

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd September 2025

In attendance were Cllrs Jane Grundy, Adrian Beaumont, Jo Fox, Peter Reynolds and the Parish Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Taylor had reported that he would be unable to attend the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th August and matters arising.

The Minutes were read and confirmed as an accurate record. There were no matters arising. Post meeting note: The signed minutes have been emailed to Claire at the Village News publication.

4. Finance Matters

No financial matters were raised.

5. Local government reorganisation

Ongoing.

6. Planning Matters

The following planning applications were considered:

- (i) CA/25/01408 Single storey and side extension to 1 Butts Cottages, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 5NZ. No objection.
- (ii) CA/25/01461 Spruce tree, remove 2 lower limbs to balance tree located in the front garden of End Place, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 5NP. No objection.
- (iii) CA/25/01462 Beech and Lime trees, reduce canopy of trees located at the entrance of End Place, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 5NP. No objection.
- (iv) CA/25/01464 Oak tree, reduce canopy by 30% or up to 8m and reshape crown on tree located on edge of driveway at End Place, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 5NP. No objection.
- (v) CA/25/01483 Single storey detached garage in front garden of The Vines, Bridge Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 7AG. No objection.

7. Planning Decisions.

The following 2 planning decisions were noted:

- (i) CA/25/01245T1 - Prunus cerasus, fell to ground level located in the lawn next to the parking spaces. T2-Syringa, prune the tree, removing up to 2m of growth from the tips, crown reduction of 25% located on the boundary of the plot. T3-Magnolia, prune the tree, removing up to 2m of growth from the tips, crown reduction of 25% located on the boundary of the plot. T4-Rhus typhina, prune the tree, removing up to 2m of growth from the tips, crown reduction of 25% located on the boundary of the plot. T5-T6-Sycamore, fell to ground level located on the boundary of the plot. T7-Austrian pine, remove dead and dying branches located over the pub and it's garden. Lodge Gate, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 5NP. **NO OBJECTION**

- (ii) CA/25/01116 - Fell pine tree in 2 Highfield Cottages, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent, CT4 5NP. **NO OBJECTION**

8. Future Projects.

- (i) With regard to the improvements to signage identifying the village and parish, Kent Highways have been emailed twice without any response. Cllr Grundy will now endeavour to make contact by phone in order to progress.

- (ii) The siting and design of the large planters on Faussett Hill and "fences" at the southern end of the village are in abeyance momentarily. Cllr Taylor is dealing with this and will be liaising with KCC Highways.

9. Highways issues and PROW.

The finalised HIP will be tabled for final review at the next meeting in October. No particular issues with PROW.

10. Speedwatch Group.

Cllr Beaumont advised that 2 new volunteers are on board and are to carry out the necessary training.

11. Rural Crime

There have been several instances of rural crime in the area recently. These include unregistered motorbike riders causing a nuisance around the village and orchards (rural police intervened and hopefully this practice has stopped), lighting of fires on farm land, hare coursing and the use of local roads to avoid CCTV by thieves. There have also been several reports of youths creating disturbances in Nackington.

All instances of crime in the area should be reported to the police. It was agreed that this message should be conveyed to the village by posting on the Facebook page and arranging for our local police representative to provide a talk at the monthly Coffee morning held in the village hall.

The clerk is to contact our police representative in this regard.

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

The points raised during the August meeting are ongoing.

13. AOB

Cllr Grundy suggested that in order to further spread the work of the parish council, it could potentially fund the associated costs of the Village News publication 3 or 4 times a year. These 'bumper' issues would then be made available free of charge to all houses in the parish. The first issue could be the Easter edition. Cllr Grundy will look into this further and obtain costs.

The new website was briefly discussed with an update to be provided. It appears that the old (present) website has not been updated for a while.

14. Next meeting of the Parish Council

The next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 1st October 2025 at 5pm.

The Meeting closed at 6.10pm.

Signed _____

Date _____