

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

### Sheet 2451

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

**Also present:** County and Ward Cllr. A. Ricketts; Ward Cllr. S. Jupe and three members of the public including Sean Mohan who was to be co-opted onto the Parish Council and Akela of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Whitstable Sea Scouts, Cubs and Beavers who was to give a talk and presentation.

#### **1. Apologies for Absence.**

Ward Cllr. D Smith – away.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **2. Resignation of Cllr. King.**

Cllr. King had forwarded his resignation to the clerk which was received by all Councillors present. There was a discussion on recognising the work he had done, both on the Parish Council and in the village, over a great number of years.

#### **3. Co-option of Councillor.**

Sean Mohan was put forward to be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. Hayden; SECONDED by Cllr. Samuelson and all Councillors present AGREED.**

Cllr. Mohan signed the Acceptance of Office form counter-signed by the clerk.

D.P.I. form will be applied for from CCC to be completed and returned to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

The Chairman and all present welcomed Cllr. Mohan onto the Parish Council.

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

No changes were declared.

#### **5. To Approve: Minutes of the last Meeting: of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025.**

It was noted that Cllr. Jeffers had not stated: 'Large volume of traffic' in the **11.4 Highways Report.**

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2452

The Minutes were **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Samuelson; **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hutt and **APPROVED** by all **Members present**. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **6. Presentation by Akela of 2<sup>nd</sup> Whitstable Sea Scouts, Cubs and Beavers.**

Akela spoke of the work that the Beavers and cubs do in the community and the places they visit and adventures they have.

They are looking to do an Environmental Project of planting trees in Keirs Meadow and will be exploring grants to help with this project.

Akela spoke of the need for volunteers for the group and said they will be litter-picking at Blean village fete on 28<sup>th</sup> June.

The Parish Council were supportive of the project and the Chairman thanked Akela for her interesting presentation.

### **7. Finance:**

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

DD	Lili Waste Services	Waste Collection June	£149.34 (Vat £24.89)
Bacs	Mr K Waddington	Handyman Wages May	£260.40
Bacs	Mrs D Horswell	Clerk Salary May	£885.13
Bacs	HMRC	PAYE & NIC May	£354.38
DD	XLN	Telephone & Broadband June	£108.36 (Vat £18.06)
DD	HugoFox	Monthly Website Charge	£11.99
	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Charge	£6.00
Bacs	BVHMC	Hall Hire June	£24.00
Bacs	Dean & Chapter	Annual Fee - Storage of BPC Archives	£31.50 (Vat £5.25)
Bacs	Meadow Grange	Plant 5 planters with summer bedding	£141.00 (Vat £23.50)

**Total Paid Out: £1,972.10**

**Bank Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025 - Current Account £59,102.44\***

*(This does not include all the outgoing and incoming transactions in this banking report).*

**\*Includes remainder of S106 money of £2,350.68 to be spent on play equipment maintenance.**

**PROPOSED** by Cllr. Akers; **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hayden and all Cllrs. present **APPROVED** the bank payments.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2453

Note: The AGAR forms have been sent to Mazars for External Audit and the documents and Exercise of Public Rights published on the BPC website and the Parish Council noticeboard outside the office.

**8. Planning:** (Planning Report for Discussion circulated to Cllrs. Prior to the meeting)

### Planning Applications:

**25/00831** - Change of use of convent to 5 dwellings together with detached two-storey dwelling following demolition of existing garage - **Monte Bre, 5 Whitstable Road.**

**Blean Parish Council raise concerns that the proposed dwellings' gardens are limited in size for family sized dwellings with plot 3's garden being 5.67m in width, plot 2's garden 6.5m deep by 5.5m wide and plot 6's garden for a 3 bed unit 7.8m deep by 6.9m wide. Furthermore, the garden to plot 4 is very small, an odd shape and is not private.**

### Decisions by CCC:

**25/00574** - T.P.O. no 26 1990 - T1 - Oak tree located in rear garden - 2m reduction. - **127 Blean Common – GRANTED**

**25/00573** - T.P.O. no 26/1990, T1-Ash Tree, Reduce tree by 4m to previous points located in the rear garden - **125 Blean Common – GRANTED**

**25/00584** - Single-storey side extension with dormers to front elevation following the demolition of existing garage - **Hollydene, Pean Hill – GRANTED**

### Appeals

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

**24 School Lane**

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

**Awaiting Decision.**

### **8.1 Update on Blean Common Development.**

Fernham Homes have delivered letters to residents explaining the timetable of works and when work is due to start.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## **Sheet 2454**

Cllr. Jeffers has written to CCC for a second time regarding the protection of the trees on the frontage and to ensure that the developer adheres to the terms but has not received a reply. Ward Cllr. Ricketts said that he will look into it.

### **9. Reports from Ward Cllrs and County Cllr.**

#### **9.1 County Cllr. Ricketts:**

Not much to report as has not been to a committee meeting yet although has had meetings with officers.

Cllr. Ricketts has the Highway Improvement Plans (HIP) from Parish Councils and will put them into one document. Cllrs. brought to his attention that, on BPC's HIP, the Tyler Hill Road/Crab & Winkle Way crossover has still not been successfully completed. The red road surface which was originally there to warn motorists of cyclists and pedestrians crossing, was covered up by re-surfacing and never reinstated, but as the surface is wearing away the red surface is showing through.

#### **9.2 Ward Cllr. Ricketts:**

Reported on the new timetable for the Local Plan with the consultation coming out in the Autumn and the Planning Inspectors report being published at the end of next year. He said that more brown sites have been put forward.

#### **9.3 Ward Cllr. Jupe:**

Cllr. Jupe reported on her first duties as Sheriff which she is thoroughly enjoying. She has attended a meeting on the standards of the bin collections in the area. She reported that she is taking over as the Chair of Blean Village Hall.

## **10. Reports and Updates:**

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

BVHC Meeting Monday 2 June 2025

The Hall is very busy with the past two months having been the busiest yet for hall enquiries both from prospective private hirers and potential new regular groups with May seeing the highest number of bookings since 2019!

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## **Sheet 2455**

### **10.2 N.H.W:**

All relevant reports are circulated to Cllrs. weekly.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

### **10.5 Speedwatch Report: Cllr. Akers and Cllr. Russell.**

Cllr. Akers reported that a Speedwatch session had been carried out the previous Saturday when 342 vehicles were recorded with 4 exceeding 35mph and one not being the correct registration number.

More volunteers are needed as with no Speedwatch there will be no Police enforcement.

### **10.6 Clerks Report.**

#### **Recreation Ground & Nature Reserve**

Work to be carried out on the play equipment as per Inspection Report. The next cut of the grass will be done in time for the fete.

Recreation Ground hedge and three footpaths have been cut.

Tree survey has been completed – discussion on findings.

#### **Correspondence Circulated:**

**CCC** - Chestfield Neighbourhood Area Boundary Designation

**CCC** Event - Give It A Go '25 – 12<sup>th</sup> July at Canterbury RFC

**KALC** – Training Bulletins

**Blean Woods Articles** from Michael Walter.

**Kent PCC's** Spring Newsletter.

**Save The Blean** BioPark and financial statement re: your donation.

Road Safety & Active Travel Group Newsletter.

**KALC** Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2pm, at Aylesford Community Centre.

**KALC** - Chairmans' Forum 22nd July 2025.

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## Sheet 2456

**Free local event for farmers in the Blean area** on Friday, 13th June at Hernehill Village Hall. We would love to have a Blean parish councillor attend the event, especially someone close to Keir's Meadow Nature Reserve.

**CCC** - Potential locations for tree planting.

**CCC** - Draft Consultation and Engagement Strategy: update and thank you.

**KALC News** - June 2025

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

**11.1** Terry Thompson addressed the Parish Council regarding a project that he is promoting which is a proposal to put The Blean into the National Landscapes. He gave a rough outline and proposal which needs support from Parish Councils and from the three Borough Councils of Ashford, Swale and Canterbury.

**11.2** David Gammon commented on the 20mph limit at St. Stephens.

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

### **12.1 Update: Change of Status of the green lane C & W Way.**

There is no further update.

### **12.2 Update: Donation of Bench by a resident for the Nature Reserve (Keirs Meadow).**

This is to be installed shortly by Meadow Grange.

### **12.3 To Discuss: Work to be done on trees following Annual Tree Survey.**

The findings of the survey has been circulated to Cllrs. and it was noted that, although nothing major, there were a few minor works to be carried out. It was agreed to contact Goodfellers to carry out the work.

### **12.4 To Discuss: CCC 2026/2027 Parish Capital Grants. Open from 1/7 to 28/10.**

This was discussed and it was agreed to find out costings to replace the seats on The Green with recycled plastic ones similar to the benches on the recreation ground.

### **13. Councillors' Reports:**

#### **13.1 Cllr. Hutt reported:**

The café in TH Road parade of shops is now open

# BLEAN PARISH COUNCIL



## **Sheet 2457**

A car ended up in the ditch on Pean Hill.

A Pizza truck is to be in The Hare car park on certain days.

There is a Broad Oak Advisory Group meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> June in Broad Oak village hall.

**15. Any Other Business for discussion at the next meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July.**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.10.**

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

**14<sup>th</sup> July**

**8<sup>th</sup> September**

**13<sup>th</sup> October**

**10<sup>th</sup> November**

**8<sup>th</sup> December.**

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

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_