



KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Held on 2nd June 2025

Present: Cllr Paul Chatley (Chair); Cllr Davina Martin (vice-Chair); Cllr Val McWilliams; Cllr Jerry Cook; Cllr Steve Reeves; Emily Arnold (Clerk) Cllr Mike Sole and four members of the public.

1. **Chairman opening remarks, apologies, and approval of absences:** Cllr Chatley welcomed everyone present and thanked them all for attending the meeting. No apologies were received.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 12th May 2025 were approved as a true record, after three changes had been made from the draft minutes, noticed all the precept had been paid, a spelling mistake in point 8 Hilltop farm was missing from planning also a grammatical error proposed Cllr McWilliams, seconded Cllr Reeves they were then signed as a true record.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None
4. **Public Forum:** A member of public asked if the Village Society monies could go to Village Hall Trust. This item will be on the agenda in July.
5. **Reports from Kent Police, County and City Council members:** Cllr Mike Sole said he was very happy that he had been re-elected explained that reform had cancelled all but one of the meetings at Kent and they were getting an outside body in to look at Kent finances.
The levelling up projects are all on track and should be finished by spring next year.
6. **Matters arising: (if not already on the agenda):** Marley Lane closed 23rd June for road repairs. New community warden Keeley Taylor, she is very visible, and getting herself known, we must make use of having Keeley.
Documents have been updated due to The Clerk moving house.
The Clerk now has access to the website so she can update it as well as The Chair.
The council can now Co-opt if anyone comes to become a councillor.
To thank Andy Linklater for his informative talk at the Annual Village meeting and to pay him £50
7. **Finance:**
 - a) Noted that the bank balance as of the 27th of May was as the agenda Current Account £7455.16 and Saving Account £18089.47 **Total** £25544.63 (which includes a reserve of £11000) having paid all invoices approved at the May meeting. The Bank reconciliation to be signed was Current Account £7027.32 and Saving Account £18089.47 **Total** £25116.79 (which includes a reserve of £11000) due to clerk salary and bank account fees coming out between the agenda and the meeting. Proposed Cllr Cook seconded Cllr Reeves all in favour.
 - b-e) couldn't be dealt with as we hadn't had the information back from the auditor, an extraordinary meeting will need to be called for later in June.

f) Parish Capital Grants open on 1st July maybe we could apply for money for the footpath (CB553) if the order gets confirmed.

Cllr Cook is still going through the process of being added as a signature to the bank account.

Defib pad is due to be changed can Mary order and send invoice to the council to be on next month's agenda.

8. Planning: CA/24/02217 council has no objections.

CA/25/00826 council has no objections

Noted that CA/25/00694, CA/23/01235 and CA/25/00649 all still to be decided

9. Miscellaneous Parish Council Matters:

a) Kingston Brooch not been checked yet.

b) Holding of village society funds - memorandum of understanding circulated and to be adopted at the next full council subject to any changes received by 16th June 2025

c) Bunting on pruned trees – The council felt that this would not be an appropriate option.

10. Highways, Footpaths and Trees:

a) Marley Lane – nothing yet

b) Embankment – Tree removal and sectioning – Cllr Reeves to mark trees in orange (the clerk to go to get a better understanding of area)

c) Bushes at Black Robin PH – Stonegate have confirmed that it is not their land and therefore will not pay towards the removal. Ask Andrew Sage to quote for twice yearly maintenance after the work has been completed. Work to be completed Autumn.

d) Barham to Kingston footpath – Waiting for update from Barham RE; Valley Rd footpath

e) PROW/CC/446 - 9th June is the last day for any objections.

f) Queens Tree – Weeping Beech cost £90 to be planted October. **Agreed**

g) Millennium Bridge – £60 Quote. **Agreed**

h) Road Markings – to work with neighbouring parishes in the Valley and add them to the KCC portal (as recommended by Cllr Sole) at the same time to try and get them all done in one go. Send any that need doing to the clerk.

i) Woodland Management plan – Now live, Cllr Spencer to update council monthly. Work can now start on the houses side.

j) Black Robin Bus Shelter – The clerk has spoken to Dave (DWK) work to commence soon.

11. Matters for future discussion: Alan to paint the letters on the wooden church sign black. Emails and domain as advocated by the government to be .gov.uk

To thank Andy Linklater for his informative talk at the Annual Village meeting and to donate £50 to him.

12. Date of next meeting: 7th July 2025 at The Barn, Kingston at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 20:35

Signed _____
(Chairman)

Date _____

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until they are approved by the Parish Council at their next Parish Council meeting on 7th July 2025.

Future Meeting Dates

01/09/2025, 06/10/2025, 03/11/2025 and 01/12/2025