

Linton Parish Council
The Minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council held in Linton Village Hall
on Monday 13th October 2025 at 7.30pm

Councillors present: Patricia Burden
Antony DiMarco
Patrick Gerrish
Peter Paterson
Caroline Richer

Also present: Mrs. Sherrie Babington (Parish Clerk)

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Gerrish

1. 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 and accepted from:

- *Cllr Cresswell (personal reasons)*

Apologies were also received from MBC Councillors Wales and Clarke.

2. Declarations of Interest.

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 declarations of interest were made.

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

No dispensations were considered.

3. Parish Councillor Vacancy.

No applications had been received for the councillor vacancy.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th September 2025 were circulated and approved as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr Richer, seconded by Cllr Burden.

Signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising that were not already included elsewhere on the agenda.

6. Public Participation.

No members of the public were present.

7. Clerk's Report & Correspondence.

The Clerk's report was noted.

a) Adoption of BT Kiosk – Update

The Clerk reported that the request to adopt the BT Kiosk in the village had been submitted to BT following the decision taken at the September meeting. Confirmation is awaited from BT and an update will be given once received.

Action: Clerk to update members when BT respond.

b) Parish Conference 2025

The Clerk reminded members that Maidstone Borough Council's Parish Conference is scheduled to take place on 10 November at Maidstone Town Hall. Topics will include Community Governance Review, Local Government Reorganisation, Emergency Planning, and finance updates.

Members who are able to attend to notify the Clerk.

8. Devolution / Community Governance Review.

The Clerk updated members on progress with devolution discussions across Kent. It was reported that Medway, Maidstone and Kent County Council had each put forward differing proposals for governance arrangements. The Government is expected to announce its preferred option in November 2025.

9. KCC & MBC Ward Councillor Reports.

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from the Borough Councillors, therefore no updates were available at this meeting.

10. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated and approved.

Proposed by Cllr DiMarco, seconded by Cllr Richer and agreed by all present.

This was agreed by all present.

b. 2024/2025 Audit Conclusion.

To note the conclusion of the 2024/2025 Audit and the publication of this on the Parish Councils website in line with the Audit Regulations.

11. Highways Matters and PROW.

Members discussed ongoing concerns regarding lorry speeding on Redwall Lane. A near-miss involving a cyclist travelling downhill at 45mph was discussed. Members agreed that action was needed and agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

12. Planning Matters.

a. Planning Applications.

25/503965/FULL - Land at Little Paddocks Stilebridge Lane Linton

Section 73 - Application for variation of condition 12 (to allow delivery of biodiversity net gain through both onsite and off-site measures) pursuant to 24/502990/FULL for - Creation of a single plot for the stationing of 1no. static mobile home for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation on an existing Gypsy and Traveller Site (granted planning ref: 18/502028/FULL).

PC email to MBC

Linton Parish Council notes that the applicant states Biodiversity Net Gain will be achieved via the purchase of off-site biodiversity units/credits. We can find no evidence on the public portal to support or secure this assertion.

Please identify the evidence that supports the applicant's statement or advise where it can be found on the case file. In the absence of such evidence, the Parish Council registers a holding objection at this time.

b. Planning Decisions

25/503822/SUB

Wares Farm Redwall Lane Linton Kent ME17 4BA

Submission of details pursuant to conditions: 4 (noise management plan); and 5 (ecological enhancements) of 25/501132/FULL.

Application Permitted

25/503493/AGRIC

Burford Farm Redwall Lane Linton Kent ME17 4BD

Prior notification for a cold store. For its prior approval to: - Siting, design and external appearance.

Prior Approval Granted

25/503465/AGRIC

Ranters Plantation Stilebridge Lane Linton Kent

Prior notification for the creation of an agricultural irrigation reservoir. For its prior approval to: siting of the excavation or deposit.

Prior Approval Not Required

25/503420/TCA

Linton Village Hall Linton Hill Linton Kent ME17 4AW

Conservation area notification to reduce one yew tree to 3m to allow new growth to form with reduced stress on the decayed basal section to allow stability to remain in the bank and the tree to remain but at a reduced size and safe form for the area

No Objections

c. Other Planning Matters.

There were no other planning matters.

13. Other Reports.

a. Allotments:

Cllr Gerrish reported on the allotments:

Allotment invoices have been issued. Two tenants have given up their plots due to personal circumstances.

He stated that an inspection had identified a small number of plots requiring follow-up and reported that an autumn tidy-up has been arranged for early November.

b. KALC:

No updates were received.

c. Playground:

A safety inspection was noted, with no action necessary.

d. Website:

Cllr DiMarco stated that he was slowly reviewing the website to update out-of-date matters, and that this was ongoing.

e. Speed Watch:

Cllr Gerrish reported that the Speed Watch was inactive while the equipment is serviced.

- f. Neighbourhood Watch:
No matters were reported.
- g. Linton Village Hall:
Cllr Burden reported on the Village Hall.
- h. Parish Newsletter:
Cllr Gerrish stated that he would progress the next newsletter and asked for content from members.
Action: Cllr Gerrish to action.
- i. Parish Litter Pick:
Cllr Richer reported that the next litter pick would take place in December.

14. 2026 Certificates of Appreciation.

To consider the 2026 Certificates of Appreciation.

Members discussed possible recipients. To be agreed at a later meeting.

15. 2026 KALC Award.

Members considered a recipient for this award.

16. Other Matters and Items for the Next Agenda.

No matters were raised.

17. Date of Next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held a week earlier on Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7.30pm in Linton Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Signed: _____
(Chairman)

Date: _____