



# KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

**Present:** Cllr Paul Chatley (Chair); Cllr Davina Martin (vice-Chair); Cllr Jerry Cook; Cllr Laura Spencer; Emily Arnold (clerk) 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.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were approved as a true record, proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Cook they were then signed as a true record.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None
4. **Co-option:** None
5. **Public Forum:** Road markings - The Chair confirmed this had been reported via the KCC website, which is the formal reporting route. The Council will continue to monitor and chase progress.  
It was noted that contractors have previously reported works as completed when they had not been undertaken. The Council agreed to follow this up again.  
**Minutes – Former Councillors**  
A resident commented that two former councillors had not been named in previous minutes when thanks were recorded.  
It was agreed this would be rectified and that formal thanks would also be expressed publicly at the Annual Meeting.
6. **Reports from Kent Police, County and City Council members:** The monthly report from Cllr Mike Sole was noted (available via Facebook and the Parish website).  
  
Printed information from KCC has been downloaded and will be distributed at the coffee morning to reach residents who may not access information online.
7. **Matters arising: (if not already on the agenda):** Letters of thanks were sent to former councillors Steve and Val for their service.  
Trees of concern in Covert Lane (two marked with red paint) have been reported.  
  
A damaged salt bin at the entrance to Marley Lane has been reported.  
  
A water leak outside Marley Farm has been reported to the relevant authority.  
  
Road closure notice (25 February) near Quiet View for Southern Water works will be reposted on Facebook as a reminder.

**8. Finance:** a) Payments and Receipts: Bank Balance as of 31<sup>st</sup> January. Current Account: £370.83. Savings Account: £14,426.33. Total: £14,797.16 (Including £11,000 reserves and £583.31 for the Village Society. **Agreed and signed off.**

**Payments Made**

Village Hall Trust – £71.20 (hall hire), PCC – £80 contribution to lighting, Bank charges – £6, Clerk salary – January Approved.

Proposed: Cllr Cook, Seconded: Cllr Martin

It was agreed to transfer approximately £1,000 from savings to the current account to maintain an adequate working balance.

**9. Planning: All Noted**

CA/26/00109 – 92 The Street, Kingston. Single storey front porch extension – No objection raised.

Two other applications (CA/25/02005 & CA/24/02271) remain awaiting decision.

**10. Miscellaneous Parish Council Matters:**

**a) Kingston Brooch** Awaiting improved weather conditions. A volunteer will assess safe removal. Susanne has agreed to repaint once removed.

**b) Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)**

Speed reduction within village – To remain, CPRE Quiet Lanes proposal – To be removed, Bonny Bush Hill reduction – To be removed (does not meet criteria), Black Robin bends – To remain (vegetation cutting required), Church Lane drainage – To remain; evidence to be gathered, Jesse's Hill – To be removed (works completed), A2/Black Robin lane junction – To remain, Millennium Bridge passing place – Signage installed; lining cost prohibitive – To be removed. Church Lane/Marley Lane HGV signage – Still outstanding; Clerk chasing Highways,

Fingerpost repairs – To be added. Repainting of 30mph road marking – To be added

**c) Grounds Maintenance Contract**

Triangle – Fortnightly (April–mid October), Embankment – Monthly (April–mid October), Green Acre – Twice yearly (April & October), Agreed to go out to tender for a 3-year contract.

Clerk to obtain a minimum of three quotes.

**d) Envisage Price Increase**

Noted increase to £40 per fortnightly cut., Triangle to be included within new tender process.

### **e) Recruitment of New Councillors**

Flyer and magazine article approved. Distribution agreed between councillors. Clerk to print and circulate. Vacancy remains open irrespective of election deadline.

### **11. Highways, Footpaths and Trees:**

- a)** Marley Lane signage still outstanding.
- b)** Embankment tree works – Awaiting site marking and quotes.
- c)** Black Robin vegetation – Clerk continuing to contact landowner.
- d)** Queen's Tree – Tree guard and plaque to be sourced; plaque size dependent on guard. Cllr Cook to investigate tree guard costs.
- e)** Greenacres trees – Await permission from CCC application before obtaining quotes.

**13. Matters for future discussions:** Speaker for the Village Meeting – Confirmed as Roland Brown

**14. Date of next meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 at 7.30pm in The Barn, Kingston

Meeting closed 8.20pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date:

Future meeting dates:

2<sup>nd</sup> Mar, 13<sup>th</sup> Apr, 18<sup>th</sup> May (Annual), 8<sup>th</sup> June 6<sup>th</sup> Jul, 7<sup>th</sup> Sept, 5<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov and 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2026  
7.30pm in The Barn, Kingston

27<sup>th</sup> May (village) 7pm in The Barn, Kingston