

Minutes of the Meeting of Barham Parish Council held on 1st October 2026, in Barham Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Parish Councillors Paul Smith (Chair), Nuala McGill, Karla Zeidan, Stephen Peachell, and Sean Latus. KCC Cllr Mike Sole, Caroline Read, Parish Clerk & RFO, plus 22 members of the public were also present.

82. Chair's opening remarks and apologies for absence. The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting. Apologies were received and unanimously accepted from Cllr Deb Hart, Cllr Chris Hudson and Cllr Andreas Tatt.

83. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Significant Interests and Dispensation Requests: Cllr Smith declared an interest at item 8 on the agenda (CA/26/01436), there were no other declarations of pecuniary/other interest declared relating to items on the agenda.

84. Minutes of the last meeting: Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 3rd September 2026, were unanimously ACCEPTED as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

85. Adjournment of the meeting: Representations from the public included concerns relating to activity opposite The Shrubbery.

86. To RECEIVE the report from the KCC/CCC Councillors. Cllr Sole's report previous report had been circulated and published prior to the meeting. He added that Local Government Reorganization had been paused by the government, emphasizing not cancelled.

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

88. To NOTE the use of LGA 1972 s.101 delegation to the Clerk since the last meeting: None

89. Cllr Smith (Chair) left the meeting for discussions on planning application CA/26/01436, Cllr Sean Latus (Vice-Chair), then chaired the meeting.

90. Planning Matters: Members CONSIDERED the following new planning applications and unanimously RESOVLED to OBJECT:

CA/26/01436 Part retrospective application for the change of use of land for stationing of residential caravans. Land At Valley Road, Barham Expiry Date: 2 Oct 26
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91. Cllr Paul Smith returned to Chair the meeting.

92. Members CONSIDERED the following new planning applications and unanimously RESOLVED not to object:

CA/26/01441 T1) Lime - Fell to ground level. Tall top heavy tree clad in ivy, weighted towards the road and residential dwellings. Barham House Nursing Home, The Street, Barham CT4 6PA Expiry Date: 2 Oct 26
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Initials of the Chair:

CA/26/01579 Retrospective application for change of use of 2 dwellings to office and storage space. Cornwallis Cottages, Canterbury Road, Barham | **Expiry Date: 23 Oct 26**

Other Planning Matters: None.

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

93. Community Governance Review Consultation: Councillors NOTED the decision from CCC's General Purpose Committee on 16th September 2026, and unanimously RESOLVED to reject Canterbury City Council's working group's recommendation for a grouping of Barham and Kingston's Parish Councils during the Stage 2 consultation. In addition Councillors CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED to engage with KALC Canterbury Area Committee to ensure Barham is appropriately represented during the consultation process.

94. Publicity & Communications including website: Councillors NOTED publicity throughout September 2026, had continued with information relating to road closures, community initiatives including Kent Police and KFRS updates, and CCC Cllr Mike Soles monthly report.

95. Highways Update: SID data was not available this month. Councillors NOTED that the speed watch team had been reported a further 10 vehicles to Kent Police for excessive speed in the parish (43 in the last year).

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>

96. Footpaths & Rights of Way: Councillors NOTED the installation of a new gate at PROW CB224. Councillors also NOTED that PROW CB265 had been cleared and was once again passable.

97. Streetlighting: Councillors NOTED the streetlighting update and CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED to grant the Clerk in consultation with the Chair, authority to incur expenditure on behalf of the Parish Council for the data collection and condition inspection of the streetlighting stock by Equans, Digital & Energy Services (KCC's approved streetlighting contractor). Councillors AGREED that this would ensure the exercise is carried out to their specification in preparation of the potential transfer of streetlighting stock.

98. Open Spaces: Councillors:

- CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED to hold a Community Action Day in the spring of 2027, and hold a Community Litter Pick on Saturday 17th October 2026.
- CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED that the replacement cable management solution for the Christmas Tree lights would be to use battery powered lighting.
- NOTED the findings from the quarterly visual play area inspection would be forwarded to the Clerk before the next meeting. Councillors unanimously RESOLVED to undertake any necessary repairs to ensure the equipment remains safe to use.

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Initials of the Chair:

99. Church Wall:

- Councillors CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED to obtain quotes for repairs to the Church Wall.

100. Finance: Councillors:

- NOTED that the External audit of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026, has concluded and the statement of accounts has been published. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) remains available for inspection by any elector from the Parish of Barham, on application to the Clerk.
- CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED not to apply for a Bus Shelter Grant 2026/27.
- NOTED payments up to 30th September 2026.

○ Civic.ly Asset Management	£33.60
○ Kent Pension Fund	£401.10
○ Zurich Insurance	£1,502.58
○ SMS CIS Payroll Services	£36.00
○ Open Spaces Subscription	£45.00
○ Envisage Groundcare	£1,193.14
○ Royal British Legion – Wreath	£23.00
○ Royal British Legion – Poppies	£190.00
○ Cloud Next – Premium Hosting	£119.98
○ Cloud Next – Website Domain	£60.00
○ Castle Water	£135.45
○ Ecotricity (Streetlighting)	£111.60
○ Clerk	Salary/WFH Allowance/Mileage
○ Unity Trust Bank plc	£7.00

NOTED the following receipts in September 2026:

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| ○ Bank Interest | £523.17 |
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- RECEIVED the bank reconciliation and bank statements to 30th September 2026, and RESOLVED the signature of a Councillor other than the Chair thereon.
 - NOTED the Current and Reserve Account Bank Balances as of 30th September 2026 to be: Current Acc: £8,201.73 Reserves Acc: £106,965.70 Total: £115,167.43
 - NOTED the Quarterly Net Position on the Summary Report to 30th September 2026 and concluded that the budget for FY 2026/27 remains in good order with the majority of budget lines currently either on or on budget. The only significant adverse variance is Defibrillator Maintenance. Cllrs NOTED that expenditure on this essential, life-saving equipment is inherently difficult to forecast, this is not unexpected, and Councillors were satisfied that the equipment remains available for the benefit of both residents and visitors to the village. The Clerk highlighting some positive variances worth highlighting, most notably the significant saving on electricity for the streetlighting, with only around 10% of the budgeted amount currently spent.

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Initials of the Chair:

- CONSIDERED and unanimously RESOLVED for a working group to meet in closed session, to prepare the draft Budget and Precept for 2027/28 on 18th November 2026.

101. To receive the Report from the Clerk and to NOTE any correspondence.

- Councillors NOTED the Clerk's report.

102. Date of next meeting. Councillors RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 5th November 2026, to be held in the Grabham Room, Barham Village Hall.

103. Meeting closed at 8.51pm.

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:

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Initials of the Chair: