



BEKESBOURNE-WITH-PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 at 7:30pm Bekesbourne Pavillion.

Minutes to be formally agreed at the next meeting.

1. Those Present

Parish Cllr David Sladden (Chair)
Parish Cllr Christine Sladden (Vice Chair)
Parish Cllr Andrea Nicholson
Parish Cllr Christine Ash
Parish Cllr Joanne Watt
Parish Cllr Mark Rhodes
Parish Cllr Mary Evans

Mrs V.S. Illsley (Clerk/Finance Officer to the council)

There were 2 Members of the public present and Canterbury City Councillor – Lee Castle

2. Apologies for Absence

Parish Cllr C. Tuffey

3. Declarations of Councillor interests relevant to this agenda

Cllr M. Rhodes is an allotment tenant.

19:31 The meeting was suspended for 16 minutes to allow discussion with members of the electorate of the parish of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne present at the meeting.

4. Public representation

G. Waters, spoke regarding lighting concerns at Highland Court farm.
L. Turner, resident, spoke regarding lighting concerns and social media.(Please see appendix A.)

5. External Reports

5.1 County Councillor Reports

Cllr Sole's monthly report was received and circulated to councillors ahead of the meeting.

5.2 City Councillor Reports

Cllr Castle's monthly report was received and circulated to councillors ahead of the meeting. Cllr Castle sent his apologies, due to work commitments.

19:47 Parish Council meeting resumes

6. To Confirm minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr D. Sladden and seconded by Cllr A. Nicholson that minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025 are TRUE and ACCURATE record.

Outcome: 2 votes proposed, 2 in favour, motion carried.

Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr D. Sladden and seconded by Cllr C. Ash that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th November 2025 are TRUE and ACCURATE record.

Outcome: 2 votes proposed, 2 in favour, motion carried.

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

None

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

None to report in December.

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

9.1 Recreation Ground Management Committee

No update.

9.2 Village Hall Management Committee

No update.

9.3 The River Group

No update.

9.4 KALC

No updates.

9.5 A257 Traffic Management Group

No update.

10. Highways Matters

10.1 20mph limit at Patrixbourne

The Clerk advised that we have received correspondence from the new KCC Community Engagement Contact and that the 20mph scheme has been passed over from the predecessor. They will be in contact with an update.

10.2 Highways Improvement Plan

Council discussed and made amendments to Highways improvement Plan, for submission to Kent County Council.

Cllr C. Ash raised concerns about drainage regarding the proposed footpath at Chalkpit Hill.

Resolved: Proposed by Cllr. C.Sladden and seconded: Cllr. J. Watt to submit the revised Highways Improvement Plan.

Outcome: Motion carried.

See below updated Highways Improvement plan

Priority	Location	Problem/Concern	What do you feel are the potential solutions?	KCC Comments (This column is to be completed by Project Manager ONLY)
1	Patricxbourne – The Street	Speed of Vehicles- buildings being damaged by cars on the bends.	Reduce the speed limit to 20mph.	<p>AMA – 23/02/24 – Discussed the feasibility of the 20mph speed reduction in Patricxbourne. The extents were discussed as swapping the current 30mph to a 20mph, with the current 30mph to a 20mph, with the adjustment to the entrance via Patricxbourne Road.</p> <p>AMA to arrange for a 30mph toolkit to be delivered in the meantime.</p> <p>Funding of the 20mph scheme to be discussed at a later date when Parish have finalised financial position.</p>
2	Adisham Road junction with Aerodrome Road	<p>Poor visibility of Aerodrome Road junction.</p> <p>Vehicles approaching with speed as coming from a 60mph road.</p>	Junction ahead warning sign	AMA - 23/02/24 – AMA to explore the feasibility of installing a junction ahead warning sign which will be funded by KCC's HIP budget.
3	Station Rd along toward Bifrons Road	Speed of vehicles along station road from the mini roundabout, making a danger for pedestrians/wheelchair users/pushchairs as no footpath available.	<p>Speed reduction measures.</p> <p>No footway signage</p>	AMA – 23/02/24 – The installation of a footway at this location would not be financially viable as it would require a Deed of Dedication (to acquire the land, which is very costly) as well as the installation costs. We would also not promote installing a new footway where there is no safe connection

