

# LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025

In attendance were Cllrs Jane Grundy, Mike Taylor, Adrian Beaumont, Jo Fox, Peter Reynolds, the Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

### 1. Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Grundy and Cllr Beaumont declared an interest in 4(ii) payments to the Village hall.

### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> November and matters arising.

The Minutes were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairperson as a true and correct record.

There were no matters arising.

### 4. Finance Matters

- (i) Cllr Grundy kindly provided members with copies of the 2026/2027 draft estimate and 2025/2026 payments to date documents. Members considered the 2026/2027 budget, line by line, and the process for setting the 2026 precept was agreed.

The Internal auditor for the 2025/2026 accounts is to be appointed before the end of December 2025. The Clerk is to action this as a priority.

The change to online banking for the parish was discussed. Cllr Grundy is to contact the Canterbury Business Manager at Lloyds bank to progress this.

- (ii) Members approved the following payments, and cheques were written and signed in this regard:

Lower Hardres Village hall	£ 112.00	Payment for rent
Lower Hardres Village hall	£ 1000.00	Grounds maintenance
Lower Hardres Village hall	£ 100.00	Christmas tree donation
Mr C Tanton	£ 480.00	Village green grass cutting
KALC	£ 26.13	Annual subscription balance due
Bridge Group	£ 1000.00	Church yards Maintenance

- (iii) Website accessibility: The Clerk is to liaise with KIKK in order to regularly update the parish website.

### 5. Local government reorganisation

Cllr Beaumont briefed the council on the latest update on the local government reorganisation. The 14 councils in Kent and Medway have now submitted their preferred options to the government for consideration. A public consultation will be launched early next year with a decision on the final unitary councils structure planned for summer 2026.

## 6. Planning Matters

The following planning applications were considered:

- (i) CA/25/02057 Yew tree that currently overhangs the left boundary of the property, to reduce the overhanging growth right back to the boundary, Beech, reduce right back to the boundary and cable, in rear garden. Croft House, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent. CT4 5NP.
- (ii) CA/25 02121 Replacement of roof covering from sheeting to slate roof to carport. Court Lodge, Church Lane, Nackington, Kent. CT4 7AE.
- (iii) CA/25 02122 Application for Listed Building Consent for external alterations including replacement of roof covering from sheeting to slate roof to carport together with the removal or garage doors and window to rear elevation. Court Lodge, Church Lane, Nackington, Kent. CT4 7AE.

There were no objections to these applications, and members agreed that no further comments were necessary.

## 7. Planning Decisions.

The following four planning decisions were discussed and noted:

- (i) CA/25/01225 Two-storey side extension. 2 Highfield Cottages, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent CT4 5NP. **Granted**
- (ii) CA/25/01238 Part single-storey and part two-storey extension, first floor extension together with porch to East elevation. Gate Cottage, Hardres Court, Road, Lower Hardres, Kent CT4 5NP. **Granted**
- (iii) CA/25/01690 Single-storey detached garage following demolition of existing garage. Beech Hedge, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, Kent CT4 5NU. **Granted**
- (iv) CA/25/01779, 01780 & 01781 T1) Picea Pungens - Blue Spruce - crown lift by the removal to 2 lower limbs. North American White Oak- crown lifting by removal of the 2 lowest limbs only. 3x Cherry trees located to the front of the property - fell. Street End Place Hardres Court Road Lower Hardres Kent CT4 5NP. **No objection**

## 8. Future Projects.

Members agreed to adjourn discussions on future projects until early 2026.

## 9. Highways issues and PROW.

Cllr Taylor will create a new 2025 HIP document using the latest template provided with this being submitted to KCC as soon as practicable. The supporting information will be included in a separate document and referenced in the HIP submission.

## 10. Speedwatch Group.

Nothing to report.

**11. Rural Crime**

Nothing of note to report in the parish, although some local villages are experiencing mini crime waves. The message is to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activities to the police.

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

**13. AOB**

- (i) There would appear to be a dog walking group regularly parking cars on Hardres Court Road. It would be much safer if they parked in the village hall car park and the members agreed this facility should be offered to them. The group organiser is to be contacted in this regard.
- (ii) The Clerk is to investigate Parish membership of CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) and report findings at the next meeting.

**14. Next meeting of the Parish Council**

The next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 5pm.

*The Meeting closed at 6.22pm.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_