



KENNETT PARISH COUNCIL

3 Feast Close, Fordham, Ely, Cambs, CB7 5PH

Email: clerk@kennett-pc.gov.uk

MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th May 2025 at 7.45pm
in The Pavilion, Kennett Playing Fields, Kennett

PRESENT: Cllr A French – Chairman
Cllr F Mclachlan – Vice Chairman
Cllr R Swanson
Cllr T Foddy
Cllr D Watson
Cllr M Hillyer
Cllr S Baxter – Apologies

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs S Field – Clerk
DCllr K Pettit – ECDC

FC25/26.001 **Chairman's Welcome and Open Forum**
The Chairman welcomed all those present.

FC25/26.002 **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr S Baxter – Apologies – Accepted.

FC25/26.003 **Declarations of Interest**
Standing Declarations of Interests:
Cllr AF – Member CLT
Cllr DW – Member CLT, Trustee VHA, PCC
Cllr RS – Trustee and Member CLT, Trustee VHA, PCC, School
Cllr TF – Trustee and Member CLT
Cllr MH – Member CLT
Cllr SB – Member CLT, Trustee VHA
Cllr FMcL – Member CLT

FC25/26.004 The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2025 were agreed as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

FC25/26.005 Confirmation of appointment of Internal Auditor
Following discussion it was AGREED to appoint Mulberry & Co as the Parish Council's Internal Auditors for the financial year ending 31st March 2025 to be further reviewed during the course of the current financial year.

FC25/26.006 Community Land Trust ("CLT") Update

One shared ownership property is currently progressing through the conveyancing stage and it is hoped will be completed soon. The other 2 shared ownership properties are still being advertised with estate agents and it is hoped that buyers will come forward soon.

In respect of the development as a whole, the issue of a large amount of dust being produced and the impact that this was having on a large number of residents of the village was raised. This dust is leaving a film of dust on all items including vehicles, houses and washing. RS agreed to contact someone to ascertain whether a bowser could be deployed to water down the site until such time as it rains.

Sales of non-CLT properties are continuing at a steady pace.

FC25/26.007 Road Safety and Traffic – Update

Following discussion it was agreed that investigations should be undertaken to establish the feasibility of traffic calming measures at both ends of Station Road to be the subject of the LHI bidding round due to commence later in the summer.

FM is continuing to liaise with the Timber group concerning the speed of lorries entering and exiting their depot along Dane Hill Road and would ask again for them to reiterate to the drivers that when exiting the site they should turn left onto Warren Road as opposed to using Dane Hill Road as a 'cut through'.

FC25/26.008 External Forum (District Councillors)

KP thanked the PC for their work during the course of the civic year and for bringing matters to her attention which she will continue to work towards resolving. KP has been in contact with the new County Councillor who has assured her that now that she was in post she will endeavour to attend PC meetings and wished it to be known that she will answer emails and telephone calls.

A mayoral visit is due to be arranged to tour the new development and KP will also arrange for the new Mayor to meet with representatives of the Parish Council at that time.

Following the elections, ECDC are still a 'hung' council with no party in overall control but it was hoped that there will be more cross party working to ensure good outcomes for all residents.

KP undertook to speak to an ECDC officer concerning the play area outside the Village Hall to ascertain whether funds could be applied for to upgrade the facilities for the children. The play area does not belong to the Parish

Council but it is hoped that the PC may be able to apply for funding on behalf of the Village Hall Committee and she will report back in due course.

RS and DW requested KP to liaise with the CCllr to ascertain what could be done about progressing a change in train timetables so that trains stopped at Kennett Station, in particular trains from Bury St Edmunds to Ely. Now that there are more residents in the village this would be advantageous for residents and Greater Anglia insofar as it would be an increase in their revenue if trains stopped at Kennett.

FC25/26.009 External Reports – Parish Councillors
Nothing for this meeting.

FC25/26.010 Financial Matters
The following invoices were presented to the Parish Council for authorisation for payment for the month of May 2025 received at the date of meeting.

Payee	Amount	Narrative	Power
S Field	£275.75	Salary (15hrs x £15.75 p/hr) plus Home Working Allowance £26.00 p/mnth – re calendar month of May 2025	Local Government Act 1972 s111
S Field	£25.26	Printer Ink	Local Government Act 1972 s111
K&M Lighting	£70.00	Street Lighting Maintenance – May 2025	Open Spaces Act s9-s10
TOTAL TO BE EXPENDED	£371.01		

The following amounts have been received into the accounts:

Creditor	Amount	Narrative
Lloyds Bank	£9.10	Interest on Comm Inst Access account
Lloyds Bank	£197.38	Interest on 95 Day Notice High Interest Account (from 1 st April 2025 to 30 th April 2025)
ECDC	£5,250.00	Precept – 1 st Instalment
TOTAL RECEIVED	£338.13	

Meaningful Proportion of CIL in the amount of £7,418.60 expected by the end of May 2025. Not received at time of meeting but notification from ECDC received.

As at the date of the meeting the bank balances were:

Commercial Instant Access: £11,086.02

Community Account:	£22,747.57
90 Day Notice Savings Account:	<u>£75,739.59</u>
 Total Sum of Bank Accounts:	 £109,581.16

It was AGREED that the invoices received be paid by the Clerk at the earliest opportunity.

FC25/26.011 AGAR for Financial Year ending 31st March 2025

The Clerk confirmed that the Internal Audit is taking place at 10.30am on Monday 19th May and the Internal Auditors report along with the finalised Annual Return and Statement of Annual Governance for signature will be provided to the meeting scheduled to take place on 9th June. After acceptance of these documents the Declaration of Exemption will be sent to the External Auditor and the Notice of Public Rights will be advertised stating the dates of between 1st July and 11th August for the public to examine the accounts if requested.

FC25/26.171 Clerk's Update

The Clerk asked all Parish Councillors to check that their Register of Member's Interests were up to date. These can be accessed via the ECDC website.

The flexible warning posts have been ordered and paid for (via Pro Forma invoice) and these are expected to be delivered within the next week.

The scheduled Community Safety Forum being hosted by Fordham Parish Council has now been postponed to later in the year due to lack of confirmation of panel members attendance. The new date will be communicated in due course.

FC25/26.013 Councillors' Forum

Various street signs have been sprayed on (assumed to be youths) and DW undertook to source some appropriate cleaning material and remove said graffiti.

TF raised the issue of over hanging tree branches obscuring signate on Station Road and agreed to deal with this as it was acknowledged that the situation would become a lot worse if not dealt with in a timely manner.

AF raised the issue of the internal board of the village noticeboard requiring replacement and a solution will be investigated.

There is now a Facebook Page (search for Kennett Parish Council) and it was agreed that this should be utilised to spread not only official business but also good news items affecting the village. The Clerk will, as admin for the page, be responsible for posting items sent to her.

Mr D Miles was currently working on a 'fix' for the village hall booking system as the old website facility is now not working and the village hall are losing income from hirers. Mr Miles, RS and the Clerk are working together with Eyelid Production to facilitate a new system as soon as possible.

FC25/26.014 Items for next meeting (to take place on 9th June 2025)

AGAR for ye 31st March 2025

Internal Auditor's Report

Annual Governance Statement

Certificate of Exemption signing

Meeting closed at 9 pm

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Chairman

Dated: