by Hydrogen Transition Energy on the proposal for a waste to Hydrogen plant at Manston.
- Remembrance Day Service is on Sunday 9th November. The parade will form at the RBL at 10am and parade to the Church before the service at 11am. A buffet lunch is being held at the RBL. Hopefully many will attend to mark the 85th anniversary of the Battle of Britain and the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.
- Sally Willins has been appointed Padre of the RBL branch in Minster.

214. REPORT OF THE CLERK

Nothing to report

215. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

None.

216. PROPOSED WASTE TO HYDROGEN PROJECT IN MANSTON

Cllr Ingleton reported that an informative presentation was given by representatives from HTE (Hydrogen Transition Energy) at the Planning Highways and Transportation meeting on 29th September. The planning application will go to KCC as it is a waste sector proposal and TDC as the Parish Council are consultees.

HTE agreed to contact the Home Office and KCC re Spitfire Way junction improvements.

They are keen to include an educational provision at the facility and it was suggested that they should talk to RiverOak about this. They are expecting to submit an application soon. Safety issues need to be fully considered.

Members asked if community asset funding available to Parish Council.

217. FIREWORKS 7TH NOVEMBER 2025

The annual Fireworks display will be held on Friday 7th November at 7pm. Members were asked to volunteer to assist with marshalling at the event.

Members considered whether collection buckets would be used at the event and if so, the beneficiary for any monies collected.

AGREED: Donation buckets would be available with all contributions to go towards the firework display costs.

218. REMEMBRANCE DAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2025

Members are to notify the Clerk if they wish to attend the church service on Remembrance Day.

219. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September be received and the recommendations within them therein.

220. HEDGING PLANTS FOR CEMETERY EXTENSION

Following the operations committee meeting, the Clerk has sourced a price for hedging plants as they need to be planted soon.

RESOLVED: Members ratified the decision to purchase 1250 60/90cm plants at a cost of £856.00 from Best4Hedging which includes a 20% discount of £214.

221. PLANNING, HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Highways & Transportation meeting held on 29th September 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein.

Cllr Ingleton summarised the HTE Hydrogen plant proposals.

A Highways Improvement Plan meeting to be held on 21st October with Lezanne Cezar KCC. Members were asked for an issues they wish to be raised at this meeting Including parking around the school.

TDC correspondence is ongoing at Lime Trees.

With regards to the BDW site Cllr Ingleton will seek clarification that path to rear of Greenhill Gardens is a private path and not a PROW

Sealink Proposals registered interested parties can attend or join the upcoming virtual and in-person at Discovery Park in November. The decision will be by the Secretary of State. Confirmed status as registered party but not to speak as it is only to provide information.

Community funds should provide benefit to communities affected. No documents relating to this online.

222. KALC 2025 COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME

Members were asked to consider adopting the scheme for 2026 and any possible nominations. Nominations need to be submitted by Friday 30th January 2026. Further consideration would be given at the November meeting.

223. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Members received reports from representatives of the following bodies:

TALC	Cllr Quittenden reported that a meeting was held on 29th September. Iain Livingstone (Planning Applications Manager TDC) was in attendance. Discussions were mainly around the 106 payments and proposed convertor station on Minster Marshes. Cllr Crow-Brown has stepped down from his seat on TDC Standards Board and been replaced with Cllr Steel from Acol Parish Council.
Minster School	Cllr Webzell reported that the school continue to have issues with parking.
Village Hall.	Cllr Smith had nothing to report.

224. 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 September 2025 be approved.**
- (c) the Annual Audit of Accounts external audit report be received.**

225. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Brown said that she supports having collection buckets at the fireworks display.

Mrs Brown said that she spoke to John Lynes at BDW who confirmed that the path at the rear of properties in Greenhill Gardens is a public footpath. Cllr Ingleton responded that he would seek further clarification.

Mrs Stace complained that parked cars at the top of Tothill Street are making it difficult to exit from her drive, and also from Hill House Drive. Cllr Ingleton responded that any further progression with traffic calming measures may open the gate for further development.

Mr Watson asked whether the placement of additional benches could be considered on the recreation ground, for spectators at football matches.
Mr Oxborrow raised concerns about parking in Watchester Lane/Cornelis Drive. This will be raised as a consideration at the HIP meeting.

Time concluded: 8.37pm

4th November 2025