

Minutes of the Barham Parish Council Meeting held on 6th March 2025, in Barham Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: Carolyn Hunt (Chair), Stephen Manning (Vice-Chair), Paul Smith, John Brooks and Sean Latus. KCC/CCC Mike Sole was also present. There were 3 members of the public present.

223. The Chair's opening remarks and apologies for absence. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies from Cllr Andreas Tatt, Cllr Diane Tatt and Cllr Deb Hart NOTED and ACCEPTED.

224. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Significant Interests and Dispensation Requests. There were no declarations of pecuniary interest declared.

225. Minutes of the last meeting. Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th December 2024 and 6th February 2025, including the confidential minutes were ACCEPTED as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

226. Adjournment of the meeting. A member of the public highlighted that many trees are overhanging the highway at Church Lane, they were invited to send photographs to the Clerk for onward forwarding to KCC Highways.

A member of the public requested that the national speed limit be reduced at Church Lane; the resident was assured that this would be a consideration for the Parish Council's next Highways Improvement Plan. **Action:** Clerk to note for HIP

On completion of public participation, all members of the public left the meeting.

227. The meeting was reconvened to complete the remaining business on the agenda.

228. To receive the County and City Councillors Report. The monthly report had been distributed and Cllr Sole provided an update on the proposed bus stop improvements at Breach.

229. Planning Matters. Members CONSIDERED the following planning applications and unanimously RESOLVED that there were no objections to any of the applications.

New Planning Applications:
Planning Application: CA/25/00210 Location: Brickbat Cottage, Valley Road, CT4 6PL. Proposal: Details submitted pursuant to conditions 3 (external materials) and conditions 4 (Windows and doors) of planning permission CA/22/01762/FUL.
Planning Application: CA/25/00225 Location: Ford Lodge, South Barham Road, CT4 6QA. Proposal: T1- Acer, reduce to framework at previous pruning points located in the rear garden. T2- Cherry Plum, reduce tree in height and width by up to 3m located in the front garden.
Planning Application: CA/25/00311 Location: The Old Courtyard Church Lane Barham Kent CT4 6PB. Proposal: T1-Conifer, fell to ground level located in the front garden.

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Initials of the Chair:

Planning Application: CA/25/00226 Location: 3 Railway Cottages, Railway Hill, CT4 6PY. Proposal: G1 - Group of conifers, reduce in height to previous pruning point, this is a reduction of 2.5m.
Planning Application: CA/25/00315 Location: Uppingdene House Derringstone Hill Barham Kent CT4 6QD. Proposal: T1 - Beech. - Reduce crown of tree in height and width by up to 3m, close to previous pruning points, T2 - Hornbeam - Reduce tree to a smaller rounded form. This involves reducing the height by up to 3.5m, and the laterals by 2m.
Planning Application: CA/25/00331 Location: Eagles Lodge, Church Lane, Barham, Kent, CT4 6EX. Proposal: Two storey rear extension together with detached triple garage.

Residents can view and comment on applications online at: [Search and comment on planning applications | Canterbury City Council](#)

230. Publicity & Communications including website: Members NOTED publicity throughout February had included information relating to streetlighting repairs and road closures.

231. Highways Update: Councillors NOTED the SID data previously circulated by Cllr A Tatt.
Action: Clerk to engage with Speed watch Team.

232. Councillors CONSIDERED and RESOLVED to support the KCC Highways Breach Bus Stop Improvements, but did not support a financial contribution at this time. **Action:** Clerk

233. Councillors NOTED the update to the flashing wig wag lights on Valley Road. **Action:** Clerk to continue driving KCC to resolution.

To report any road issues OR resurfacing requests please report them online to KCC Highways using this link - <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

234. Open Spaces. Councillors NOTED the loss of benches from the Village Green & Valley Road play area.

235. Councillors NOTED the findings from the visual inspection of the Brickfield and Valley Road play areas. **Action:** Clerk

236. Councillors CONSIDERED and RESOLVED to allow Barham Primary School to use the Village Green for its Annual Summer Fayre on Saturday 5th July 2025. **Action:** Clerk

237. Councillors CONSIDERED and RESOLVED to undertake the tree staking and mulch laying at 2pm to 4pm on Saturday 22nd March 2025, as detailed in the Tree Survey with a budget of £200.
Action: Clerk to advertise.

