



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 7.30pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

Present: Councillors D. Divers, L. Ageros, S. Smyth, A. Andrews, E. Dore

Also, Present: Community Warden Gary Groombridge, District Cllr Abi Smith, Sara Archer – Parish Clerk plus 2 members of public.

12/26-27 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Due to the number of Councillors absent, it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

13/26-27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Cllr Tweedale, Cllr Lawrance, Cllr Fentiman, District Cllr Peter Evans, PC Owen Crush.

14/26-27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

15/26-27 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 12th May 2026 and Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2026. These were proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Dore, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/26-27 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers advised he had been in contact with the KCC highways representative to chase the ongoing issues at Manor Road, however, he had not yet received a response.

17/26-27 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had reported the overgrown footpath TE10 between Sarre and St Nicholas villages.

The VAT reclaim for the previous year had been submitted and subsequently received.

Information had been received regarding the Manston Airport DCO.

The Pride in Place funding opportunity was discussed and it was agreed to apply for a grant towards the speed awareness measures for Sarre. The Clerk would prepare and submit the application as soon as possible due to the tight deadline.

18/26-27 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Smyth enquired whether a Council representative would be speaking at the Planning Committee meeting at TDC, against the development at Sarre. Cllr Divers confirmed he would attend the meeting in the absence of any other more suitable representative. Cllr Abi Smith advised she would also attend the meeting.

Cllr Dore expressed his and the residents of Frost Farm's sincere thanks to the handyperson team for clearing the overgrowth from the footpath between Frost Farm and Stuart Lane.

Cllr Ageros had been maintaining the village planters and flagpole garden. Thanks were echoed to the handyperson team for their maintenance to the entrance of TE10 at Sarre.

19/26-27 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Smith reported that the Citizens Advice Bureau outreach service had decided to stop attending Minster Library, as it was not used on a regular basis.

Cllr Smith would be attending an extraordinary meeting at TDC next week regarding the formation of Margate Town Council.

Following the recent issues with missed collections, waste management reports had been requested.

Cllr Smith would make enquires at TDC regarding the request to formally support and raise a petition to reduce the speed limit through St Nicholas at 20mph.

Cllr Evans was not in attendance, however, he had submitted a report which has been appended to these minutes.

20/26-27 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Evans was not in attendance and no report received.

21/26-27 KENT POLICE REPORT

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

Thanet Villages

Total crime reports: 77 reports (28 marked as non-crime, one caution administered)

St Nicholas and Sarre

- 26 calls were made to Kent Police from St Nicholas-at-Wade and Sarre. Many of these were related to road traffic incidents likely from the A299, although there was also one poaching report which police attended and conducted an area search for any vehicles engaged in hare coursing.
- One report has been raised for criminal damage to the church gates in St Nicholas at Wade. This is something that I have been liaising with the church about directly and will be assisting in trying to identify offenders.

In addition to the above statistics, here is a selection of the work I have been carrying out over the past month:

- This month has seen a particular rise in reports of catapults, particularly in the village of Minster. I have done my best to publish regular updates on this and have been really pleased with the fantastic response from members of the public who have provided information and assisted the investigation. One male was arrested on suspicion of weapon offences following a foot chase, with a catapult and ball bearings recovered. A second male was also detained and searched. I have been working closely with investigative colleagues to contact victims and witnesses, and have also been conducting patrolling in the area to offer reassurance.
- Whilst on routine patrol on the 8th April I stopped a vehicle of interest and conducted a drugs search. This led to the recovery of a large amount of suspected Class A drugs from the vehicle and a male arrested on suspicion of drug supply. He is currently on bail whilst detectives continue the investigation.
- I am aware of the well-publicised reports of the fire in Pegwell, which Kent Fire and Rescue Service were quick to respond to. Kent Police have confirmed that an arson investigation is underway, and I will keep an eye on this investigation and let residents know about any updates.
- I have also been dedicating plenty of time to 'on the beat' foot patrol, speaking to residents about a variety of concerns and hopefully deterring anti-social behaviour. In addition to general policing duties and public engagement, this has yielded a positive stop search with drugs seized. Separately, one male was also arrested by me after he caught my attention, and checks showed that he was wanted by two other police forces for a variety of serious offences. I have made further similar arrests this month for ASB-related offences and court warrants.
- I've arrested a male whilst I was on foot patrol having initially stopped his car to check his documents. Following a stop search and some enquiries, he was arrested on suspicion of drug driving and drug possession offences.
- I have also been reviewing reports of nuisance parking in various villages, taking reports for antisocial behaviour, liaising with councillors, and have answered around thirty calls for service over the course of the last month.

22/26-27 COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Community Warden Gary Groombridge reported as follows:

- The well-being group in the Sun Inn, there to support the residents, with any questions or advice that they may need
- The well-being group in the Bell meadow Pavilion. Support the residents again with any queries advice or questions they may have.
- I've Supported a resident in getting some financial advice, through Citizen Advice Bureau. I contacted them, they have been to help her.
- A resident has told me that she had a spade pinched from her garden, Friday/Saturday night she is not sure which. I've got to contact Owen Crush, to make him aware. Maybe check to see if neighbours have any CCTV footage at all. This is the Bridges Close area.
- Continue to attend the Men's group in the Church on Thursdays. There for people to speak to me.
- Contacted Kent Highways again to ask about the pathway that is overgrown with shrubbery leading up to the St Nicholas at Wade roundabout. Along the Canterbury Road. I was told by the end of May but it hadn't been done. It will be done at some point the manager was going to speak to the team who does the work.
- Continue to do Visual Presence around the Village of St Nicholas at Wade.
- I've done some Visual Presence around Sarre.

Gary also offered to contact KCC highways on behalf of the PC to chase the ongoing issues at Manor Road.

23/26-27 BELL MEADOW REPORT

The works to the tennis court would be taking place in the next couple of weeks, with the MUGA refurbishments to follow. The Classic Car show would be held on 20th June, and Family Fun Sports Day in September.

24/26-27 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **TCA/TH/26/0600 & TPO/TH/26/0590 The Cottage, Old Road, Sarre**

To defer to the Tree Officer.

b) None noted.

25/26-27 FINANCE

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

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

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

KALC - Membership Subs	£647.80
Sovereign Sports - Deposit Tennis Court refurb	£4,286.40
Employee salaries & expenses	£2651.54
SNS - Domain hosting	£60.51
Lloyds Bank CC	£70.95
Sovereign Sports - Deposit Tennis Court refurb	£17,507.95
S. Archer - admin expenses	£10.92
M. Lawrance - plants for planters	£35.45
EDF - BMP Gas	£75.93
EDF - BMP Electricity	£90.47
Sovereign - MUGA deposit	£23,343.94
Hugofox - Website domain	£11.99
P. Paul - Handyperson expenses	£40.60
Unity Trust - Service Charge	£7.00

Receipts:

BMP Hire - Ukelele	£119.00
BMP Hire - Greenstreet	£84.50
E. Dore - BMP Hires various	£32.00
BMP Hire - Ukelele	£17.00
WS Cole - Cemetery fee	£635.00
E. Dore - BMP Hires various	£30.00
BMP Hire - Ukelele	£17.00
E. Dore - BMP Hires various	£51.00
BMP Hire - Smith	£50.50
HMRC - VAT refund	£2,265.86
WS Cole - Morgan	£1,485.00

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

(Proposed: Cllr Andrews, Seconded: Cllr Dore)

26/26-27 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- It was noted that the hedge from Potten Street to the junction at Wade House required trimming.

- The flytipped caravan had been reported to TDC for attention.

- The pavements along the main A roads at Sarre were dangerously overgrown for pedestrians. This would be reported to KCC accordingly.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 8:00pm.

APPENDIX

Cllr Peter Evans

June 2026 TDC Monthly Report:-

Beach management

Ahead of the late May bank holiday with a heatwave expected, a number of preparations were put in place to reflect the anticipated increase in beach-goers. Despite those efforts the weekend was extremely challenging for our frontline staff. There were issues with litter, unauthorised events, inconsiderate parking and we were stretched to the limit.

For context, crews collected 49 tonnes of rubbish over the weekend, and as well as standard litter, they had to clear up various beach accessories. Everything from floats and broken parasols to children's buggies were effectively fly-tipped and shouldn't have been put into beach bins.

We know local residents and visitors expect better and our goal is to provide the level of service that's needed across the Island. While the headlines and social media chatter haven't been positive, I do want to thank the teams that worked hard in boiling weather to try and get the job done.

Teenage Market back in Broadstairs

The next Teenage Market is on Sunday 14 June, at The Pavilion, Broadstairs from 10am to 5pm.

Around 30 stalls are expected, with performances from local young musicians throughout the day. And, of course, we hope to see many of you there on the day to support Thanet's younger residents.

Active Neighbourhood Scan

We are working with community partners on the Thanet Active Environments neighbourhood scan as part of the Sport England Thanet Place Partnership Programme. This is a community-led assessment of our streets, parks, seafronts, community spaces and recreation grounds.

The aim is to identify potential improvements that could be made to our places and spaces that could help residents become more active, more often.

The first pilot scan happened in Ramsgate on Wednesday 27 May, starting at Newington Community Centre. Further scans are planned across the district, with provisional dates and locations as follows:

Jackey Bakers: Thursday 11 June, 3.30pm

Margate: Thursday 23 July, 5pm - 6.30pm

Broadstairs: Monday 3 August, 10am - 12pm

Broadstairs: Friday 7 August, 10am - 12pm

Southern Water

We're keeping a close eye on the current issues with water supply in Whitstable, Herne Bay and other parts of Kent.

Southern Water is providing regular updates and has confirmed that there are currently no issues with supply in Thanet.

They have delivered bottled water to people on their Priority Services Register and have plans in place to open two bottled water stations, if needed. Customers are advised to check their website for the latest updates.

If you know any older or vulnerable people who should be on the priority register but aren't, please encourage them to contact Southern Water.

Knife Bins

Thanet District Council, in partnership with Kent Police, operates 17 secure knife amnesty bins across the district to allow residents to safely and anonymously dispose of blades without fear of prosecution.

Known Amnesty Locations

Margate: Kings Steps (Marine Drive), Buenos Ayres (at Station Road junction), Margate High Street, Elham Close, and Tomlin Drive.

Ramsgate: Ramsgate Train Station, Albion Hill, and Boundary Park.

Cliftonville: Edgar Road.

How They Work

Anonymity: You can drop off knives, blades, or other sharp objects "no questions asked".

Safety Rules: While carrying a blade in public is generally an offence, it is legally permitted if you are securely wrapping it and taking it directly to a knife bin.

Maintenance: The bins are emptied and cleaned on a quarterly basis by community safety teams

Walpole Bay Bathing Pool

The council are pleased to announce that Walpole Bay Bathing pool has now re-opened following repairs that taken longer than expected.

Blue Flag Awards

Environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy has today (Tuesday 16 May 2023) announced the winners of the prestigious Blue Flag and Seaside Awards for summer 2023. Thanet has met the high standard required, and has been awarded six Blue Flags and four Seaside Awards.

Blue Flags have been awarded for Minnis Bay; St. Mildred's Bay; Margate Main Sands; Botany Bay; Joss Bay and Stone Bay.

Seaside Awards have been awarded for West Bay; Westbrook Bay; Viking Bay and Ramsgate Main Sands.

Among the criteria beaches are assessed against are:

Safety and services, such as first aid, lifeguards where necessary

Environmental information including displaying details about local eco systems

Water quality – Blue Flag beaches must meet the 'excellent' water quality standard as set out in the EU bathing water directive and Seaside Award winners must meet the 'sufficient' standard.

Environmental management, including litter and waste.

Among the criteria beaches are assessed against are:

Safety and services, such as first aid, lifeguards where necessary

Environmental information including displaying details about local eco systems

Water quality – Blue Flag beaches must meet the 'excellent' water quality standard as set out in the EU bathing water directive and Seaside Award winners must meet the 'sufficient' standard.

Environmental management, including litter and waste.