			Installation of a footpath on this stretch of road?	for footway users. As it stands this footway would connect onto the carriageway at The Street next to a roundabout, which would not meet safety criteria. The footway would also need to benefit the whole of the community and not just one person.
4	Chalkpit Hill	The blind bend offers no safe route for pedestrians; vehicle speed is high.	Provide a safe footpath. Concerns raised by Cllr over drainage.	
5	Adisham Road, Bokesbourne Lane, Patrixbourne Road	Speed of vehicles entering the village Speed repeater signs are damaged.	Village gates A resident has been in touch and is willing to contribute toward the cost	AMA – 23/02/24 – Discussed locations of gateways at Adisham Road, Patrixbourne Road and Bokesbourne Lane. A site visit will be required by design Engineer to determine whether a gateway will fit at the Bokesbourne Lane location as the verge is narrow. <i>Funding of the gateways to be discussed at a later date when Parish have finalised financial position</i>
6	Bokesbourne Hill	Speed of vehicles/pedestrian safety	“SLOW” road markings next to the “Road narrows” warning signs at each	AMA – 23/02/24 – 2 x SLOW road markings to be installed next to both road narrow signs on Bokesbourne Hill (one road marking per sign). This will be funded by KCC’s HIP budget.

			approach to Bekesbourne Hill.	
7	Station road/Bekesbourne Lane (from railway bridge to the Zoo)	<p>This is an area that is used by pedestrians daily (access to school bus, train station, the zoo) cars travel at excessive, and dangerous speeds along this stretch of road.</p> <p>Pedestrians/children/wheelchair users have no verge or footpath.</p> <p>Many driveways that vehicles struggle to get on and off safely.</p>	<p>40mph repeater signs along the stretch from the railway bridge towards the Zoo.</p> <p>Reduce the speed limit.</p> <p>Install speed reduction measures. 'humps' or similar to those at the other end of Bekesbourne lane at Littlebourne.</p>	<p>AMA – 23/02/24 – There are 40mph repeater signs already at this location. Any missing or damaged signs need to be reported using the online reporting tool (as discussed)</p> <p>The current speed limit is appropriate for the road environment. The HADMs speed data supports that the average speeds are showing compliance. Discussed perception of vehicle speeds.</p> <p>Speed humps would not be appropriate or feasible on this stretch of road.</p>

10. 3 Any new matters to raise

Cllr M. Evans raised concerns about cutting back vegetation on the roadside when driving through Patricxbourne. Canterbury Cllr L. Castle has advised raising a report on KCC's website to obtain a reference number.

11. Finance Matters

11.1 To note November/ December payment schedule and approve any new payments.

Date	Type	Recipient	Amount
17.11.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Emails	£ 20.99
17.11.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Website	£ 23.99
18.11.2025	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
28.11.2025	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
01.12.2025	SO	N.Purcell Salary	As per salary slip
15.12.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Website	£ 23.99
16.12.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Emails	£ 20.99
29.12.2025	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
30.12.2025	SO	N.Purcell Salary	£ 867.53
31.12.2025	FPO	Bridge Group Parish PCC	£ 700.00
31.12.2025	FPO	Bridge Group Parish PCC **	£ 700.00
31.12.2025	FPO	Lionel Robbins 24/25 Audit Fee	£ 140.00
31.12.2025	FPO	N.Purcell Salary Backpay April-Dec	As per salary slip

****Banking system error. Have requested return.**

Clerk update: Duplicate payment of £700 has now been **received** from Bridge Group PC.

Payments Due for Approval:

Payments Due for Approval:

Recipient	Detail	Amount
Viking Office Ltd Invoice no. 4410256689	Office equipment for the new Clerk	£255.32 Inc VAT
Safeplay Playground Services Ltd	For the replacement of Zip Wire seat and Chain Cover	£304.00 +VAT

New Payments:

1. Viking Office UK Limited - INVOICE No. 4410265689
2. Safeplay Playground services LTD Invoice – Replacement and repair of Zip wire seat and chain cover.

Clerk recommended that council should consider formal quarterly inspections for the playground at a cost of £80 per inspection, to allow us to be proactive rather than reactive to any damage or concerns. Councillors did not reach a decision regarding quarterly inspections.

Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr M. Evans and seconded by Cllr C. Ash to approve the November/ December payment schedule and the two New Payments.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

11.2 Q3 Accounts November – December 2025

Council to note the following in relation to the accounts:

- As per the November resolution, £35,788.00 has been transferred from the Lloyds Community Acct to the Lloyds Instant Access Saver to ensure compliance with the maximum Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) protection limit — currently £85,000 per financial institution, per account holder. The balanced on this account is now £35,789.09

Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr D. Sladden and seconded by Cllr C. Sladden to approve the Q3 Accounts.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

<p align="center">Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council</p> <p align="center">Quarter 3 Accounts 2025/26 (1st October-31st December)</p>	
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[illegible]

