



## St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7.30pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

**Present: Councillors - D. Divers, L. Ageros, S. Smyth, D. Tweedale, G. Pugh, A. Andrews, E. Dore, M. Lawrance**  
**Also, Present: District Cllr Abi Smith**  
**Sara Archer – Parish Clerk plus 0 members of public.**

#### **11/25-26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were noted from Cllr Mo Fentiman (Holiday), District Cllr Peter Evans, PC Andy Howe and Community Warden Gary Groombridge.

#### **12/25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

#### **13/25-26 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**RESOLVED: To approve minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 13th May 2025.**

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

#### **14/25-26 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Divers opened the meeting and offered his thanks to Councillors Tweedale and Lawrance and their spouses, for their work in planting the memorial planters prior to the Open Gardens weekend. Thanks were also extended to Cllr Ageros for regularly maintaining the village planters and flagpole garden.

Appreciation was also expressed to Cllr Dore for his work with the Bell Meadow Pavilion, organising the diary, bookings and opening up of the building for hires. Additional volunteers to open and close for bookings would always be welcome. There had been an increase in children's party bookings, which was credit to Cllr Dore for his promotion of the facility. Cllr Divers had contacted KCC Highways to chase the issues surrounding Manor Road. KCC advised that the developers were struggling to finance the bond required for the S278 as well as the remaining works due to slower than predicted sales, however, they hope to be in a position to finance this and the works themselves sometime later in the summer. KCC would be taking into consideration the waving of the Bond request whilst ensuring that KCC and the public finance are protected for these highway works.

#### **15/25-26 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk confirmed the play equipment safety inspection had been booked and would be taking place in July.

Direct Debit instructions had been set up for the utilities company to aid monthly payment requests.

The credit card and new sum-up machine for Bell Meadow had been received and passed on to the working group.

A savings account with Unity Trust had been set up which would be more practical to transfer monies as required.

The overgrown vegetation at TE10 had been reported, KCC had responded and would be dealing with the issue as soon as possible.

#### **16/25-26 COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**Cllr Pugh** advised he would be reporting the nuisance motorbike rider at Bell Meadow, to PC Howe for follow up.

**Cllr Tweedale** confirmed he had approached local timber merchants – Burbridges – for a discounted supply of wood towards the peregrine falcon nesting box.

**Cllr Lawrance** volunteered to continue to maintain the memorial planters, and would be reimbursed for any costs involved. He had also been involved with the organisation of the Open Gardens.

A men's club had been set up at the Church Café on a Thursday morning, - 11am-12noon, to promote and support men's mental health and wellbeing. The group offered their assistance with work around the village if required.

Discussion took place regarding the reintroduction of a hard copy village magazine, as some residents do not use social media. Cllrs Lawrance and Dore would make enquiries to explore the possibility of creating a quarterly leaflet to promote events and news in the Parish.

**Cllr Andrews** expressed concern with regard to the recent noise level of the music at the Pubs. It was considered appropriate that the landlords should be approached with the concerns in the first instance before taking the issue further if necessary.

**Cllr Smyth** requested the handyperson team attended Sarre to sweep the footpaths. Flytipping at the roundabout and along the A299 was also noted.

**Cllr Dore** advised the bookings for the Pavilion had seen an increase which was very positive. Thanks were expressed to Matt Elmer and the Street Cleaning team for their prompt response to issues.

**Cllr Ageros** had been maintaining the village planters and flagpole garden. An irrigation system would be explored to aid with the watering of the planters. Cllr Ageros expressed his thanks to the handyperson team for the weed clearance at TE10.

#### **17/25-26 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

Cllr Abi Smith confirmed she had liaised with the Senior Conservation Officer regarding The Forge and Warehorn Cottage, who directed her enquiry to the Enforcement Officer. A site visit had been carried out by the Enforcement Officer, who was satisfied that The Forge did not currently qualify for a Sec 215 notice. The owner would be contacted to confirm the plan of works, however, the Officer was of the opinion that building was not considered to be dangerous, this would be inspected by the Buildings Control Officer.

It had also been confirmed that planning permission was not required for the swimming pool at Warehorn Cottage, however, the matter had been referred back to the Conservation Officer for further advice. Discussion took place regard the automatic preservation of the trees in a conservation area. This would be explored independently by David Tweedale. Citizens Advice Service would be holding an outreach session at Minster Library 9am-1:30pm on 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Residents were encouraged to submit feedback to the Anit-Social Behaviour Public Space Protection Order survey, as it does not include the Thanet Villages. Comments can be submitted online via 'Your Voice'.

Comments on the TDC Housing Allocation policy were also welcomed, deadline 15<sup>th</sup> June.

Landlord grants for the Warm Homes scheme had been allocated successfully, for use towards upgrading heating and insulation.

The Planning Inspectorate has accepted National Grid's application for development consent for Sea Link, a proposed electricity connection between Kent and Suffolk designed to strengthen the UK's energy network.

The Planning Inspectorate will manage the examination stage, with members of the public able to have a say on the plans directly to the Inspectorate.

Residents were advised they can register as an Interested Party to take part in the process on the dedicated Sea Link page of the Planning Inspectorate website.

