



MINUTES OF THE ABOVE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN RINGWOULD VILLAGE HALL 14TH APRIL 2025 AT 7PM.

057/25 To record those present and accept any apologies.

Present were Cllr Hogben (Chair), Cllr Wilson, Cllr Selwyn, Cllr Edwards, DDC member Oliver Richardson and Parish Clerk. Apologies received from Cllr Hermer, Cllr Vines, Cllr Bremner DDC member Martin Bates and KCC member Steve Manion.

058/25 To Note any Declarations Pecuniary Interest (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI) or any Voluntary Interests.

Cllr Hogben declared an interest in item 063/25 b) 25/00299

Cllr Selwyn declared an interest in item 063/25 b) 25/00374

059/25 To approve the following minutes:

- a. Ordinary Meeting 10th March 2025

The minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Selwyn and all members voted in favour.

060/25 Open session for members of the public to ask questions on items on the agenda.

(Visitors are welcome to speak on any item on the agenda for up to 3 minutes. This item will last for a maximum of 15 minutes, unless the Chair extends the time allowed.)

None.

061/25 Verbal Reports by District and County Councillors

DDC member Oliver Ricardson reported on the following:

1. KCC Elections

During the period leading up to Polling Day the District Council along with all other local authorities must observe a state of purdah whereby they cannot be seen to make any statements or undertake any actions which would indicate the support of a political party. Hence the number of statements and initiatives which will be taking place over the next few weeks will reflect that position. This state of purdah also relates to the activities of both District and County Councillors who can only report on activities being undertaken by the council and must avoid anything that could be construed as a political statement. Consequently, my report can only contain information this month which complies with these constraints.

2. Roadside littering campaign

Dover District Council (DDC), Veolia UK, National Highways, Port of Dover, DFDS and P&O Ferries are working together to help address the huge amounts of litter discarded on one of the main routes into Dover - with a joint awareness campaign being piloted for the first time. In 2024, Veolia, on behalf of DDC, cleared over 23,000kgs (2.3 tonnes) of litter and debris from the dual carriageway between the Duke of York and Whitfield roundabouts. The Port of Dover attracts 2 million freight vehicles and 1.3 million tourist vehicles each year, all of which use the district's high-speed roads to access the port, and the clearance cost of roadside litter (and related road closures) has a big impact on residents, visitors and taxpayers. Not only does it look unsightly, discarded rubbish can endanger motorists and wildlife too.

Any high-speed road clean-up requires detailed planning to minimise the disruption of road closures and delays to traffic - while ensuring the safety of operatives undertaking this work. The 'We care' campaign - targeting drivers who use the A2 route - will take place over the summer, following a planned clean-up in March.

The six-month campaign will include:



- Planned installation of new 'compactor style' bins with associated signage in the laybys between the Whitfield roundabout and the port.
- Use of National Highways yellow and black signage for litter warnings along the route.
- Displaying posters onboard the ferries and at service stations/fast food restaurants close by.
- Adding the anti-littering campaign messaging to relevant emails and paperwork with ferry passengers who have booked a crossing.
- Including the anti-littering campaign messaging on the information and digital display boards at Dover Port.
- Sharing the campaign messaging through partners' social media channels.
- Providing posters to display for local retailers who would also like to offer

3. Free bus rides

Bus operator Stagecoach is giving away 5,000 free bus rides on its southeast network in April in the hope of encouraging an increase in the use of existing services. While passenger numbers on Britain's bus services are still lower than they were before the pandemic, Stagecoach says it's turned a corner after years of challenges, including driver and skilled engineering vacancy gaps and rising operating costs.

Passengers will need to use the Stagecoach Bus App to claim their free ticket which is available to anyone using a Stagecoach bus in Kent and East Sussex. You then simply tap in the discount code '5000FREE' when purchasing a single ticket on the app. The code gives a 100% discount on the fare – so it's completely free. The bus company confirmed there are 5,000 free rides up for grabs on a first-come, first-served basis, but the offer is limited to one free ride per customer.

Please note that this concession will not apply to the Stagecoach Connect service from Aylesham to Whitfield.

4. Local issues

Nothing to report at present.

062/25 Finance

- To agree payments to be made and ratify those that are completed. To approve the payment schedule for April was proposed by Cllr Hogben seconded by Selwyn and all members voted in favour.

