



**Minutes of the Ash Parish Council Ordinary Meeting
held on 2 February 2026, 7.00pm
at The Library, Ash Village Hall, Queens Road, Ash, Canterbury CT3 2BG**

Present:

Parish Councillors: Cllr Ian Ellery (Chair), Cllr Lynn Gambrell, Cllr Andy Perriss,
Cllr Martin Porter, Cllr Annette Rose, Cllr John Tanner,
Cllr Louise Venny

Sarah Rush (Clerk)

2 Members of the Public (2 part)

Absent Without Apology: Cllr Milli Stenning, Cllr Ashley Stevenson

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Cllr Arnold Davis (personal)	
2.	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> Cllr Venny declared an interest in the allotments and planning application 26/00009	
3.	<u>APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES</u> a) RESOLVED the minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on 5 January 2026 are duly signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting	
4.	<u>PUBLICITY OFFICER</u> Cllr Venny agreed to undertake and to provide a copy to the Clerk.	LV
5.	<u>KCC, DDC COUNCILLOR AND POLICE REPORTS</u> Cllr Martin Porter from Dover District Council provided a written report and highlighted correspondence received from a resident who has reported 67 individual potholes on Westmarsh roads to Kent County Council. Cllr Porter will write to Cllr Peter Evans (KCC) to ask for his advice on this issue. Cllr Peter Evans from Kent County Council did not attend or send a written report.	

	Projector Screen for The Library – currently out of stock for ordering	Clerk
8.	<u>FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS</u> a) Authorisation of payments/Bank Reconciliation was resolved and payments to be actioned b) It was noted the Precept Demand Form to be returned to Dover District Council by 6 February (approved extension) c) It was RESOLVED to pay Dover District Council £12,405.17 to maintain the public toilet facilities at The Street, Ash for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2026 d) It was RESOLVED to pay Monitor £193.65 +VAT per month to maintain the public toilet facilities at Ash Recreation Ground for the period 1 April 2026 – 31 October 2026 e) It was RESOLVED to pay £15 +VAT to Parish Council Websites for extra clerk email storage 03/02/2026 – 03/02/2027 f) It was RESOLVED to claim £914.86 in S106 funding from Dover District Council, in respect of planning application 16/01247, for repair the broken Stand-On Spinner by Safeplay Playground Services Ltd g) It was noted Councillor Arnold Davis has been set up as an Internet user/authoriser on the Unity Trust Bank Accounts h) It was REOLVED to pay £105 +VAT for the hire of St Faiths School Hall with refreshments for 50 people for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Wednesday 29 April i) It was noted that elected Members could claim the £560 Chairman / £280 Councillor Basic Allowance and this will be reviewed at the next meeting	JT / MP RFO Clerk RFO RFO RFO Clerk All
9.	<u>PLAY AREA 2</u> a) It was agreed to replace the Mirage seat on the traditional swings to an accessible seat with fixed harness at a cost of £1,797 + VAT It was agreed that the Mirage seat be retained on the Titan roundabout (this piece of equipment is only certified with the Mirage seat due to the movement) b) It was agreed to delay sign off of the HAGS contract documentation for the installation of Play Area 2 until the next meeting to allow more time for scrutiny by councillors and the RFO Clerk to confirm installation dates, avoiding school Easter holidays It was RESOLVED to claim £52,950.57 in S106 funding from Dover District Council, the grant having been approved, for the installation of 'Play Area 2' at Ash Recreation Ground by HAGS UK Limited, in respect of planning application ref 16/01049 - Land at Chequer Lane, Ash – for specific use towards "Open	All Clerk RFO

