

KENARDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
meeting held on Tuesday 7th July 2026 at 7.00pm
In the Village Hall

Present:

Parish Cllrs: Cllrs. S McIntyre (SMc), J Whittington (JW), B Hedley (BH), S Tooke
Borough Cllr: 0
KCC Cllr: 0
Neighbourhood Watch: 1
Members of Public: 2
PC: 0
Clerk: A Beach

Item No		ACTION
1379	Apologies & Reasons for Absence Cllr Tooke – Personal matter Cllr Chapman	
1380	Declaration of Councillor' Interests a. To approve or reject any application put to the meeting by the Chairman in respect of Members seeking a dispensation under the Localism Act 2011, section 33. b. Request that Councillors' or any other persons' present declare if they intend to record any of the proceedings using any video or audio recording device or camera	
1381	Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th June 2026. Cllr Whittington proposed these as accurate and Cllr Hedley seconded, unanimously agreed, signed by Cllr McIntyre	
1382	Public Session At this point the Meeting will be adjourned. This session is for the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the agenda. Peter New, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator joined the meeting to present his report, this is available to view by following this link Kent Fire Service Discussion Document mainly covering the proposed closures which is going to consultation.	
1383	Borough Councillor Report Cllr Shilton was unable to attend	
1384	County Councillor Report Cllr Chapman was unable to attend the meeting and his monthly report is available to view by following this link Cllr Chapman - July 2026 Report	

1385	Finance a. <u>Payments</u> <i>Direct Debits</i> Hugofox – Website June - £11.99 Hugofox - Emails June - £11.99 <i>BACS Approved by Cllr McIntyre prior to the meeting</i> P Gregory – Gardening - £40.00 <i>BACS for approval</i> London Hearts – Defibrillator & Cabinet - £1159.20 b. <u>Receipts</u> Deposit account interest (June) - £11.55 Following the above, the current account has a balance of £1356.66 and the business reserve a balance of £15510.28 a working balance of £16866.94 including £5,833 allocated to the proposed play area. Reconciled to the bank statement dated 6th July 2026 To note: Confirmation of bus shelter grant of £1785.00 from KCC has been received and is due for payment on 9th July 2026. This will increase the current account balance to £3141.66	
1386	Matters Arising <u>Location of Litter / Dog Bin</u> Following the initial re-location KPC have received further complaints, Cllr McIntyre having a site meeting with Senior Environment Officer, Elaine Harding tomorrow, 8th July, to see if alternative sites are available. 2 residents attended to explain their concerns full details on APPENDIX 2026/07/01 attached. SMc apologised for the lack of discussion with the residents by either KPC or ABC prior to the relocation and will raise all of the above matters with Elaine Harding, KPC hope an alternative site can be agreed. <i>Post meeting the bin has been moved further up Church Lane away from properties.</i> <i>Following the meeting SMc spoke and emailed the residents, details on APPENDIX 2026/07/01-a</i>	
1387	Village Survey Actions One matter identified for action is the inaccessible footpaths. SMc confirmed these are the responsibility of ABC and we should monitor them and report the problems on and ensure work is completed within a suitable timescale, and escalate to the relevant ABC Director / Assistant Director responsible for this area, currently Tracey Butler / Jo Fox	

1388	Planning <u>Ashford BC Decisions</u> PA/2026/0274 – Stable & Cabin, Legge Farm Lawful development certificate, existing, as holiday let accommodation Granted	
1389	Village Matters - Ongoing <u>Drainage Issues – Appledore Road</u> <u>Replacement Defibrillator</u> The order has been placed with London Hearts for a defibrillator and cabinet for the approved £1,159.20 (£966.00 plus VAT £193.20). The agreed grant applications; KCC Cllr Chapman for £500 and ABC Cllr Shilton £400 have been submitted. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful for a grant from the Police Property Grant, therefore, assuming, local business, CT Auctions donate the promised £250, the funds donated will total £1150, leaving KPC to fund a small amount towards the cost and the installation cost. <u>Designated Green Space & Play Area</u> Due to Government changes to the planning system in March 2026, Local Plans are now required to prepare and adopt plans within a strict 30-month schedule, including mandatory 6-month examination period, previously councils were required to review plans every five years. The changes mean ABC have been forced to stop work on the Local Plan 2042; which they began work on in 2023 and had reached an early public consultation stage. Preparation of a replacement, referred to as the Ashford Local Plan 2043, sites previously submitted cannot automatically be transferred, but we can request that our original request is transferred. The Clerk asked for confirmation whether KPC wish to continue, this was agreed and the transfer requested. <u>Proposed Solar Farm – S106 Proposal (PA/2025/1201)</u> The anticipated date for the decision remains as 30th September 2026 and is designated to go to Committee. Following our contact with Woodchurch PC, they have recently agreed to support KPC and suggested meeting to apply for a Community Benefit Fund is set-up to ensure both villages receive compensation if the Solar Farm is approved. Clerk to contact and suggest 4th August. <u>Lorden Cottages – Litter & Hedge Cutting</u> Further to our original request, the Clerk contacted West Kent Housing Association again, highlighting that KCC can legally carry out the work and recharge owners if their hedges become overgrown. The Housing Officer replied on 1st July stating the residents have once again been reminded of their tenants' responsibilities. <u>Village Caretaking</u> The Wish hedgerow	

1390	Village Hall The clerk has drawn up a simple VH Fire Assessment following the Governments 5-step process as per the legal requirement. Peter New, retired Kent Fire Commander, kindly agreed to advise us and met with the BH and the Clerk, to view please follow this link Fire Risk Assessment - DRAFT to discuss at the September meeting`	
1391	Sustainable Energy & the Environment Nothing to report	
1392	Correspondence <u>Previously emailed</u> KALC – Chief Executive Bulletin – June Newsletter – Training & Weekly Bulletins KALC – Ashford Branch NALC – Chief Executive Bulletins Katie Lam – June in The Weald KCC Highways – Virtual Road Safety & Active Travel Group Seminar, Thursday 9th July at 9.30am via Teams Ashford BC – Changes to Local Plan Procedures Kent Police – Fraud updates	
1393	Future Agenda Items/Items for Information The next meeting will be on 1st September 2026; Cllr Whittington was unsure whether he would be able to attend	

Cllr McIntyre closed the meeting at 9pm

Proposed Dates for 2026

1st September 2026

6th October 2026

3rd November 2026

1st December 2026

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Copy of email with residents' comments

We would like to thank you and the Parish Council for listening to our concerns at this evening's PC meeting.

As requested, we set out below our questions, concerns and objections to the newly sited litter and dog waste bin.

1. As per NALC guidelines on the delivery of services, do the PC accept responsibility for the maintenance of the bin and the area surrounding the bin? That is, is this part of Kenardington PCs remit?
2. If 1 above is accepted, what do the PC propose in order to mitigate the effects of our concerns listed below?
3. Is the bin fire retardant? John Whittington stated that it was but written confirmation would be appreciated, again in light of concerns listed below.

Objections and Concerns

1. Health and safety aspects include -
 - Odours. In our recent hot temperatures, the odours are extremely unpleasant.
 - Refuse collections are too infrequent
 - Vermin. Whilst it is appreciated that the very nature of our rural position means that vermin are present, the addition of an accessible refuse and waste receptacle is an added attraction to vermin and pests including flies and rats.
 - Fire hazard. Regardless of whether the bin is fire retardant or not, the fact that there is a facility for cigarettes and the fact that passing traffic are disposing of domestic waste which may include flammable materials and batteries with a risk of explosion brings an additional risk to vehicles parked, crops in the field, vegetation on the verge and the housing directly opposite.
2. Noise and nuisance.
 - Cars pulling up to deposit domestic waste at all times. Whilst the majority try to keep the noise down there are others who are inconsiderate with loud music and slamming car doors.
 - Visual blight. Not only is the bin in direct line of our property but, since its installation, rubbish has begun to appear around the bin. In addition, the vegetation has begun to encroach on the bin surround (and growing inside if it) which will make access difficult and may well result in people just throwing rubbish at the bin and not in it.
 - Obstruction. The position of the bin makes getting in and out of cars difficult and is also a safety issue when trying to get children in and out of car seats when more than one vehicle is parked. Church Lane is a 60mph speed limit and so when parking cars have to use as much of the cleared area as possible to avoid the edge of the lane. In addition, residents are courteous of avoiding blocking the entrance of the field for farm machinery and equipment. This restricts the area they have to park in.
 - Placing a bin in this location gives the wrong impression that the area is a public parking space.

In conclusion and further to previous emails to ABC and the PC from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], the litter bin was placed opposite our homes without consultation and our objections and concerns are listed above.

We look forward to a quick resolution to this issue.

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Having recently spoken with yourself, Bill and Carol, I can confirm that the Litter Bin will be moved from the lay-by outside your premises and re situated under the oak tree on land between your house and the Caravan Park.

As discussed, you should ideally have received a “heads up” that the bin was going to be situated outside your premises.

I can only apologise for the angst this issue has caused you and your neighbours.

As discussed previously, please find below the answers (in orange) to your questions, following discussions with Elaine Harding Environmental Contracts, Ashford Borough Council (ABC) on 8th July 2026.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

ABC responses to residents’ questions raised, as follows: -

1. The maintenance of the bin is the responsibility of the bin owner; ABC and/or their sub-contractors. The area immediately surrounding the bin is the responsibility of either the land owner or the Parish Council (PC). In this particular case, the PC is willing to take responsibility for maintenance of the immediate surrounding area, for example clearing overgrown nettles obstructing the safe use of the bin. The PC would ask that bin users report such obstructions to the Parish Clerk
2. See below
3. The bin is not fire retardant. However, ABC believe it would be very difficult to set alight the bin. ABC confirm that the current bin is the only available type of bin in the county.

1. Objections & Concerns

- 1.1 To note - the bin would ordinarily have been emptied once a week. This particular issue has stalled the emptying process. Elaine has requested urgent bin emptying, which I understand has since taken place.
- 1.2 See above
- 1.3 Mitigated by more frequent collections
- 1.4 See above

2. Noise & Nuisance

- 2.1 ABC has agreed to move the bin to a location that is away from houses and the lay-by
- 2.2 See above
- 2.3 See above
- 2.4 See above