

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

### Sheet 2528

**Those Present:** Cllr. P. Hutt (Chairman); Cllr. H. Samuelson (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. J. Russell; Cllr. A. Jeffers; Cllr. S. Mohan and Clerk Mrs D. Horswell.

**Also present:** County and Ward Cllr. A. Ricketts; Ward Cllr. D. Smith and two members of the public.

#### 1. **Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence.**

**Apologies:** Ward Cllr. S. Jupe – attendance at another meeting.  
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2. **Changes to DPI's & Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:**

No declarations.

#### 3. **To Approve: Minutes of the last Meeting: of 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026.**

The Minutes were **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Mohan, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Russell and **APPROVED** by all **Members present. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

#### 4. **Finance:**

##### 4.1 **Invoice Payments** (Banking Report circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting).

DD	Lili Waste Services	Waste Collection June	£158.10 (Vat £26.35)
Bacs	Mr K Waddington	Handyman Wages May	£220.38
Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Clerk Salary May	£903.82
Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Ink Carts and printer paper	£85.98
Bacs	HMRC	PAYE & NIC May	£364.46
DD	XLN	Telephone & Broadband June	£116.07 (Vat £19.35)
DD	HugoFox	Monthly Website Charge	£11.99
DD	HugoFox	Monthly Email Charges	£20.99
	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Charge	£7.00
Bacs	BVHMC	Hall Hire June	£24.00
Bacs	KALC	Annual Subscription	£759.55 (Vat £126.59)
Bacs	Lionel Robbins	Internal Audit 22/5/26	£105.00
Bacs	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Annual Play Equipment Inspection	£180.00 (Vat £30.00)
Bacs	Meadow Grange	Plant summer bedding in planters	£537.00 (Vat £89.50)

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**Total Paid Out: £3,494.34**

**Received in:**

**CCC – Community Infrastructure Levy Money**

**£24,273.51**

**Bank Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026 - Current Account £76,204.71**

*Includes £24,273.51 Community Infrastructure Levy money from 2025/2026 and £351.16 from previous years.*

**PROPOSED by Cllr. Jeffers, SECONDED by Cllr. Hutt and all Cllrs. present APPROVED the bank payments.**

2025/2026 Accounts, finance report and asset register had been circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting for information for the AGAR papers below.

**4.2 AGAR Following a review of effectiveness of the system of internal control - To accept and approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2025/2026.**

**Proposed by Cllr. Mohan, Seconded by Cllr. Jeffers and all Cllrs. present APPROVED the Annual Governance Statement to be signed by the Chairman and Clerk.**

**4.3 To accept and approve Section 2 Accounting Statements 2025/2026 - signed by the Clerk prior to the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Samuelson, Seconded by Cllr. Jeffers and all Cllrs. present APPROVED the Accounting Statements to be signed by the Chairman.**

(AGAR papers and relevant documents circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting).

**4.4 To Accept: Internal Auditors Report.**

**Proposed by Cllr. Samuelson, Seconded by Cllr. Jeffers and all Cllrs. present ACCEPTED the Internal Auditor's Report.**

All relevant AGAR papers and supporting documents will now be sent to Mazars External Auditors for examination and published on BPC's website.

A Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Public Rights (any member of the public may examine the accounts) between 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026 and 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026 will be published on the BPC noticeboard and on the BPC website.

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## Sheet 2530

### **4.5. To Note: Receipt of Community Infrastructure Levy money.**

As communicated to all parishes back in 2020, Canterbury City Council will transfer what's known as the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Neighbourhood Portion to parishes twice yearly (where levy receipts have been collected in a parish).

The Neighbourhood Portion is 15% of the levy receipts received in any parish, which must be passed to the parish council to support the development of the parish council's area by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure (e.g. open space, community facilities, sustainable transport), or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.

The Neighbourhood Portion amount collected up until 31/03/26 for Blean parish is £24,273.51, from the development CA/24/02024 Land At Blean Common.

It is strongly encouraged to agree priorities for CIL parish spending in consultation with the community and encourage discussion with Canterbury City Council to check that CIL can be spent as proposed.

Lastly, as BPC have received CIL funding in this financial year 2026/2027, BPC will be required to produce and publish a report on CIL receipts and spend by 31st December following that financial year (Dec 2027). The funds must be spent within 5 years.

## **5. PLANNING REPORT**

No new applications or decisions by CCC for June.