To	Reason	Gross amount	How paid	Vat
A Nigol	Clerks wages March	1048.17	BACS	0.00
A Nigol	Clerks expenses March	124.73	BACS	0.00
HMRC	Employer PAYE	539.63	BACS	0.00
Harrisons	Maintenance works	768.00	BACS	0.00
Harrisons	Grass cutting	1635.00	BACS	0.00
Vision ICT	Lvines email account	12.00	BACS	2.00



KALC	Annual subscription	1123.48	BACS	187.25
Surrey Hill Solicitors	Legal advice	1175.00	BACS	190.00
National Allotment Society	Annual membership	84.00	BACS	14.00
Croner	HR charges	132.44	DD	21.04
Rialtas	Accounts Alpha Annual Licence	243.60	BACS	40.60
BT	One off charges (end of contract)	157.24	DD	26.21
KALC	Planning training	60.00	BACS	10.00
UK Safetystore	Access only sign	51.00	BACS	8.50
HSBC	Bank charges	8.00	DD	0.00

March income:

Field rent 5x 18 = 90.00, Woodland tree sales: 200.00 Sales of water containers: 60.00

Total: 350.00

b. To note reconciliation for March. This item was deferred.

063/25 Planning

a) Noted:

- i) 25/00091 Hilden The Rise Kingsdown CT14 8BE, Erection of a single storey rear extension, and access steps with glass balustrade (existing rear extension and steps to be demolished).
Permission granted.
- ii) 25/00007 Beech Villa Upper Street Kingsdown CT14 8BJ Erection of single storey side extension for use as ancillary annexe, and alterations to external elevations and to first floor side windows (existing side extension, garage and workshop to be demolished).
Permission granted.

- b) To note the applications as listed, consider, and agree any comments to be sent to the District Council.
- 25/00374 6 Jarvist Place, Kingsdown, CT14 8AL Erection of a dwelling (self build)
Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish Council decided to object to the planning application on the following grounds: Over development and unsuitable access particularly during the building phase - as it is a shingle road it suffers badly on that turning with the road being torn up. There is not enough space to turn HGV's. The Parish Council believes that the access to the rear of the garden has not been used for years and would like to know if the owner of 6 Jarvist place



have it on their deeds that they can use this rear entrance as an access to the garden. The Parish Council would need to see proof of this.

If DDC were to grant planning permission the Parish Council would need to see a substantial contribution to the Parish Council for the road to be upgraded prior to building work commencing.

25/00331 Beach Hut Kingsdown Beach Adjacent To, Wellington Parade, Kingsdown, Erection of a beach hut (existing beach hut to be demolished) No comment.

25/00210 Camellia Cottage, 2 Church Lane, Ringwould, Deal. Erection of a single storey rear extension (conservatory demolished) No objection.

25/00234 St Annes, Back Street, Ringwould, Deal. Erection of a two storey with Juliette balcony and single storey rear extensions, rear dormer window, alterations to windows/doors and erection of a detached annexe. The Parish Council decided to object to the planning application under the current plan, overdevelopment and it needs modification. The Parish Council is also concerned on the impact on the next door property regarding light and privacy.

25/00422 8 North Road, Kingsdown, CT14 8AG. Erection of a single storey rear extension and replacement rear door (existing rear extension to be demolished). The Parish Council has no objection as long as it's in line with conservation regulations.

25/00410 Northcote, Northcote Road, Kingsdown, Deal, Erection of a single storey rear extension, insertion of rooflights and erection of two outbuildings for use as office and dojo. No objection.

25/00299 Pumping Station At Junction With Ringwould Road Kingsdown, Ringwould Road, Ringwould, Extension to the existing pumping station to include, switchgear kiosk, installation of a new nitrate removal plant, brine waste and salt saturator tanks with bund/fencing, 3m security fencing, relocation of site gate and existing access road to be widened. The Parish Council decided to object to the planning application on the following grounds:

We understand that providing an adequate and safe water supply for the district is very important and to that end we do not object to the principle of this development. However, we have strong opinions about the design of this plant and mitigation measures required to reduce its impact on the local environment. This is in a prominent location at the bottom of the valley, and in our opinion would detract from the appearance of the landscape. It will have the appearance of an industrial area, rather than something that you would expect to see in the countryside. The site is within the Ripple F3 Landscape Character Area (DDC 2020) which is characterised as: Coherent undulating chalk landscape with an intact agricultural character providing a rural setting for the South Forelands areas of the Kent Downs AONB as well providing rural separation between Deal and Kingsdown. The LCA landscape strategy states: The overall aim is to conserve the rural character of the landscape and sense of place created by the combination of an open rolling arable landscape with small historic villages linked by winding rural lanes and panoramic views from coastal areas, as well as its role as a setting to the Kent Downs AONB. We note that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment concludes that the proposals would have no long term visual impact on the landscape (p60) we find this difficult to accept. The site is not only in Ripple F3 LCA but also has a direct impact on the setting of the Kent Downs National Landscape as it only separated from it by Ringwould Rd. Due to the topography of the area it would be visible from the KDNL. Kingsdown is a lively tourist destination year round and as such we are keen to maintain the rural appeal of its winding country lanes on approach to the village. Such an obtrusive development would detract from this. The letter from DDC to a pre-application submission dated 7th October 2024, also raises serious concerns about its impact on the landscape. It was their suggestion that the main



building be a wooden structure with dark wooden cladding to reduce its impact. We agree with these suggestions, an agricultural barn type building rather than an industrial estate steel building would be more in keeping. We would also suggest that the roof be a dark colour as it would be highly visible driving down Ringwould Rd towards Kingsdown. While the landscaping plan replaces hedges and trees removed to improve the access, and far exceeds the 10% biodiversity net gain we feel that it will be a long time before a hedge planted with whips reaches the level of maturity required to screen and soften this development. We would suggest that more large trees be planted on site. The site would also benefit greatly from a pond. The proposal in its current form fails to comply with the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework with regard to Design, nor Policies PM1 and NE2 of the Dover District Local Plan.

064/25 Management of Trees & Woodland

- a) Update on tree works. Works are now paused and will continue after birds nesting season.
- b) To agree on £100 donation to Trust for Conservation Volunteers towards trees they provided was proposed by Cllr Wilson seconded by Cllr Edwards and all members voted in favour. 650 native woodland trees were given by the trust for free and were planted in different areas in Kingsdown and Ringwould.
- c) Oxney Woods- to discuss installing fresh waymarking posts and discs. Waymarking discs have been ordered and they are on the way.

065/25 Allotments

- a) Update from Cllr Wilson.
The contractor is working on the fencing down the bottom of the allotments.

066/25 Playing Fields

The hedges have been cut back and the gates are open for visitors.

067/25 Neighbourhood Development Plan

- a) Update from Cllr Hogben. The steering group is now working on draft plan, which will be split into the four different areas: transport, housing, community, environment and heritage. Each working group is meeting with Alison Eardley to bring it all together to get ready for DDC to look at the draft plan.
- b) Designating Local Green Spaces. This item was deferred.

068/25 S. 106 Allocations

Cllr Hogben and Clerk had a meeting with DDC open spaces representatives to ask for some more information about the use of funding and what options should the Parish Council consider. To go on May meeting agenda.

069/25 The Land in Kings Close

This item was deferred. To go on May meeting agenda.

070/25 Correspondence

- a) Email from local resident regarding the school parking issues. The Parish Council agreed to ask School if they would consider staggered pick up times and redoing the yellow zig zag lines. Clerk to follow up.
- b) Email from a local resident regarding the bench along Victoria Rd. The Parish Council agreed that the bench needs some paint and the contractor has agreed to do it once he is available.
- c) To discuss and agree on complaint against DDC re farmworkers cottages at dairy farm and decided to support the appeal.
- d) Email regarding the overnight parking near the Zetland. The Parish Council agreed to monitor the situation.



- e) Email from KCC Highways improvement team regarding the double yellows on Upper street.
The Parish Council received an update with the double yellow line aspect of the HIP and unfortunately, these have been deemed not feasible for the following reasons:

Church Cliff/Upper Street - KCC would not typically implement waiting restrictions to aid drivers exiting a private road and as Church Cliff is classed as private, we will not be installing double yellow lines at this location.

Upper Street - adding waiting restrictions near the pub would likely displace the vehicles currently parking there, potentially causing issues further along the road as there would be reduced on road parking. No reports from emergency services indicating difficulties navigating this road can be found, these are usually reported along with refuse vehicles and busses (if applicable) that have difficulty. The crash history for this area was examined and identified one recorded incident. However, this incident wouldn't have been prevented by waiting restrictions. Given the limited crash history at this location, there does not appear to be sufficient justification for installing waiting restrictions. The Parish Council agreed to look into alternative options.

071/25 Matters of General Interest

(For councillors to highlight issues that do not require a decision or for items on the next agenda.)

Cllr Selwyn would like to have discussion to explore possible options for Del's Newsagent in Kingsdown.

Cllr Edwards asked if we could have quotes for SIDDs lights.

072/25 To discuss APM layout, agree on a date and location

The date has been confirmed 2nd June 7:00pm-9:00pm in Ringwould Village Hall. To spend up to £50 on refreshments for Annual Parish Meeting was proposed by Cllr Buxton seconded by Cllr Sheppard and all members voted on favour. Clerk to follow up and confirm the details with speakers.

073/25 To agree date of next meeting.

Annual General Meeting on 12th May with starts at 7:00 pm followed by the monthly meeting at 7.15 pm In Kingsdown School.

074/25 Confidential Matters – To exclude the public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, and Section 12a of the Local Government Act 1972, due to the sensitivity of the items to be discussed.

Meeting closed at 21:00

A Nigol
Parish Clerk