

Linton Parish Council
The Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting of Linton
Parish Council held in Linton Village Hall on 12th May
2025 at 7:30PM.

Councillors present: Bernard Cresswell
Tony DiMarco
Caroline Richer
Patrick Gerrish
Peter Paterson

Also: Sherrie Babington, Parish Clerk, MBC Cllrs Wales and Clarke.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Cresswell.

1. To elect a chairman.

Cllr DiMarco proposed Cllr Cresswell as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Gerrish and unanimously agreed.

2. To receive the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Cresswell signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Chair.

3. Apologies.

Members who cannot attend a meeting shall tender their apologies to the Parish Clerk prior to the meetings, under Section 85(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 Cllr Burden.

4. To elect a Vice-Chairman.

Cllr Gerrish was proposed as Vice Chairman by Cllr Patterson and seconded by Cllr DiMarco. This was agreed by all present.

5. To appoint Committees, representatives to outside bodies and other appointments.

Representatives for Outside Bodies

Footpaths Officer – Cllr Paterson
Village Hall Representative – Councillor Burden
Tree Warden – Cllr Gerrish
Highways – All Councillors
KALC – All Councillors
Webmaster – Cllr DiMarco and Parish Clerk
Maidstone Police – All Councillors
Allotments Manager – Cllr Gerrish
Playground – All Councillors
Community Liaison – All Councillors
Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Paterson – Lead Councillor
Speed Watch – Cllr Gerrish
Newsletter – Cllr Gerrish
Planning – All Councillors
Linton Archivist – David Sendles
Litter Picks – Cllr Richer

Appointment of:-

Internal Auditor – Martin Thomas & Co
Bankers - Lloyds TSB
External Auditors – Mazars LLP
Insurers - Gallagher
Solicitors – Gulland's

Memberships:-

Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC)
Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)
Information Commissioners Office (ICO)

Committee appointments and amendments were proposed by Cllr Gerrish, seconded by Cllr Cresswell, and agreed by all present.

6. Parish Council Policy Review.

To consider and review the Parish Councils Policies and Risk Register.

It was agreed to defer the review of council policies to the next meeting.

7. Parish Councillor Vacancy.

To consider any applications for the Parish Councillor vacancy.

No applications to consider.

8. Declaration of Interests.

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.

No interests were declared.

To consider any Dispensation requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.

No Dispensations were considered.

9. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to all Members.

These were proposed by Cllr Richer as a true record, seconded by Cllr Cresswell and agreed to by all present.

The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

10. Matters arising from the minutes.

To consider any matters arising, not included on the agenda.

Allotments: The Clerk confirmed that all letters regarding allotment plots had been sent out as agreed.

11. Public Participation.

A resident attended the meeting to speak regarding allotment matters.

There were no issues raised by members of the public.

12. Clerks Report & Correspondence.

The Clerks Report was noted and accepted.

The Clerk confirmed that she was due to attend the KALC Extraordinary General Meeting scheduled for 19th June 2025.

13. Devolution/Community Governance Review.

To receive any updates on Devolution and the Community Governance Review.

An update on Devolution and the MBC Community Governance Review was received.

14. KCC & MBC Ward Councillor Reports.

To received reports from the KCC and Borough Councillors.

Cllr Clarke and Cllr Wales reported on:

- The recent Maidstone Borough Council election results and the new administration.
- Ongoing road closures on Loose Road due to a gas leak. Cllr Wales stated he was keeping residents informed and would aim to have the issue raised at the next Joint Transportation Board meeting.

15. Financial Matters:

a. Financial Statement.

Financial Statement will be circulated in paperwork at PC meeting.

An additional cheque for £61.85 was approved for refreshments for the litter pick.

The financial statement was circulated and approved by members. Proposed by Cllr Cresswell, seconded by Cllr Richer and agreed by all present.

b. 2024/2025 Accounts and AGAR.

It was reported that the 2024/2025 Accounts and AGAR were currently with Internal Auditor and would be presented to the next meeting for consideration and approval ahead of the External Audit.

16. Highways Matters and PROW.

To discuss highway related matters.

No matters were raised.

17. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

25/501245/FULL - 2 Cornwallis Cottages Heath Road Linton Kent ME17 4NR

Extension of existing drop kerb by at least 3 kerbs.

No objections were raised.

b. Planning Decisions.

25/500836/LDCEX

Wares Laceys Lane Linton Kent ME17 4BE

Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) for use of the land as residential garden land.

Application Permitted

25/500636/FULL

The Cherry Patch Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AP

Erection of a two-storey-rear extension and changes to fenestration.
Application Permitted

25/500524/FULL

Ranthers Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AU

Conversion of existing garage roof space to a gym/office with rear dormer and 2no. roof lights to the front, raised sun deck, balustrade and external stairs. (Retrospective)
Application Permitted

25/500219/FULL

Iris House 4 Firmin Close Linton Kent ME17 4XR

Creation of a first floor to existing garage together with insertion of a first-floor rear window and 3 roof lights. Erection of an attached single storey rear extension to existing garage.
Application Permitted

25/500135/SUB

Land At Rankins Farm Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AU

Submission of details pursuant to condition 3 (Landscape Scheme), subject to application
24/503320/FULL.
Application Permitted

25/500136/SUB

Land At Rankins Farm Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AU

Submission of details pursuant to condition 3 (Landscape Scheme), subject to application
24/503321/FULL.
Application Permitted

c. Other Planning Matters.

To consider other planning matters.

BT Kiosk: The Chairman reported that the telephone had been removed from the listed BT kiosk despite planning permission for removal being refused and the kiosk's listed status and location within a conservation area. The Clerk was asked to report the breach to Planning Enforcement.

Action: Clerk to action.

18. Other Reports.

To received reports for the following:

a. Allotments.

Cllr Gerrish confirmed all allotment letters had been sent.

A discussion was held on the type and style of noticeboards for the allotments.

It was agreed that two noticeboards were required: one for general parish council use and one for allotment-specific information.

Action: Cllr Gerrish will research styles and report back at the next meeting.

b. KALC.

No matters were reported.

c. Playground.

Cllr Cresswell reported that the new sign for the play area had been installed.

It was agreed that an article would be placed in the next newsletter to thank the sponsors for supporting the playground renovation.

d. Website.

To consider any matters relating to the Linton Website.

No matters were reported.

e. Speed Watch.

To receive an update regarding Speed Watch.

No matters were raised.

f. Neighbourhood Watch Report.

To receive a report on NHW.

A report was given by Cllr Paterson.

g. Linton Village Hall.

To receive a report regarding the Village Hall.

No matters were raised.

h. Parish Newsletter.

Cllr Gerrish reported that the next edition of the newsletter would be published in June for the summer.

i. Parish Litter pick.

To receive an update on the Litter Pick.

Cllr Richer confirmed the next community litter pick will take place in June.

18. Other Matters and Items for the next Agenda.

Annual Meeting of the Parish: An outline of the Annual Meeting of the Parish was run through by Cllr Cresswell. He reported that a speaker had not been found so he would prepare something. Also, the KALC Community Award recipient would be revealed.

19. Date of next Meeting – Monday 9th June 2025.

The Chairman thanked all members for attending the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.05pm.

Signed_____

(Chairman)

Date_____