### **Appeals**

**Appeal Ref: APP/J2210/W/23/3332825**

**24 School Lane**

**Retrospective application for single-storey detached agricultural storage.**

**Appeal DISMISSED.**

**Appeal Reference: APP/J2210/X/26/3378139**

**Application for lawful development certificate for existing use of agricultural land as residential garden - Lyndale, 24 School Lane, Blean, Kent, CT2 9JA**

**Decision 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – WAS NOT LAWFUL.**

**Appeal Start 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2531

**5.1 Update: 25/02369 – 140 Blean Common – application for car wash.** No update from CCC Planning. Ward Cllr. Smith will look into it and report back.

**5.2 Update: Blean Common Development.**

The estate and showhouse are now open.

**5.3 Update: Save the Blean.**

The Chairs of Blean, Hackington and Harbledown and Rough Common are to meet for a discussion. The petition from Save the Blean of over 3,000 signatures has been handed in to the University. There are a couple of engagement activities with walks on 21<sup>st</sup> June and one in September.

It was agreed by all Cllrs. present that no funds from Blean can be set aside until Save the Blean can present some figures.

## 6. Reports from Ward Cllrs:

### **6.1 County and Ward Cllr. Ricketts:**

#### **CCC**

Cllr. Ricketts reported that there had been the first meeting of the new Full Council.

Cllr. Smith is back as Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee.

Cllr. Ricketts listed the committees he is on.

He spoke of the Parish Engagement meeting in which the Local Government Review was discussed which could mean extending parish boundaries and merging parishes.

#### **KCC**

Cllr. Ricketts spoke of the introduction of prayers and singing of the National Anthem at meetings.

He is on the Adult Social Care Committee.

He also spoke of the recent water issues in the district and recommended keeping water available.

Also, that there has been some discussion about some part time fire stations could be closed.

### **6.2 Ward Cllr. Smith:**

Nothing further to add only that he had had a chat with the new CCC Planning Committee Chairman.

## 7. Reports and Updates: Reports circulated to Cllrs prior to meeting)

### **7.1 Village Hall Report:** - Cllr. Russell:

The annual fete is due to take place on 27<sup>th</sup> June and, as always, volunteers are needed to help.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2532

Classes and hirers continue well with a new Physio and Fitness class for the 60+ on Tuesday afternoons and a new Broadway Boogie dance class on Thursday evenings.

### **8.2 N.H.W:**

All relevant reports are circulated to Cllrs. weekly.

### **8.3 Footpath Report: Cllr. Samuelson.**

All footpaths between Blean and Tyler Hill are fairly clear.

### **8.4 Highways Report: Cllr Jeffers.**

The A299 will be closed overnight for carriageway repairs from 1<sup>st</sup> July.

### **8.5 Speedwatch Report: Cllr. Russell and Cllr. Mohan:**

Cllr. Russell has been on the Speedwatch website and she is still a co-ordinator. Cllr. Mohan will have a look at what he needs to do to register and David Gammon said he is still willing to be in the team. More volunteers are needed to operate the sessions.

### **8.6 Clerks Report.**

#### **June Report**

#### **Recreation Ground**

The play equipment report has been received from Wicksteed leisure Ltd following the annual inspection.

The Annual Tree Survey had been carried out by Lushlands Ltd on 10<sup>th</sup> June – awaiting the report. Meadow Grange have planted the 5 large planters and 3 small planters with summer bedding and weeded the beds outside the shops.

#### **Faults Reported:**

Dead trees outside shops reported to Landlord 1/8/25 – **response received.**

**CB18 – Overgrown vegetation and blocked drainage - Ref: 251014820 – Awaiting Allocation.**

**CB14 – Fallen Tree – Ref: 251227405 – Awaiting Allocation.**

**CB7 – Ruts in pathway Ref: 260419264 – Awaiting Allocation. This issue with Monkey Court has also been raised with South East Water and the RSPB Reserve Manager.**

#### **Correspondence Circulated:**

**KALC Canterbury Area Committee - AGM Friday 22nd May 2026 at 6.30pm – Chartham Village Hall.**

**KALC Canterbury Area Committee - Draft AGM Minutes 22 May 2026.**

**KALC Canterbury Area Committee - Last Call for Dog Fouling Signage.**

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2533

**Virtual KCC Road Safety & Active Travel Group (RSATG) Seminar** - The seminar will be held on Thursday 9 July 2026 on MS Teams. The presentations will start promptly at 09.30am and all Clerks and Parish Councillors are welcome.