238. Councillors CONSIDERED and RESOLVED the date of the next Community Litter Pick to be 10am to 12om on Saturday 3rd May 2025, to meet at the Village Hall. The Chair volunteered to lead on this event on the day **Action:** Clerk to make arrangements for equipment with CCC

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Initials of the Chair:

239. Councillors were unable to CONSIDER a minimum of three quotes for the high priority works as detailed in the Tree Survey, therefore this item was deferred to the next meeting. **Action:** Clerk

240. Councillors CONSIDERED and RESOLVED to renew the CPRE Membership (Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England) and NOTED the increase to £36 per annum. **Action:** Clerk

241. Footpaths & Rights of Way. There were no updates to NOTE.

242. Village Clubs and Societies. Members NOTED the proposal for a Pickleball Court at the Tennis Club.

243. External Organisations. There were no updates to NOTE.

244. To receive the report from the Clerk and to NOTE any correspondence: The Clerk circulated her monthly report prior to the meeting. It was NOTED that a local resident/flood warden, has drafted an emergency and flood plan for Barham Parish which will require approval at a Parish Council meeting prior to publishing. Although clarification of the insurance position for our flood wardens is still being sought. The Clerk recommended that a Parish Councillor should be appointed as a point of contact to assist the Clerk with the drafting of these plans. Cllr Manning volunteered to take on this role.

245. Councillors CONSIDERED and RESOLVED to move the date of the Annual Parish Meeting to 7pm on 22nd May 2025, to avoid conflict with any VE80 celebrations. Cllr Mike Sole remains the guest speaker.

246. Policy and Governance: Councillors CONSIDERED and ADOPTED the Noticeboard Policy.

247. Financial matters: Councillors NOTED the correction to the Payments List for June 2024, a payment initially listed as Payroll Provider for £18.00, but was actually Unity Bank Charges of £18.00.

248. Cllr Smith scrutinized and signed the bank reconciliations for December 2024, January and February 2025 and all was correct.

249. Councillors NOTED the bank account balances as at 28 February 2025 as: Current Account £20,995.64 Reserve Account: £64,166.06 Total: £85,161.70

250. The following February 2025 payments were NOTED:

Scribe Accounts	£489.60
Maintenance & Repairs	£456.00
Tree Survey	£1,020.00
Noticeboard Replacement	£258.00
Water - (Rec Ground)	£5.00
Clerk - HMRC Payment	£426.89
Clerk - KCC Pension Fund	£524.58
Subscriptions	£45.00

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Initials of the Chair:

Maintenance & Repairs	£50.00
Electricity - Village Green	£51.00
Clerk Salary & Mileage	-
Bank Charges	£6.00

The following receipt in February 2025 was NOTED:
 UKPN £2.30

251. Councillors NOTED the End of Financial Year Budget Summary (2024/25) and NOTED that whilst the Parish Council had overspent in areas of its annual budget there had been sufficient funds in the general reserve to cover these additional costs to improve the Parish. It was noted that the Parish remains in good financial health. Councillors NOTED that in the next FY, more consideration to the approved budget was required. Councillors also NOTED that the underspend on streetlighting is due to outstanding invoices. Councillors CONSIDERED the Scribe format of demonstrating the budget was a huge improvement and looked forward to the more detailed management of the 2025/2026 budget.

252. Date of next meeting. Councillors NOTED the next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 3rd April 2025, in the Grabham Room, Barham Village Hall.

253. Public Meeting closed at 9.05pm

254. Streetlighting: The Parish Councillors CONSIDERED the information provided by the Clerk and RESOLVED the actions detailed in the confidential report.

255. Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Caroline Read
 Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
 Barham Parish Council
clerk@barhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Signed as a true record: Date:
 Chair, Cllr Carolyn Hunt

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Initials of the Chair: