



BEKESBOURNE-WITH-PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th January 2025 at 7:30pm
Bekesbourne Village Hall.

Minutes to be formally agreed at the next meeting.

1. Those Present

Parish Cllr David Sladden (Chairman),
Parish Cllr Mark Rhodes (Vice Chair),
Parish Cllr Christien Sladden
Parish Cllr Joanne Watt

Parish Cllr Andrea Nicholson
Parish Cllr Christine Ash
Parish Cllr Caroline Tuffey
Parish Cllr mary Evans

Mrs N. Purcell (Clerk/Finance Officer to the council)

There was 2 members of the public present.

2. Apologies for Absence

None
2

3. Declarations of councillor interests relevant to this agenda

Cllrs M.Rhodes and C. Tuffey declared an interest in item 13 as allotment tenants2-.

4. To confirm minutes of the previous meeting (*held on 9th September 2024, 16th December 2024*)

Resolved: It was proposed by C. Sladden and seconded by C. Ash that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2024 are a TRUE and ACCURATE record.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

It was noted that Cllr C. Ash was incorrectly noted as absent under apologies for the December meeting.

Resolved: It was proposed by M.Rhodes and seconded by C. Ash that, with the note that C. Ash was in fact present at the ,meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2024 are a TRUE and 3ACCURATE record.

Outcome: all in favour, motion carried.

5. To report any matters arising (*from the previous meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda*)

A. Nicholson noted that St Mary's church will be closed for the entirety of the extension works.

The meeting is suspended for up to 15 minutes to allow discussion with members of the electorate of the parish of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne present at the meeting.

6. Public representation (*notified to the clerk in advance of the meeting, agenda items only*)

None

Parish Council meeting resumes

7. External Reports

7.1 County Councillor Reports

Cllr Sole gave an update as noted in Appendix A

7.2 City Councillor Reports

Report received from Cllr Castle and circulated as part of the agenda pack.

Parish Council meeting resumes

8. Any s101 Delegated Authority items to be noted by council.-

None

9. Any updates from representatives from external groups (*if any*)

9.1 Recreation Ground Management Committee

Working on ways of managing the vehicular access on the grounds as the ground is soft and it is causing damage. This could be somehtinf the S106 funding could contribute toward.

9.2 Village Hall Management Committee

Hall operation is going smoothly, new regular hirers enquiring and weekends are pretty busy.

9.3 The River Group

Not much to update at present. The ground water levels are lower than last years which is good for minimising flood risk.

9.4 KALC

No updates.

9.5 A257 Traffic Management Group

No updates.

The Parish is still looking for a new representative for this group.

10. Highways Matters

10.1 Any updates

No updates

10.2 20mph at Patrixbourne

No update as yet.

10.3 Speedwatch

Awaiting training date.

11. Finance Matters

11.1 To note January payment schedule & approve any new payments.

January Payment Schedule

Payments Made in December as per financial regulations.

Date	Type	Payment	Amount
16 th December 24	DD	Hugofox	£23.99
30 th December 24	SO	Clerk September Salary	As per salary Sheet

Payments Due for Approval:

Recipient	Detail	Amount
Forvis Mazars	2023/24 External Audit Fees	£252.00

Resolved: it was proposed by C. Ash and seconded by C. Tuffey to approve the December Payment schedule and all new payments.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

11.2 S106 Funding (update)

Ongoing. Awaiting update from RGMC once they have had the opportunity to hold a meeting.

12. Planning

12.1 To Receive Updates on previous consultee responses

None

12.2 To Discuss any new applications

Application: CA/24/02229

Location: 3 Downside Villas Adisham Road Bokesbourne Kent CT4 5HA

Details: Retrospective application for a single-storey rear outbuilding

Resolved: It was proposed by C. Sladden and seconded by m. Rhodes to support this application.

Outcome: All in Favour, motion carried.

Application No: CA/25/00012

Proposal: Single-storey front extension together with decking to rear following the demolition of front and rear porches.

Location: Clarence Bungalow, Aerodrome Road, Bokesbourne, Kent CT45EX

Resolved: It was proposed by C. Sladden and seconded by J. Watt to submit no objection to this application, but note that there are slight concerns over the building line.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

13. Allotments

13.1 Any Updates

None

13.2 Any New Matters

None

14. Aspinall Close- Garages

Following the reporting of Fly Tipping, and general issues regarding the Garages at Aspinall/Cramner Close has been reported to Southern Housing. The following response was received from Southern Housing:

“ Thanks for getting in touch. I’ve passed this to the relevant teams who have confirmed these garages are not owned by Southern Housing and are owned by Canterbury City Council. “

15. Staff Matters (Confidential to be held under the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960)

Resolved: Under the terms of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960, by virtue of the business to be transacted involving Staff matters, it was proposed by DC. Ash and Seconded by C. Tuffey to enter into a closed session.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

The meeting entered into a closed session at 20:17

Resolved: It was proposed by C. Ash and seconded by C. Tuffey thatL:

- The Clerk's salary be adjusted in accordance with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) agreed pay award, backdated to 1st April 2024. The back payment due from 1st April 2024 be calculated and paid at the earliest opportunity.
- The adjustment reflects the applicable SCP on the NALC salary scale.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

He closed session ended 20:22

16. Next Meeting Date

Monday 17th March 2025.

Meeting closed 20:23

It was agreed that these minutes are a TRUE and ACCURATE record:

Signed.....(Chairperson)

Date.....

Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council January 2025 Meeting Appendices.

Appendix A

Cllr Mike Sole- Kent County Council

Devolution of Councils

At the end of last year, a proposal was announced to reorganise local government structures in Kent. Leaders of Kent County Council (KCC) and Medway Council expressed interest in fast-tracking this devolution process. As a result, the scheduled KCC elections may be deferred.

Under the proposed changes, by May 2026, voters would elect a mayor instead of county councillors. City councils would be dissolved, and Kent would be governed by three or four new unitary authorities. This proposal is being brought to Cabinet for consideration and would require a public consultation. Smaller parish councils may also be required to merge. A new unitary authority could be elected as part of this reorganisation.

End of appendices.