



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 9th June 2025 at 7.45pm
in The Village Hall, Kennett Playing Fields, Kennett

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs S Field – Clerk
CCllr Yannifer Malinowski – CCC
DCllr Julia Huffer – ECDC

FC25/26 **Chairman's Welcome and Open Forum**
The Chairman welcomed all those present.

FC25/26.015 **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr D Watson – Apologies – Accepted.

FC25/26.016 **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

FC25/26.017 The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2025 were agreed as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

FC25/26.018 Internal Auditor Report
The Clerk had previously forwarded the report from the Internal Auditor for the financial year ended 31st March 2025.

Following discussion it was AGREED to accept the Internal Auditor's for the financial year ending 31st March 2025 and this will be published on the website.

FC25/26.019 Annual Governance Statement

The Clerk read the statements contained within the Annual Governance Statement and the Parish Council agreed the statements. This will be published on the website.

FC25/26.020 Accounting Statements

The Clerk had previously supplied the Accounting Statements to all Councillors and this was AGREED as a true record. This will be published on the website.

FC25/26.021 Certificate of Exemption

It was AGREED that the Parish Council qualified for exemption from an interim External Audit Review and the certificate was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. This will be forwarded to the External Auditor (PKF Littlejohn) and published on the website.

FC25/26.022 Confirmation of the setting of dates for the Exercise of Public Rights

In accordance with legislation it was AGREED that the period for the exercise of public rights (whereby the public are invited to inspect the full accounts and papers in respect of the Parish Council's finances) will commence on Tuesday 1st July 2025 and end on Monday 11th August 2025. The notice will be posted in the village noticeboards and published on the website.

FC25/26.023 Community Land Trust ("CLT") Update

Of the 6 CLT properties, 2 are under offer and likely to complete by the end of June 2025.

Ownership and responsibility for the Village Green was anticipated to be transferred to the CLT shortly but this would be minus the 'pond' as there has been issues in respect of water level (lack of). This issue will be addressed by the Developer before ownership and responsibility is transferred.

FC25/26.024 Road Safety and Traffic – Update

A meeting is schedule to take place on 25th June to go through possible works on Station Road. An update will be provided to the next meeting.

Lorry movements are still being monitored and appear to have reduced slightly. A further meeting with the owners of the Timber Yard is due to be held at the end of June and an update will be provided to the next meeting.

FC25/26.025 External Forum (District and County Councillors)

CCLlr Yannifer Malinowski was in attendance and had provided a written report prior to the meeting which is appended to these Minutes at Appendix 1.

CCLlr Malinowski is working through the outstanding issues that had been raised by the Parish Council previously and requested that a full list of matters of concern be sent to her in order for her to progress these on the Parish Council's behalf.

CCLlr Malinowski has been appointed to the Fire Authority and will be scrutinizing battery storage issues/solar farms in general in conjunction with colleagues.

Cllr RS raised the issue of the successful LHI bid works have been, yet again, pushed back and CCLlr Malinowski agreed to look into this on behalf of the PC.

DCllr Huffer updated the meeting in respect of the Local Government Reorganisation which was still being worked on with all Cambridgeshire authorities to formulate proposals which will be submitted to Central Government for a decision to be made. Further updates will be communicated in due course.

FC25/26.026 External Reports – Parish Councillors

Nothing to report to this meeting.

FC25/26.027 Financial Matters

The following invoices were presented to the Parish Council for authorisation for payment for the month of June 2025 received at the date of meeting.

Payee	Amount	Narrative	Power
S Field	£275.75	Clerk's Salary	LGA 1972 s.111
S Field	£28.49	Printer Ink	LGA 1972 s.111
Mulberry Local Authority	£273.00	Internal Audit Fee	LGA 1972 s.111
Eyelid Productions	£100.00	Annual Website Hosting	LGA 1972 s.111
K&M Lighting	£70.00	Street Light Maintenance	Open Spaces 1906 s.10-11
Swanson Landscapes	£354.00	Grass Cutting – May 2025	Open Spaces 1906 s.10-11
Clear Insurance	£643.29	PC Insurance (3 year fixed contract) [this was not agreed and Clerk requested to renew for 1 year only at this time – new invoice requested]	LGA 1972 s.111
Lloyds Bank	£4.25	Bank Charges	LGA 1972 s.111
TOTAL EXPENDED	£1,758.78		

The following amounts have been received into the accounts:

Creditor	Amount	Narrative
Lloyds Bank	£7.59	Interest on Comm Inst Access account
Lloyds Bank	£187.60	Interest on 95 Day Notice High Interest Account (from 1 st May 2025 to 30 th May 2025)
ECDC	£7,418.60	CIL Meaningful Proportion
TOTAL RECEIVED	£7,613.79	

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

Commercial Instant Access: £11,086.02
Community Account: £22,328.37
90 Day Notice Savings Account: £75,927.19

Total Sum of Bank Accounts: £109,341.58

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

FC25/26.028 Clerk's Update

Councillors were reminded that there will be an informal meeting at 9.30am on Wednesday 23rd July with members of the Community Services Team for a walk round the village.

The Clerk updated the PC on the quotation from Clear Insurance for a 3 year fixed contract. Councillors requested that this be changed to a 1 year contract and instructed the Clerk to conduct enquiries in advance of the renewal in 2026 to ascertain if a cheaper quote could be obtained. Clerk to contact Clear Insurance to obtain a new invoice for a 1 year contract.

FC25/26.29 Councillors' Forum

Questions were raised in respect of the Old School and what, if any, plans have been communicated for it's future. It was confirmed that the property is owned by CCC and they will decide on what will happen to it. It was acknowledged that through the work of the PC the trees were now subject to TPOs which secured their future going forward.

A resident had raised concerns about the amount of mosquitoes in the Dane Hill Road area and ECDC's Environmental Health team were investigating as to where they are originating and whether anything could be done to alleviate the issue.

Following the theft of a postbox outside Kennett Cottages last year, a new box had now been installed but was not yet operational.

FC25/26.030 Items for next meeting (to take place on 14th July 2025)
Nothing arising from this meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.06 pm

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Chairman

Dated:

DRAFT

CLLR YANNIFER MALINOWSKI
COUNTY REPORT - JUNE 2025

ONGOING MATTERS:

- **ROADS:** Repainting work being carried out on Ness Road roundabout. I spoke with our Local Highway's Officer, Bradley Southwell about the work and about potholes on the road to ensure they were also addressed. Bradley has now undertaken a site visit to ensure all potholes have been reported. I have raised with Bradley my desire to meet with him and ensure other potholes in Burwell, Fordham and Snailwell have been reported and that those reported are being addressed.
- **ONGOING ISSUES:** I have made enquires with officers about trees in Burwell, vandalism and anti-social behaviour, the Burwell to Fordham and Burwell to Exning Cycleways, Swaffham Prior Greenway and the Swaffham Prior Heat Pump Scheme (along with the road adjacent to the pump itself). All of these matters are still open and I hope to report some progress on them in the near future.
- **FIRE SAFETY:** I am in touch with campaigners involved with Say No to Sunnica and have secured appointment to the Fire Authority in order to scrutinise plans for dealing with potential fire concerns involving the coming solar farm developments in our area and specifically battery storage. I have further meetings scheduled on this matter. Charlotte Cane MP has also been campaigning for improved battery storage safety and we will work together on ensuring residents' concerns including vital safety concerns are addressed.
- **NEW BUS ROUTES:** I am working with the AtoB1102 Group to ensure resident feedback on the T4 and T5 bus routes is listened to and acted on by the Combined Authority. In particular the need for expanded evening and weekend service provision. Please contact me or AtoB1102 directly with any issues raised by parishioners as they are working on submitting as much feedback as possible.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATES:

- **JOINT CQC AND OFSTED RATING FOR SEND:** The SEND Cambridgeshire Local Area Partnership provides services for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). It is jointly commissioned by NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care Board and Cambridgeshire County Council, reflecting their overlapping statutory responsibilities. The inspection in January 2025, reported this month said there was 'Clear and coherent strategy in place' but further improvements were needed.

Strengths included good quality occupational therapy and physiotherapy provision and quick access to these services. However, there were significant delays in producing and reviewing Education Health and Care (EHC) Plans, which were often of variable quality.

Neurodevelopmental assessments for autism and ADHD were also difficult to access due to specialist staffing shortages.'

The Council has committed to a further £920,000 annually to improve EHC plan provision.

- **OFSTED REPORT ON ADULT LEARNING SERVICES:** A recent Ofsted inspection in May 2025 has rated Cambridgeshire County Council's adult learning services as "Good" overall. All areas were rated either "Good" and one was outstanding "Outstanding".

OFSTED noted that learners felt well supported by teachers and curriculums were well designed. It noted that most learners engaged very well with the courses. It noted that "Achievement rates across most courses were consistently high" and that leaders of the service picked contractors for services carefully.

The report identified three areas for improvement: increasing achievement in functional skills maths at levels 1 and 2, improving feedback on accredited courses, and strengthening careers advice and guidance.

- **FIRST FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF NEW COUNCIL:** At the first Full Council, Lucy Nethsingha, Liberal Democrat, was re-elected as Leader of the County Council, and Lorna Dupré, Liberal Democrat, was elected the Deputy Leader of the Council. The new Council consists of a Liberal Democrat majority of 31/61 Councillors.