

Minutes of the Barham Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd April 2026, in Barham Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: Paul Smith (Chair), Sean Latus, Nuala McGill, Karla Zeidan, Stephen Peachell, and Deb Hart. Caroline Read, Parish Clerk & RFO, plus one member of the public attended.

223. Chair's opening remarks and apologies for absence. The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Andreas Tatt, Cllr Hattie Nizamettin and Cllr Chris Hudson.

224. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Significant Interests and Dispensation Requests: There were no declarations of pecuniary/other interest declared relating to items on the agenda.

225. Minutes of the last meeting: Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th March 2026, were unanimously ACCEPTED as a true record of the meetings and signed by the Chair.

226. Adjournment of the meeting: There were no representations from the public.

Representations from the public included a resident requesting the Parish Council keep the issue of HGVs blocking The Street/Church Lane as a priority on the Highway Improvements Plan.

227. To RECEIVE the report from the KCC/CCC Councillors, and the Community Warden. Not present, but Cllr Sole's report had been circulated and published prior to the meeting.

228. The meeting was reconvened to complete business items on the agenda.

229. Councillors NOTED the list of Councillors responsibilities had been published.

230. To NOTE the use of LGA 1972 s.101 delegation to the Clerk since the last meeting: Councillors NOTED payment to the Barham and District Horticultural Society for maintenance of the village planters (£10.99); Blot Covers from Playdale Playgrounds (£22.08) and KALC for Cllr Hudson's training (£60) had been paid.

231. Planning Matters: Members CONSIDERED the following planning applications and unanimously RESOLVED that there were no objections:

New Planning Applications:
CA/26/00391 Change of use of existing detached garage to annexe together with single-storey rear extension. Sunny Downs Out Elmstead Lane Barham Kent CT4 6HL
CA/26/00179 Change of use of barn from Commercial to Agricultural use. Breach Farm Elham Valley Road Barham Kent CT4 6LN
CA/26/00487 T1 Small self-seeding hawthorn - remove. T2 Willow tree small positioned under canopy of large sycamore- remove. Tree is struggling in current position. Trees located in rear garden. The Old Farmhouse Derringstone Street Barham Kent CT4 6QB

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until the Parish Council approves them at the next Parish Council meeting.

Initials of the Chair:

232. Other Planning Matters: Canterbury District Local Plan: Councillors CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED not to make representation to the Planning Inspector.

There were no further updates.

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

233. Publicity & Communications including website: Councillors NOTED publicity throughout March 2026 had continued with information relating to community initiatives/news, including the Community Litter Pick on Saturday 25th April 2026.

234. Highways Update: No SID data was available this month.

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>

235. Footpaths & Rights of Way: No updates to NOTE.

236. Streetlighting: Councillors NOTED that streetlighting repairs remain ongoing. Briant Civil & Electrical Engineering had identified further necessary works, including replacement luminaire fixtures, and submitted a quotation of £989.22. Councillors CONSIDERED the quotation and unanimously RESOLVED to accept it.

Councillors further NOTED that UKPN had remounted the streetlight at the Village Green onto the replacement pole, however the unit remains non-operational. Councillors CONSIDERED the most cost-effective approach and unanimously AGREED to instruct Briant Civil & Electrical Engineering to investigate and repair this issue during their next scheduled visit, thereby avoiding an additional call-out charge of £540.

Councillors also NOTED that once all streetlights are fully operational, the Parish Council will be in a stronger position to continue discussions with Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council regarding the potential transfer of responsibility.

237. Open Spaces: Councillors NOTED the update from the play area consultation and RESOLVED to publish the details to the residents again, highlighting the closing date of 30th June 2026.

Councillors NOTED the findings from the quarterly visual play area inspection and unanimously RESOLVED to undertake the necessary repairs, including further replacement of the wooden edging at the Valley Road Play Area.

238. Village Clubs and Societies: Councillors CONSIDERED and unanimously APPROVED a request for £100 donation to Barham & District Horticultural Society to purchase plants for the village planters.

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until the Parish Council approves them at the next Parish Council meeting.

Initials of the Chair:

239. External Organisations: Councillors CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED to APPROVE a donation to Barham PTA for the purchase of a memorial tree and bench.

Councillors NOTED that the Coffee Stop is still in need of volunteers.

240. Financial matters: Councillors NOTED the following payments in March 2026:

Civic.ly	£33.60
SMS CIS & Payroll Solutions	£36.00
Kent Pension Fund	£436.62
EDF Energy PLC - Streetlights	£541.33
Nimble Learning (Clerk Trg)	£16.00
Nimble Learning (Cllr Hudson)	£16.00
Nimble Learning (Cllr Peachell)	£16.00
KALC (Cllr Hudson)	£60.00
CPRE Subscription	£36.00
Stephen Miles (Hedge Trimming)	£190.00
Briant Traffic Limited	£588.71
Playdale Playgrounds	£22.08
Barham District H.Society	£10.99
EDF Energy PLC - Village Green	£34.27
Clerk	Salary/WFH Allowance/Mileage
Unity Trust Bank plc	£7.00

Councillors NOTED the following receipts in March 2026:

Bank Interest	£338.73
---------------	---------

Councillors RECEIVED the bank statements and reconciliations to 31st March 2026, these were unanimously RESOLVED and signed by Cllr Zeidan. Councillors NOTED the bank account balances as at 31st March 2026: Current Account £22,252.37 Reserve Account: £66,014.74 Total: £88,267.11

Councillors NOTED the End of Financial Year 2025/26 Budget Summary.

Councillors CONSIDERED and APPROVED the Statement of Internal Control for FY 2026/27, which was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

241. To receive the Report from the Clerk and to NOTE any correspondence. Councillors NOTED the Clerks Report.

242. Date of Annual Parish Meeting: Councillors NOTED the Annual Parish Meeting would take place at 7pm on Tuesday 5th May 2026. Members NOTED that a representative from Simpsons' Wine Estate will attend as guest speaker to talk about their production of English wine in the Elham Valley. **Date of next meeting.** Councillors RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 7th May 2026, to be held in the Grabham Room, Barham Village Hall.

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until the Parish Council approves them at the next Parish Council meeting.

Initials of the Chair:

243. Meeting closed at 8.36pm.

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

Signed as a true record:
Chair of the Parish Council

Date:

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until the Parish Council approves them at the next Parish Council meeting.

Initials of the Chair: