



**Minutes of the Ash Parish Council ANNUAL Meeting
held on 7 May 2026, 7.30pm
at Ash Village Hall, Queens Road, Ash, Canterbury CT3 2BG**

Present: Parish Councillors: Cllr John Tanner (Chair), Cllr Arnold Davis, Cllr Martin Porter,
Cllr Annette Rose, Cllr Louise Venny
Sarah Rush (Clerk)
8 Members of the Public

Absent without Apology: Cllr Ashley Stevenson

ITEM	
1.	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Cllr Lynn Gambrell (personal) It was noted that Ian Ellery had resigned from the Parish Council and the Chair thanked him for his hard work and contribution to the work of the Parish Council as 2025/26 Chair
2.	<u>ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON & THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF OFFICE</u> Cllr Tanner was proposed by Cllr Venny and seconded by Cllr Davis RESOLVED that Cllr John Tanner be elected Chair of Ash Parish Council for the ensuing year 2026/27 Cllr Tanner signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and there upon took the Chair
3.	<u>ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON</u> Cllr Venny was proposed by Cllr Rose Cllr Porter was proposed by Cllr Tanner RESOLVED that Cllr Louise Venny be elected Vice-Chair of Ash Parish Council for the ensuing year 2026/27
4.	<u>UPDATE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS</u> No interests were declared

	It was noted that all councillors are required to update their Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests with DDC to declare any change of circumstance. This is the responsibility of councillors to action.
5.	<u>APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES / WORKING GROUPS</u> a) Planning Committee – RESOLVED Cllr Porter, Cllr Venny, Cllr Davis and Cllr Gambrell be members with Cllr Tanner as Committee Chair b) Beating the Bounds Working Group – RESOLVED Cllr Tanner, Cllr Venny, Cllr Rose c) Footpaths Working Group - RESOLVED Cllr Tanner
6.	<u>APPOINTMENTS TO REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES</u> a) Area Committee of Kent Association for Local Councils – RESOLVED Cllr Tanner and Cllr Venny b) Ash Village Hall Committee Trustee – RESOLVED Cllr Venny c) Ash United Charities Trustee – RESOLVED Cllr Tanner d) Ash Sports Pavillion Committee – RESOLVED Cllr Davis e) A257 Traffic Group / HIP – RESOLVED Cllr Venny f) Cartwright, Godfrey and Kelsey Charity – RESOLVED Cllr Porter g) Allotments – RESOLVED Cllr Tanner h) Ash Surgery Practice Patient Group – RESOLVED Cllr Rose i) It was agreed that no other representative appointments were required
7.	<u>ADOPTION OF POLICIES</u> It was RESOLVED to re-adopt the following policies: a) Standing Orders b) Financial Regulations c) Risk Assessment Schedule 2026-27 d) Councillor Code of Conduct e) Events Policy f) Disciplinary Policy g) Dignity at Work Policy h) Equality and Diversity Policy i) Grievance Policy j) Civility and Respect Pledge k) Information Technology Policy l) Tree and Hedgerow Maintenance Policy m) Terms of Reference for Ash Parish Council Working Groups

	n) Reserves Policy o) Publication Policy p) Data Protection Policy
8.	<u>MEETING DATES</u> It was agreed that the following dates would be the annual schedule for meetings of the Parish Council for the year ahead: a) Ordinary Meetings on the first Thursday of the month: 2026: 11 June, 2 July, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November, 3 December (no meeting in August) 2027: 7 January, 4 February, 4 March, 1 April, 13 May (to include Annual Parish Council Meeting), 3 June, 1 July, 2 September, 7 October, 4 November, 2 December (no meeting in August) b) Planning Committee on the third Monday of the month: 2026: 18 May, 15 June, 20 July, 21 September, 19 October, 16 November, (no meeting in August or December) 2027: 18 January, 15 February, 15 March, 19 April, 17 May, 21 June, 19 July, 20 September, 18 October, 15 November, (no meeting in August or December) c) Finance Meetings on Wednesdays: 2026: 11 November 2027: 27 January, TBC June, 10 November d) Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday 28 April 2027
	There being no further business the Annual Meeting closed at 7.50pm