Total Receipts	£ 165.72
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Payments			
Date cleared	Reference	Details	£
15.10.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Website	£ 23.99
20.10.2025	FPO	Bekesbourne Village Hall	£ 112.00
20.10.2025	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
30.10.2025	SO	N.Purcell Salary	£ [REDACTED]
05.11.2025	FPO	Bekesbourne rgmc	£ 70.00
17.11.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Emails	£ 20.99
17.11.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Website	£ 23.99
18.11.2025	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
28.11.2025	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
01.12.2025	SO	N.Purcell Salary	[REDACTED]
15.12.2025	DD	HugoFox Ltd- Website	£ 23.99
16.12.2025	DD	HugoFox Lts- Emails	£ 20.99
29.12.2025	PAY	Lloyds Bank Service Charge	£ 4.25
30.12.2025	SO	N.Purcell Salary	£ [REDACTED]
31.12.2025	FPO	Bridge Group Parish PCC	£ 700.00
31.12.2025	FPO	Bridge Group Parish PCC **	£ 700.00
31.12.2025	FPO	Lionel Robbins 24/25 Audit Fee	£ 140.00
31.12.2025	FPO	N.Purcell Salary Backpay April-Dec	£ [REDACTED]
Total Payments			£ 2,043.76

****Banking system error. Have requested return.**

11.3 S106 Funding (Updates)

The sum of £35,788.00 has been received from Canterbury City Council.

Clerk updated council that Creative play has set a date to carry out a site survey on Wednesday March 4th at 10am.

12. Planning

12.1 To Receive updates on previous consultee responses.

Application ref: CA/23/00484 (Land at the Hill)

Description: Outline planning application for up to 300 residential dwellings (including affordable housing and older person accommodation), a new community hub, introduction of structural planting and landscaping, informal public open space and children's play area and surface water flood mitigation and attenuation. All matters reserved.

Appellant's name: Gladman Developments

Appeal ref: 3373183

No Update.

12.2 To discuss any new applications.

No new applications were received.

13. Allotments

13.1 Any Updates

Clerk updated that all rent has been received.

Clerk to meet with Cllr M. Rhodes on Wednesday 14th Jan at 10am to inspect and collect photo evidence of overhanging trees.

Contact the landowner's agent by phone or letter to provide evidence. Clerk to gather quote to have trees cut back.

Clerk advised that the parish council may need to pay for the trees to be cut back if we cannot get a response from the landowner.

Resolved: Cllr C. Ash proposed for Clerk to attempt contact the landowner again and obtain quotes on having trees cut back at the allotments. Cllr J. Watts seconded.

Outcome: All votes in favour, Motion carried.

13.2 Any New Matters to Report

None

14. Defibrillator

Correspondence was not read out again during the meeting, all emails were printed and included as part of the agenda pack. Discussion took place between councillors about placing a defibrillator in the close vicinity of Aerodrome Road.

Cllr. L Castle suggested the new small housing development on Aerodrome Rd. (Rosary House)

Resolved: It was proposed by C. Sladden that the Clerk makes enquiries regarding the siting of the partially funded AED at the entrance to Chalkpit Farm, and to approach the housing developer to enquire whether they would be willing to fund the provision of an additional AED within the development, to be in an area with 24-hour public access. Seconded by A. Nicholson

Outcome: All Members voted in favour, motion carried.

15. Contingency Planning

Cllr C. Sladden voiced concerns over not having an emergency plan in place for vulnerable residents of the parish. Discussions continued between councillors and Cllr L. Castle about the need for a full plan and/or a neighbourhood watch. Clerk highlighted the need for more time to research the legal requirements, policies and templates.

No decision was reached. To continue discussion at the next meeting on Monday 9th March 2026.

16. Correspondence

Correspondence emails from residents were not read out again during the meeting but are available as part of the agenda pack. The residents had voiced concerns about lighting pollution during the public speaking session and discussions had taken place. They were happy with the outcome.

17. Kent Devolution and local Government Reorganization (any updates) KALC

No updates available on their website.

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

Resolved: Cllr C. Ash proposed that payroll be managed by C. S Accountancy payroll services, at a cost of £26 per month seconded by Cllr A. Nicholson.

Outcome: All in favour, motion carried.

Council formerly note Victoria Sara Illsley as the new Parish Clerk.

19. Next meeting Date

7:30pm 9th March 2026 (at the village hall)

Meeting Closed 21:02

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

Signed..... (Chairperson)

Date.....

January 2026 Appendices

Appendix A

Highland Court Farm

G. Waters

- The site will be recruiting up to 500 people working in shift patterns.
- Permission has been obtained for a winery.
- Propose a meeting if needed with Cllr. L Castle regarding the lighting.

Resident

- Found the encounter with site manager at Highland court farm very helpful.
- Would like to see the council make use of social media to keep residents feeling up to date.
- Suggested also using the noticeboard more.

End of appendices.