	Space-Children's Equipped Play towards improvements to the existing local area of play at Ash recreation ground"	
	<u>PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS</u> Two members of the public spoke in favour of updating the Neighbourhood Development Plan	
10.	<u>HIGHWAYS</u> a) It was RESOLVED to instruct Barriers Direct to remove the two existing bollards at Ash War Memorial and replace with 'Three Ringed Bollards' at a cost of £1,897.08 + VAT b) The questionnaire for the 20mph limit consultation was agreed c) It was RESOLVED to pay East Kent Leaflet Distribution £940 + VAT for the design, print and distribution costs for the 20mph limit consultation form The consultation will have a 31 March deadline and distribution will take place 3-4 weeks before that date d) Minutes from the A257 Traffic Group meeting were noted. The resident survey is not yet available for distribution	Clerk Clerk
11.	<u>RECREATION GROUND</u> a) Play and Gym Equipment weekly inspections were noted b) It was noted Eastry Ravens Football Club are using the football pitch on the Recreation Ground and the Pavilion Committee have erected goal posts. It was agreed that use of the football pitch would be limited to use by this one club, after an enquiry was received from another local club, as concerns had been raised about potential costs arising from damage to the Recreation Ground around the goal mouths. Councillors will review football pitch damage at the end of this season before any commitments are made for next season c) The Annual Inspection Report from the Playground Inspection Company for the play area and adult gym was noted. Caretaker to action recommendations, which were all low risk Basketball hoop safety sign to be sourced d) It was RESOLVED to agree the Events Policy and associated documentation for the hire of Ash Recreation Ground for ad hoc Events This will be shared with the Ash Carnival Association who have expressed an interest in holding an event at the Recreation Ground	 Clerk Clerk
12.	<u>PAVILION</u> a) It was noted the Parish Council's Repairing Lease for the Pavilion was still with the Pavilion Committee's solicitor. It was noted that the Clerk and RFO had spent 8 further hours looking at archived documents to answer queries from the Pavilion Committee. It was agreed to share this documentation with the Pavilion	

	Committee. Councillors agreed that the Clerk and RFO would not spend any further time on this matter and that the Parish Council were confident that they are the legal owners of the Pavilion as per documentation shared with the Pavilion Committee.	RFO / Clerk
13.	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u> a) It was agreed the next allotment inspection will take place on Wednesday 25 March at 11.00am Clerk to write to Allotment Holders to inform them (30 days notice required) b) It was noted that one allotment plot had become available which was fortunate with reference to agenda item 13c. 19 people remain on the waiting list. c) The issues with plot 1A relating to the installation of the wider double gate were noted. It was RESOLVED to agree the plot holder could move to Plot 1B (reducing allotment revenue by £25) or extend Plot 1A into Plot B to create a third size plot (reducing allotment revenue by £15), at their preference.	JT/ MP / AD / LG / Clerk Clerk Clerk / RFO
14.	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u> a) It was noted the Great British Spring Clean event in Ash has been scheduled for Saturday 14 March 1pm to 3pm. Dover District Council's Community Roots Van will be in attendance b) Ash Wildlife Friendly Village correspondence on the Neighbourhood Development Plan was noted and it was agreed to review budget at the Finance Meeting to be held on 4 February c) The decision to install the Gilton Airfield Memorial Plaque at Ash War Memorial was reviewed and it was agreed to install at Pound Corner d) The update from Ash Advents Events on how their Parish Council Grant was utilised was gratefully received and noted e) The invitation to attend the Ash Village Hall Open Day on Sunday 22 March was noted and it was agreed to book a table for Councillors to share information on the 20mph Limit Consultation, Play Area 2 and to advertise the Annual Parish Meeting	All Caretaker AR / LG / JT / MP / AP
15.	<u>PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS</u> a) It was agreed to source information on an Ash Village Sign to commemorate former resident Ray Hooker, utilising the £1,000 donation received b) The update from the January meeting of the Village Hall Committee was noted c) It was agreed the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting to be held on Monday 13 April will be at St Faith's School at the cost of £25 + VAT (Library is unavailable)	LV Clerk

	d) A discussion on the suitability of The Library for Parish Council meetings and alternative venues was had. Clerk to enquire about availability of Ash Village Hall on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Purchasing of a projector screen has been put on hold until this issue is resolved e) It was agreed to review available budget for a Safety Audit and Risk Assessments at the Finance Meeting to be held on 4 February	Clerk All
	It was RESOLVED to extend the meeting past 9.00pm to complete the Agenda	
16.	<u>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u> a) 26/00009 Moat Farm House, Moat Lane, Ash Installation of boundary fence (<i>retrospective</i>) RESOLVED: To strongly object due to the fence being: 1) Inappropriate for its setting – Moat Farm House is a Grade 2 listed building 2) Against ANP 6 and 4 of the Ash Neighbourhood Development Plan (views to and from church in a heritage setting) 3) Of inappropriate construction and design	Clerk
17.	<u>MATTERS FOR THE MARCH MEETING</u> Signing of Play Area 2 documentation Annual Parish Meeting Safety Audit and Risk Assessments Councillor Basic Allowance	
18.	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS</u> Parish Council Finance Meeting – Wednesday 4 February Parish Council Planning Committee – Monday 16 February Parish Council Ordinary Meeting – Monday 2 March	
	The meeting closed at 9.08pm	