



Alkham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 7th April 2025 at 7:30 pm in Arkham Village Hall

Present: Alkham Parish Councillors: D Barnard (Chairman) S Edwards, T Johns, M Libaert, P Tapsell (Vice Chairman)

In Attendance: Members of the Public .Irene Bowie – Parish Clerk

1. Apologies.

- 1.1 Apologies for absence received and confirmed by the Council Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 75(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence shall be accepted.

Apologies were received from DDC Councillor Hibert.

- 1.2 Declaration of Changes to the Register of Interests. There were none.
- 1.3 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers. There were none.
- 1.4 Requests for Dispensations. There were none.
- 1.5 Declarations of Lobbying. There were none.

2. Public comments and observations. (Maximum 15 minutes)

The meeting will be adjourned to allow members of the public to speak. Individuals may speak for up to three minutes, at the discretion of the Chairman, on agenda items only. The minute book will be closed.

3. Reports from external parties. There were no reports.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3rd of March 2025 were taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Planning:

5.1 To table planning applications received for consideration:

- 5.1.1 TC/25/00041 The Old Rectory Slip Lane Alkham CT15 7DA
T1 - Marocarpa - fell to ground level; T2 - Sycamore - fell to ground level; T3 - Yew - reduce crown by up to 2.5 metres overall; T4 - Beech - reduce to approx 50% in height, retaining lower growth, all situated within a conservation area.
RESOLVED: No objection
- 5.1.2 25/00276 Little Garth Alkham Valley Road Alkham CT15 7BX
Proposal Erection of a first floor rear extension, rear ground floor window replaced with patio doors, and replacement windows.
RESOLVED: No objection
- 5.1.3 LCON/24/00146/D The Old Rectory Slip Lane Alkham Dover Kent CT15 7DA
Discharge of condition 3d - proposed interface pursuant to application 24/00146 Single storey rear extension (existing lean to, glazed porch, WC and part garden wall demolished). Internal works include Remove and insert new partitions, infill existing and form new internal openings on all levels. Remove fitted cupboard from first floor bed 3. Insert staircase to access 2nd floor & erect partitions to form bedroom & bathroom. External works include Replace 1no ground floor window with French doors to south west elevation. Insert 1no window and replace 2no windows to first floor northwest elevation. Insert 1no window to ground and 1no window to first floor northeast elevation.
RESOLVED: No objection
- 5.1.4 LCON/24/00146/B The Old Rectory Slip Lane Alkham Dover Kent CT15 7DA
Discharge of condition 3 b -brick sample, c - sample panel pursuant to application 24/00146 Single storey rear extension (existing lean to, glazed porch, WC and part garden wall demolished). Internal works include Remove and insert new partitions, infill existing and form new internal openings on all levels. Remove fitted cupboard from first floor bed 3. Insert staircase to access 2nd floor & erect partitions to form bedroom & bathroom. External works include Replace 1no ground floor window with French doors to south west elevation. Insert 1no window and replace 2no windows to first floor

northwest elevation. Insert 1no window to ground and 1no window to first floor northeast elevation.

RESOLVED: No objection.

5.2 To Table and Validate Planning Applications, which have been dealt with since the last meeting.

There were none.

5.3 To table decisions by Dover District Council (DDC) since the last meeting.

- 5.3.1 23/00967/A Sunny Bank Alkham Valley Road Alkham Dover Kent CT15 7BX
Non material minor amendment to approved application 23/00967 (Erection of a single storey rear extension, front porch, alterations to windows/doors, replacement roof with 2 dormer windows and rooflights (front porch and side extension to be demolished)) to allow amendments to the gable glazing on the rear (south facing) elevation and omitted doors in lounge to window on rear (south facing) elevation

Approve Non-material AMD

- 5.3.2 24/00332 Land On Corner Of Lockering Lane And Alkham Valley Road Alkham
Erection of 2 detached dwellings, solar panels to roof with garages and associated landscaping and parking

Withdrawn

- 5.3.3 24/00334 Land Adjacent To Upton Cottages Alkham Valley Road Alkham
Erection of 2 detached dwellings with solar panels to roof, garages, associated landscaping, parking and formation of new vehicular access

Withdrawn

5.4 To Table late planning matters:

Members were informed that DDC Planning Enforcement had been contacted regarding works at junction of Slip Lane/Chalksole Green.

6. Finance:

- 6.1 To receive and authorise payments listed on the schedule.

Payee	Description	£
Irene Bowie	Staff Costs	Confidential
HMRC	Staff Costs	Confidential
KALC	Membership 2025/26	375.06
Hugo Fox	Website	287.86
Ionos	Emails	41.40
Harmer	Mowing The Green, Newlyn + Play Inspections	141.60
Action Leisure	Springy Cow + Safergrass Mats	952.80
Trevor Johns	Autospeedwatch Repairs	102.13
Irene Barnard	Union Jack VE Day	90.11

- 6.2 Late Payment Request/s to be discussed for approval and payment.

