

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 21st May 2025

In attendance were Cllrs Jane Grundy, Adrian Beaumont, Mike Taylor, Jo Fox.

1. Election of Chair for the next year.

Cllr Taylor proposed that Cllr Grundy be elected to serve s Chair for the next year, seconded by Cllr Reynolds. The motion was carried nem con.

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Fox had reported that she would be unable to attend the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Grundy & Taylor declared an interest in Item 4 Finance Matters, as cheques were to be paid to them.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd April and matters arising.

The Minutes were read and confirmed as an accurate record. There were no matters arising.

5. Appointment of Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer.

This was discussed in private at the end of the meeting with public excluded.

6. Finance Matters

Cllr Grundy reported that the parish council has now received £1,900 in Concurrent Functions Funding in addition to £13,000 raise by the precept.

The following payments were made by cheque:

- (i) £333 to McCabe Ford Williams in respect of final salary to our former Clerk.
- (ii) £200 to Cllr Grundy for our website, refunding her as she has already paid the invoice.
- (iii) £300 to Zurich Insurance.
- (iv) £50 to Cllr Taylor refunding his expenses relating to the church Easter Egg Hunt.
- (v) £326.71 to the Kent Association of Local Councils, for our annual membership fee.

7. Local government reorganisation

There were no new developments to report.

8. Planning Matters

(i) CA/25/00472 Epicormic growth on the lime trees is to be removed and low driveway branches lifted, removal of any dead trees and dead branches on the grounds of safety .Street End Place, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 5NP.

Members agreed that the proposed works were good aboricultural practice and to make no comment on the application.

9. Planning Decisions.

There were no decisions to report.

10. Future Projects

(i) Improvements to signage identifying the village and parish.

It was agreed to postpone discussion of this project to the July meeting.

(ii) Siting large planters on Faussett Hill and “fences” at the southern end of the village to emphasise to drivers that they are entering a village.

Cllr Taylor reported that the choice is concrete or a plasticised material, typically of 1 metre cubed volume, either cylindrical or cube shaped. Costs vary between £600 and £1,400 each. Estimated total cost for the project of £5,000. The need for planning permission to be investigated.

11. Highways issues and PROW.

Cllr Taylor tabled copies of the updated Highways Improvement Plan and reported on a meeting with the Headteacher of Langton Boys. He is very supportive of everything we are seeking to do.

12. Speedwatch Group.

The field still has sheep in it and so cannot be used by the speedwatch group.

Cllr Reynolds is now able to log on to the Speedwatch system.

13. Correspondence, Letters, and other Matters of an urgent nature.

Cllr Grundy reported that she is to have a meeting with the Auditor and our former Clerk, to get the accounts for the 2024/2025 financial year completed and signed off so that they can be made available for public inspection.

14. Next meeting of the Parish Council

The next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 5pm.

The Meeting closed at 6.15pm.

Signed _____

Date _____