Comments to be submitted by 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

#### **18/25-26 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillor not in attendance, no report submitted.

#### **19/25-26 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:

Overall, the last month has been low on call levels to the villages with the main issues stemming from nuisance vehicles such as off-road bikes and e-scooters.

##### Thanet Villages

There were 108 crimes recorded across the Thanet Villages during this period. Please be aware that of all the crimes reported and recorded on the villages, the Manston Migrant Centre makes up the vast majority of these reports. In fact, only eight crimes were recorded outside of the centre of which all were either domesticated or of harassment.

We did have some reported issues via the web site, and these have included some suspicious persons operating in the top half of Minster who were caught on CCTV entering a person's driveway in the early hours of the 28th May. We had no further reports nor any reports of any vehicle break's during this period. I have undertaken additional patrols of this area during my late duties.

Monkton Road Farm has also had one of their containers entered in the early hours on two separate mornings. We are awaiting the CCTV to review this.

With regard to St Nicholas at Wade and Sarre:

There were 20 calls to Police during May and until 08/06/25. These were mostly traffic related with three domesticated incidents, two domestic alarm responses (alarms that come directly to the attention of Police), these were false alarms, and two burglary calls which were actually welfare issues due to the informant suffering dementia, which I attended, and support referrals have been made.

My activity:

I have been spending more time in the Manston area due to concerns over drugs use and nuisance vehicles over recent weeks. The Summer season is also upon us which means I have also been abstracted to Dreamland events on a couple of occasions. I will be conducting more late patrols in unmarked vehicles with regard to some intelligence gained across the villages. The activity is vehicle and drugs related so please let me know if you have any applicable information that could assist with this (times locations and descriptions of vehicles).

I have regularly attended Potten Street Rd and continue to erect replacement warning notices for the ASB.

I have also attended the park on numerous occasions just to show a greater presence.

#### **20/25-26 KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT**

Gary Groombridge was unable to attend the meeting due to his Supervisor being unavailable.

#### **21/25-26 BELL MEADOW WORKING GROUP REPORT**

Cllr Fentiman was not in attendance, however, she reported as follows:

1. Summer sports event 2pm - 5pm on 13th July. I'll send the flyer on our WhatsApp group, attached here too.

2. Tennis Court upgrade - quotes received

Children's play area shelter - quotes received

Gym equipment - outstanding (quotes not rcvd)

Basketball court - outstanding

Lighting - quote received

3. We now have a St Nicholas At Wade with Sarre football team. They have recruited an adult male team for the Sunday league and have a trial date arranged. They have advertised for a youth coach and women's coach to enable recruitment to commence for women and children. There is a Facebook page and instagram to follow.

4. Open gardens 14/15 June - pavilion will be open 10am - 6pm as a Refreshment point for attendees

Pitch improvements and new goalposts were discussed. Grant funding and fundraising streams were considered to fund the purchase. It was agreed to consider this further at the next meeting.

#### **22/25-26 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

##### **a) F/TH/25/0319 - St Nicholas Campsite Court Road St Nicholas At Wade**

Erection of 13no dwellings, comprising of 1no 2-bed, 5no 3-bed, 4no 4-bed and 3no 5-bed, following demolition of existing buildings and structures, together with associated access, landscaping and parking

*Application to be called-in. Traffic management plan to be considered.*

##### **PN12/TH/25/0557 - St Nicholas Court Farm , Court Road, St Nicholas At Wade**

Application for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the local planning authority is required in respect of the installation of solar panels to roof of an agricultural building

*No objections raised.*

b) FH/TH/25/0041 & L/TH/25/0042 – Granted Permission

#### **23/25-26 FINANCE**

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

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

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

NEST DD - Clerk's pension	
Chubb - Fire Extinguisher Service	£375.35
SNS - Domain hosting fee	£60.51
HMRC - Employee PAYE	£528.82
Employee salaries & expenses	£2586.88
HMRC - Employee PAYE	£395.77
Lloyds DD - Credit Card	£347.02
PPL PRS Licence fees	£170.40
EDF - Electric BMP	£76.34
Chubb - Fire Extinguisher Service	£187.03
E. Cowell - Deposit return	£25.00
Country Mowers - Mower repair	£423.49
Hugofox - Website Admin fee	£11.99
Unity Trust - Service Charge	£6.00

**Receipts:**

Stephen Cole - BMP Hire	£110.00
E. Cowell - BMP Hire	£70.50
Pitch Hire - Frames	£60.00
Minster Playhouse - BMP Hire	£13.00
Pitch Hire - Frames	£60.00
Pitch Hire - Holmans	£60.00
Scott S&B - BMP Hire	£38.00
Scott S&B - BMP Hire	£6.50
E. Dore - BMP Hires	£52.00
E. McElwain - BMP Hire	£26.00

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

**(Proposed: Cllr Lawrance, Seconded: Cllr Divers)**

c) The Clerk presented the proposed increase to Cemetery charges for the forthcoming year. These were considered and it was agreed to implement an increase of 15% to the current fees.

**RESOLVED: To approve an increase of 15% in Cemetery charges for 2025-26.**

**(Proposed: Cllr Dore, Seconded: Cllr Lawrance)**

d) It was discussed and agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

**24/25-26 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No issues raised.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 8:50pm.