RESOLVED: Payment to D Barnard £103.14 for repairs to the slide in the play area.

- 6.3 To note that Section 137 expenditure limit for parish and town councils in England for the 2025/26 financial year. The new limit is £11.10 per elector.

- 6.3 To receive any late financial matters. There were no late matters.

7. Parish Council Defibrillators

- 7.1 To confirm the date for Basic Life Support and Defibrillator Training.
The date was confirmed as Saturday 24th of May 2025. It was noted that there were 5 remaining places from the allocation of 12.

- 7.2 To consider the provision of a defibrillator at the Ewell Minnis Telephone Box.

AGREED:

1. **The Chairman would contact a local group of Businesses, The Electric Twelve Club, and request they contact Defibs for Dover directly regarding a donation of £830 toward a defibrillator for the decommissioned BT Box at Ewell Minnis.**
2. **The Parish Council would allow the defibrillator to be sited by Defibs of Dover in the adopted BT Box at Ewell Minnis.**
3. **The Chairman to confirm that the Parish Council would have no liabilities with regards to the defibrillator.**

8. To receive Reports and agree on actions if appropriate.

- 8.1 Chairman's Report. Included in other agenda items.
- 8.2 KALC Area Meeting Alkham Parish Council Representative. No recent meetings.
- 8.3 Clerks Report (on matters not included in other agenda items).
The Clerk reported that communication with the legal department at the Canterbury Diocese regarding the pétanque Pitch had commenced.
- 8.4 Councillors Report (on matters not included in other agenda items). No reports
- 8.6 Flood and Drainage Warden. No reports.
- 8.7 Footpath Warden. No reports.
- 8.8 Village Organisations.
It was noted that the Alkham Village Hall Committee AGM had been held and new people in post.
It was also reported that a profit had been made during the financial year.

9. To receive reports and consider recommendations from the working groups.

- 9.1 Highways Working Group.
Councillor John reported that KCC had not provided an update on the agreed traffic scheme designs.
It was noted that the auto Speedwatch device had been repaired.
- 9.2 Communications and Community Involvement Working Group. No updates.
- 9.3 Parish Plan Evolution and Delivery Working Group. No updates.
- 9.4 Green Spaces and Environment Working Group.
It was reported that the ditch work had been completed and that soil from the clearance would be sprinkled with wildflower seeds.
It was reported that members would be conducting a visual inspection on the trees on parish council owned land and would report back in due course.

RESOLVED:

Councillor Johns would progress with the Chestnut Fencing.

10. To receive the Monthly Playground Inspection Report.

Noted and received.

11. Correspondence:

- 11.1 Pre-Election Period advice in relation to the Kent County Council Elections 1 May 2025
- 11.2 SURVEY - 10 YEAR PLAN FOR THE NHS
- 11.3 Operation Brock deployment
- 11.4 Monitoring Officer Arrangements - 1 April 2025 onwards
- 11.5 Sport England Active Places - 6006126 - ALKHAM VILLAGE GREEN. Clerk and Chairman to action
- All Correspondence was noted.

12. Agenda Items for the next meeting: Tree Survey.

13. Consideration of items to be taken in private (Exclusion of Public and Press):

There are only a few reasons as to why, legally, the public and press can be excluded from a meeting. The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2) states "A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies." It is generally considered acceptable to exclude the press and public if the agenda item relates to the consideration of tenders, leases, purchases of assets, for matters relating to staffing covered by the Data Protection Act and to consider complaints against the council or a code of conduct complaint.

13.1 KALC Community Award.

RESOLVED: A recipient was nominated and agreed unanimously.

13.2 KCC Community Warden referral. It was noted but no further action was agreed.

13.3 DDC Planning Enforcement Update. The Clerk and the Chairman provided an update.

14. Meeting Dates for 2025

12th May, 2nd June, 7th July, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November

12th May Annual Statutory Meeting of the Parish Council

12th May Annual Village Meeting

Councillor Standing Declarations of Interests.

Cllr Trevor Johns:

Chairman of the Alkham Valley Society

Member of the Alkham Community Speedwatch Team

Cllr Catie Webber:

Vice-Chairman of the Alkham Valley Society

Bookings Clerk for the Alkham Village Hall Management Committee Member
of the Alkham Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Paul Tapsell.

Trustee of the Alkham Village Hall (Charity number: 255919)

Cllr Steve Edwards.

Member of the Alkham Valley Society Management Committee Member of
the Alkham Community Speedwatch Team

National rules about pecuniary interests are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and in secondary Legislation made under the Act, in particular The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting, but a record of resolutions made.

There being no further business to be transacted, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Signed on behalf of the Parish Council

Signature:

Date:

Chairman: Please Print.