



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 13th April 2026 at 7.45pm
in The Village Hall, Kennett Playing Fields, Kennett

PRESENT: Cllr A French – Apologies
Cllr F McLachlan
Cllr R Swanson
Cllr D Watson – Apologies
Cllr M Hillyer
Cllr S Baxter – Apologies
Cllr P Nelson

IN ATTENDANCE: DCllr K Pettit – ECDC
Clerk

1 Member of the public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
Nothing for this meeting.

FC25/26.150 Chairman's Welcome and Open Forum

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr F McLachlan, Vice Chair, agreed to chair this meeting. The Chairman welcomed all those present.

FC25/26.151 Apologies for Absence

Cllr A French – Apologies – Accepted.
Cllr D Watson – Apologies – Accepted.
Cllr S Baxter – Apologies – Accepted.

FC25/26.152 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 MH – Member CLT
Cllr SB – Member CLT, Trustee VHA
Cllr FMcL – Member CLT
Cllr PN – Member CLT

FC25/26.153 The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2026 were agreed as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

FC25/26.154 **External Forum – District and County Councillors**

ECDC's element of Council Tax had yet again been frozen.

Two new CIL grant schemes had launched today – The Local Infrastructure Fund and The Inclusive Plan and Open Spaces Fund. Parish Councils are encouraged to apply for funding for schemes and the amount of match funding has now been reduced to 10%. A question was raised as to whether other community organisations would be allowed to apply for funding from these schemes (ie The Village Hall) and DCllr Pettit undertook to find out whether this was possible. It was thought that if The Village Hall were allowed to apply funds could be used to upgrade/improve the play area at the Village Hall.

DCllr Pettit confirmed that the hedge by the Anglian Water pumping station would be cut within the next 2 weeks.

The Community Safety Forum that had originally been planned for May 2026 had been postponed until possibly September 2026 in order to ensure that the maximum number of outside agencies could be present and to ensure that extensive advertising of the event takes place to encourage all residents to attend and ask questions of those agencies attending.

FC25/26.155 Community Land Trust ("CLT") Update

16 further properties are due to be transferred to the CLT in June-September. These will be a mixture of sizes and 11 will be at affordable rent and 5 shared ownership. Once this transfer is completed this will mean that there are 30 properties managed by the CLT.

An initial survey of new tenants had indicated that all were happy with their properties.

In respect of the relief road roadworks it was confirmed that the tarmacing of the lower roundabout was commencing on 16th April 2026 with a view to this being completed by 21st April 2026. The perimeter road would not be open for use until the safety audit had taken place and as yet no timescale had been provided.

The pond on the Green was still causing issues and investigation works were currently being undertaken to ascertain the causes as to why water is not retaining within the pond. The CLT will not be taking ownership of this element until it is "fit for purpose".

FC25/26.156 External Reports – Parish Councillors

Nothing for this meeting.

FC25/26.157 Road Safety and Traffic – Update

No further updates had been received from CCllr Malinowski in respect of signage and the agreement of CCC Highways to the amendments that had been submitted by the Developer for traffic calming. The Clerk was instructed

to email Cllr Malinowski to ascertain the current situation and request that the Parish Council is copied into correspondence in respect of this issue.

Regarding the employment of a lollipop person to assist with the children crossing Cllr Malinowski had indicated that finding people to perform this job was a problem across the county and as such it would be unlikely to happen. The Parish Council are aware of at least one person who would be willing to take on this role and the Clerk was instructed to ascertain the situation with regard to payment/training/insurance etc to move this forward. The people doing this job have been employees of the County Council and clarification is sought as to whether this would be the case if the village were able to identify a suitable person.

An update is still awaited from the County Council officer in respect of using the existing poles for the new MVAS units. Cllr French to be requested to see if there is any further update available.

FC25/26.158 Financial Matters

The following invoices were presented to the Parish Council for payment for the month of April 2026 received at the date of meeting.

Payments requiring Authorisation – April 2026

Payee	Amount	Narrative	Power
S Field	£283.70	Clerk's Salary	LGA 1972 s.111
CAPALC	£330.21	Affiliation Fee 2026	LGA 1972 s.111
Swanson Landscapes	£354.00	Grass Cutting	Open Spaces 1906 s.10-11
K&M Lighting	£70.00	Street Light Maintenance	Open Spaces 1906 s.10-11
SALC	£54.00	Payroll Service (ye 310326)	LGA 1972 s.111
Lloyds Bank	£4.25	Bank Charges	LGA 1972 s.111
TOTAL EXPENDED	£1,096.16		

The following amounts have been received into the accounts:

Creditor	Amount	Narrative
Lloyds Bank	£8.13	Interest on Comm Inst Access account
Lloyds Bank	£178.95	Interest on 95 Day Notice High Interest Account (from 1 st to 31 st March 2026)
TOTAL RECEIVED	£187.08	

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

Commercial Instant Access:	£ 21,201.21
Community Account:	£ 2,380.98
90 Day Notice Savings Account:	<u>£ 77,759.09</u>

Total Sum of Bank Accounts:	£101,341.28
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It was **AGREED** that the invoices received be paid by the Clerk at the earliest opportunity.

It was also **AGREED** that funds (in the sum of £5,000) be transferred from the Commercial Instant Access Account to the Community Account to ensure sufficient funds for payment of outstanding invoices.

FC25/26.159 Clerk's Update

The Clerk had previously updated all Councillors on the cancellation of the proposed Community Safety event which was being organised by Fordham Parish Council due to a lack of response of event participants. It is hoped that this can be rescheduled to later in the year.

FC25/26.160 Councillors' Forum (items for future meetings)

The replacement gates had been ordered and it was hoped that these will have been installed by the time of the next meeting. It was noted that the other gates (from the churchyard into the field) were in need of painting.

Next Parish Council meeting to take place on Monday 11th May 2026 immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council commencing at 7.45pm

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

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Chairman

Dated: