



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th October 2025 at 7.00pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

Present: Councillors - D. Divers, S. Smyth, D. Tweedale, A. Andrews, E. Dore, M. Lawrance, G. Pugh, L. Ageros
Also, Present: KCC Cllr Luke Evans, District Cllrs Abi Smith & Peter Evans, KCC Community Warden Gary Groombridge, Sara Archer – Parish Clerk plus 0 members of public.

67/25-26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Cllr Mo Fentiman – Holiday, PC Andy Howe.

68/25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Divers declared an interest under item 80/25-26 (b) – repayment for BMP sundries.

69/25-26 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 9th September 2025.

These were proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Lawrance, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

70/25-26 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers advised he would be attending the Planning Committee meeting at TDC to make representation regarding the Campsite proposal.

It had been brought to the attention of Cllr Divers, that the traffic management plan for the Crumps Farm development, was proposing to use The Length/The Street as a route for construction traffic. This was clearly unsuitable and would cause much inconvenience to residents. Therefore, Cllr Divers contacted both KCC and TDC to lodge a complaint and suggested a route to access the site, via Potten Street. It was noted that KCC also supported this alternative route for consideration.

The planning application at Sarre was ongoing, however, Kent Police would be carrying out speedchecks in the area to support residents concerns regarding traffic management.

71/25-26 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

An email of thanks had been noted, for the handyperson team and the work carried out at Sarre.

The Clerk confirmed she had sent further correspondence to the horse owners regarding the annual fireworks display. No acknowledgement had been received. The permit from TDC for the event had been issued.

The road markings at Sarre and access concerns from A28 at Cherry Grove, had been included on the HIP and would be reviewed in December.

Correspondence regarding sewer issues in St Nicholas had been received and noted.

The Section 106 monies had been applied for, awaiting further instruction from TDC.

72/25-26 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Pugh advised he had been litter picking in the Village, and noted the flytipping issue.

Cllr Tweedale advised he had been litter picking and requested the footballers were instructed to ensure the pitch is left clear of waste following a match. The delay in marking the double yellow lines through the village had been caused by the wet weather. A resident had approached Cllr Tweedale to request yellow lines were painted at Bedford Way. This would be considered for inclusion in the HIP.

Cllr Lawrance reported the men's group continued to be well attended with approximately 17 men regularly in attendance. Cllr Lawrance had attended a Friends of the Church meeting. A craft fair had been arranged for 8th November, and a Past & Present Sale arranged for 28th February 2026.

Cllr Andrews offered her condolences and support to Gavin at the Post Office regarding the recent burglary.

Cllr Smyth enquired whether access to funding for a traffic survey was available. It was confirmed that HADMS data was used by KCC when considering traffic management schemes.

CLlr Dore advised he had been repairing some of the damaged chairs at the Pavilion. He was also liaising with the Football Foundation with regards to a defibrillator which would be funded by the FA.

CLlr Ageros had been maintaining the Village Planters and Flagpole garden. It was noted that the handyperson team had done an excellent job in clearing the footpaths at Sarre.

73/25-26 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

CLlr Abi Smith reported as follows:

- George Cooper and Nik Mitchell had been recognised in the recent BBC Make a Difference Awards for their work with Save Minster Marshes campaign.
- The incident on 8th October at Margate regarding suspicious activity causing 25 people to be taken to safety from their homes highlighted the effectiveness of the emergency response scheme.
- Enquiries made with Environmental Health regarding uncovered trailers during the harvest. Advised there is no statutory duty to cover trailers, only enforceable if the deposits create road safety issues.
- Waiting for a response from the planning department with regard to the traffic management proposal at Crumps Farm.
- Will be making representation at the Planning Committee against the development proposal at the St Nicholas Campsite.
- Written to the planning officer with regard to the development proposal at Sarre. This is not likely to be heard before December. Objections against the development for various reasons noted.

CLlr Peter Evans reported as follows:

- Rough sleeping support is being relocated to Grosvenor Place, Margate.
- Coastal preparations are taking place – sand banking being carried out.
- Graffiti is being removed across the district.
- Local Government Review – Financial impact of redundancies not being taken into account.

74/25-26 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CLlr Luke Evans reported as follows:

LGR

5 Proposals are going forward for the Government to make the final decision on.

KCC's option is 1a and it proposes 1 unitary authority and 3 regional assemblies. This is considered the most cost effective option. An estimated cost of £150m on redundancies is predicted.

Thanet Way

Road is over 30 years old so is at the end of its current lifespan but KCC does not have the funds to resurface it all. Based on this the most likely outcome will be patch repairs but this will not be known until the engineers reports comes back. In the meantime the road will stay as a restricted 50mph road for safety reasons.

New signage for the St Nicholas roundabout had been ordered.

Flags

CLlr Evans confirmed that KCC would not be prioritising the removal of the flags from lampposts at this time.

Debt reduction

We have now reduced KCC debt down from £732m to £650m through a combination of efficiency savings and paying a long standing loan off 50 years early. By paying the loan off early we made an immediate £5.5m saving as we negotiated a discount with Barclays. Further savings of £670,000 per year for the next 50 years will be made by this deal.

SEND Surgery

If any residents have SEND children and they need assistance then I will be operating a SEND Surgery by appointment only at the Bouncing Bomb Café in Minnis Bay. I have 25 years experience working in SEND settings and recently qualified as a Headteacher so I can offer a range of assistance in this field if required.

75/25-26 KENT POLICE REPORT

PC Andy Howe was unable to attend the meeting, however, he submitted the following report which was circulated to the Parish Council:

Calls to Kent Police from St Nicholas at Wade and Sarre

During September Kent Police received 15 emergency calls from St Nicholas at Wade and Sarre. These consisted of 6 domesticated calls, 3 traffic related calls, 3 missing person calls, an abandoned call (accidental), 2 poaching calls (the same event) and a call relating to British Rail.

The poaching calls are linked to a 2019 Black Ford Transit, we are aware of the suspects but were not able to catch them in the act. Since this incident, both the Neighbourhood Task Force, Beat Officer colleagues and myself have undertaken hi visible patrols early morning to catch or deter them. We have not seen them back in the area since, hopefully because they have seen us lurking.

Crime reported from St Nicholas at Wade and Sarre

There were 8 recordable crimes during this period which included, 5 domesticated incidents, one related to a proactive drugs job by Kent Police and two were burglaries on businesses. An update on one of those investigations relates to the Post Office

which had a break in and its till stolen. Police have since identified an associated vehicle and its occupants. One person has already been arrested, and we will no doubt have the other two in custody shortly.

My activity over the month

During September I have been able to spend a little more time in the villages post the madness of summer. I have been conducting patrols in the poaching areas when on early duties and when on late duties, I have been checking the farm plant areas after some suspicious activity was reported near fuel storage locations. I have spent some time assisting colleagues in the main towns and have made or assisted with a number of arrests.

October

During October I will be increasing my visibility further along with my colleagues to tackle nuisance issues on the run up to November 5th. I will be conducting speed checks around the villages and have requested the assistance of Special Constables and the Neighbourhood Task Force to conduct additional checks. Our Hot Spots will be Manston Road (the museum road), Ramsgate Road (Cliffsend), A28 St Nicholas at Wade, A28 Sarre, and Minster Road Acol.

76/25-26 KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

CW Gary Groombridge advised of the following:

- Continuing to do Information drop-ins at Minster Library. Sessions booked in.
- I am working with Heart in the community a Wellbeing Charity. The new wellbeing group has started in Minster at the Salvation Army Hall on the 17th October, We have had two sessions now 10.00-11.00 I've got some advertising out everywhere for that, the GP surgery, The Vets, Local notice boards, The premier Shop, in the Coop.
- I'm also still trying to get a wellbeing group started for residents at Minster Library, the staff are keen to get things going as soon as possible. I have two possible people to move it forward.
- I continue to do Visual Presence in the Villages, continuing to get out and meet residents around the villages, deal with any concerns that arise.
- Deal with any resident queries or concerns, and referral visits that come in from other agencies.
- I continue to attend the Monkton Village Hall wellbeing group, help and continue to support the residents, who attend, I've held a couple of quizzes. I've also held a scam talk presentation with Trading Standards to the group on the 15th October from
- I Continue to attend and support the Man Shed in Minster, a group of mainly retired Men who get together to use their practical skills to support each other and the community.
- I attend and support the St Nicholas at Wade Men's wellbeing group.
- Information Drop-ins at St Nicholas at Wade, in the Church. Support the residents with any queries or problems. Pass the information to the police and other agencies, if needed. The next drop in is this coming Thursday 6thth November.
- I continue to Report in Fly-tipping, to the Street Scene Enforcement Officer (TDC) Two lots recently at St Nicholas at Wade, some also in Minster.
- Support the Residents at the Coffee/Wellbeing group in the Bell Meadow Pavillion, St Nicholas at Wade. A Scam talk presentation was carried out on the 20th of October. We handed out safety freebies, which included personal attack alarms. I'm now out of personal alarms. Need some more.
- Support and talk the Residents at the Coffee/Wellbeing group in the Sun Inn, St Nicholas at Wade. Deal with any issues or queries they may have.

77/25-26 FIREWORKS EVENT

The annual display had been organised for 31st October 2025. Volunteers to assist with parking and setting up were welcomed. Rita Sigona would be serving food and opening the bar for the event.

The Clerk would purchase vouchers and sweets for the children's fancy dress prizes.

Collection buckets would be circulated during the event as per previous years. It was suggested that donations were used to invest in a defibrillator for the Pavilion. This was discussed and agreed, Cllr Dore would make enquiries with the FA for funding towards a unit and cabinet.

Thanks were expressed to Sue Orchard for maintaining the two current defibrillators.

78/25-26 BELL MEADOW WORKING GROUP REPORT

Future event suggestions were being considered for the forthcoming year.

The handyperson team were cleaning the Pavilion on a Monday morning prior to the Coffee Morning.

The increase in hire fees would be considered at the next meeting.

79/25-26 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) TCA/TH/25/1029 - 2 Rose Cottages , The Length, St Nicholas

Defer to Tree Officer TDC

b) FH/TH/25/0733 – Permission Granted

FH/TH/25/0894 – Permission Granted

80/25-26 FINANCE

a) The Clerk presented the monthly bank reconciliation between the cash book and bank accounts.

RESOLVED: To approve the monthly bank reconciliation for September. (Proposed: Cllr Andrews, seconded Cllr Divers).

b) The Clerk presented the monthly payment schedule which included the following payments:

M. Miller - Install hand dryer BMP	£50.00
Business Stream - Water BMP	£53.78
D. Divers - Cleaning materials	£13.54
Employee salaries & expenses	£2149.17
Lasenby - Deposit return	£25.00
M. Fentiman - BMP Expenses	£17.10
NEST - Clerk's Pension	
EDF - BMP Gas	£97.96
Lloyds CC - DD	£6.00
Hugofox - Website hosting fee	£11.99
EDF - BMP Electric	£28.74
Unity Trust - Service fee	£6.00

Receipts:

BMP Hire - Ukelele	£117.00
TDC - Precept & Agency payments	£19,042.00
BMP Hire - Choir	£31.50
BMP Hire - Seeability	£50.00
BMP - Sumup Bar takings	£111.04
BMP Hire - Phelan	£25.00
BMP Hire - coffee morning/bingo	£45.50
BMP Hire - Phelan	£32.50
BMP Hire - Choir	£48.00
Unity Trust - Interest	£26.51

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoices included in the monthly payment schedule for October.

(Proposed: Cllr Andrews, Seconded: Cllr Pugh)

81/25-26 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No concerns raised.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 9:00pm.