**CPRE** Your latest update on our countryside.

**Kent ACRE** - current crowdfunding campaign to secure a permanent Village Hall Advisor and associated start-up costs.

**Broad Oak Water Stakeholder Advisory Group** – meeting notes and slides from 29 April 2026 meeting.

**KALC** – Training Bulletin.

**Kent Ramblers:** Meeting for Footpath Volunteers - Lenham Community Centre, ME17 2QT, on Thursday 18 June.

**KALC NEWS JUNE 2026**

**RACE** - Rural Housing Week Seminar - 7th July

**CCC - Parish Forum – LGR** – Online session will be held at 6pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

## **Consultations**

**Community Governance review:** you can provide your representations by emailing your comments to [consultations@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:consultations@canterbury.gov.uk). **This consultation closes on Sunday 5 July 2026.**

## **A290 St Dunstan's Street and Station Road West, Canterbury - Highway Improvement Scheme**

KCC would like to hear your views on proposed highway safety improvements to the St Dunstan's Street (A290) and Station Road West junction in Canterbury. The aim is to improve road safety by relocating the existing zebra crossing on Station Road West, to provide a safe and convenient place to cross the road. They are also looking to remove the buff-coloured surfacing on St Dunstan's Street to make the white mini-roundabout more visible.

Please visit: [www.kent.gov.uk/stationroadwestcrossing](http://www.kent.gov.uk/stationroadwestcrossing) to find out more and to complete the questionnaire. You can also view and comment on the Traffic Regulation Order for the proposed re-positioning of the double yellow lines. Please note the consultation closes on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2026,

## **9. Matters raised by the Public:**

It was raised that the 30mph sign at the top of Honey Hill has spun around 90deg.

Also raised was the question of what % is affordable housing in the Fernham Homes development. The matter of red markings being put on the A290 was mentioned but Cllr. Ricketts said KCC won't allow the red surfacing now but he will ask again to confirm.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2534

**10. Matters to be discussed and updates on pending projects:** (Any relevant papers circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting)

**10.1 Update: BPC Highway Improvement Plan.**

Cllr. Samuelson will work on this over the summer.

**10.2 To Discuss: Future of the Royal Oak Pub.**

Cllr. Mohan said he has spoken to others who are knowledgeable in working on registering Community assets and they are assembling a map. He and Cllr. Russell have spoken to the landlord of the Royal Oak about submitting it as a Community Asset. It was suggested that perhaps The Hare should be included as well.

**10.3 Update: Replacement of the wooden seat on the recreation ground.**

The seat has not been ordered yet as we are waiting to order the two new replacement seats for The Green as well when the grant funding is received from CCC.

**10.4 To Discuss: Community Governance Review (CGR) Change of Parish Boundaries/Merging and Grouping of Parish Councils'**

Cllr. Hutt had attended the CCC Parish Engagement meeting at which CGR was discussed. He said it was a very useful meeting with suggestions being made about changing parish boundaries and/or parish councils merging. After discussion Cllrs. suggested the proposal to extend the Blean parish boundary up to Whitstable roundabout/A299. It was also thought best that Blean does not merge with any other Parish Council.

Cllr. Hutt said that these suggestions have to be put forward for phase 1 of the CGR before they can be extended to Phase 2. Closing date for comments is 5<sup>th</sup> July.

**10.5 To Discuss: Wicksteeds Annual Play Equipment Report.**

The report had been circulated, and it was noted that the main issues were with the wooden structures and pieces of equipment. It was agreed that the medium priority issues are looked at and dealt with.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2535

### **11. Councillors' Reports.**

**11.1 Cllr. Russell** asked about if there was any update on the 'Dog Poo' notices. The notices designed by the local Scout/Cub group have been presented to CCC and are awaiting approval.

**11.2 Cllr. Mohan** reported that there is a 'Save the Blean' meeting next week and he will share the information to Cllrs. regarding the cultural walks.

He had attended the Swing Riots event at Mount Ephraim which, he said, was a really good event With approx. 400 people in attendance.

He spoke about the celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Swing Riots which is coming up in 2030.

### **12. Any Other Business for discussion at the Parish Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July.**

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.54.**

**Dates of forthcoming Parish Council meetings in the coming year, unless for any reason they have to be changed.**

**13<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> September, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 9<sup>th</sup> November and 14<sup>th</sup> December.**

**These Minutes remain as draft minutes until approved by the Parish Council at the next meeting.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_