

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7.30 pm in Pluckley Village Hall

Present : Cllrs Washer (in the Chair), Dilley, Pearson, Robinson & Buchanan

In attendance : Mr. G Eaton Clerk to the Council

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Malpelli, KCC Cllr Eustace, ABC Cllr Bell, and Peter New Neighbourhood Watch

2 Declarations of Cllrs interests in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of Cllrs interests in items on the Agenda

3 Minutes of the last Meeting & Matters arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd February 2026 were approved and signed

There was a discussion about the lighting at the Black Horse PH about which parishioners had complained. Cllr Robinson kindly offered to speak to the new operators requesting that they replace the floodlights with low level lighting and turn off all external lighting by 10pm

Cllr Robinson

There was a brief discussion regarding the new noticeboard and Cllr Washer kindly offered to ask the installer to order longer legs to support the board, and install asap

Cllr Washer

There was a full discussion about the development plans for Village Hall as concerns had been expressed that the S106 monies generated from the Brickworks development had been available for some time but not used. It was felt that the monies should be allocated to specific and well-defined projects or the Council should approach ABC to have the funds allocated for other community projects. Cllr Robinson would discuss this with the VH Committee at their meeting on 17th March

Cllr Robinson

4 Public discussion and Parishioners questions

There were no members of the public present

5 Outside reports

There were no KCC or ABC Cllr reports to note

Peter New's Neighbourhood Watch report, previously circulated by email, was noted with thanks

6 Planning & Enforcement

There were no new planning applications to consider

7 Hills and Unknown Charity

The email received from the Hills and Unknown Charity was discussed. The Charity was being threatened by incursion and environmental damage by neighbouring residents who had blocked off the right of way to the land, used to generate income for the Charity, and dumped rubbish. After a discussion it was agreed that the land in question was within Bethersden Parish and should be dealt with by the KCC Rights of Way Officer and the Police. Cllr Washer kindly offered to contact the Charity and discuss

Cllr Washer

8 KALC Chairmanship conference

Cllr Robinson reported on her attendance at the recent KALC Chairmanship Conference. There was a discussion regarding Local Government Reorganisation and Laura outlined the main models being proposed and undertook to circulate details

Cllr Robinson

9 Finance Matters:

Accounts for payment

The following accounts were approved for payment –

£

Whitstable Designs, website hosting

180.00

The Clerk's salary/expenses of £565.80, paid by monthly Standing Order, was noted and approved

Increase in the Clerk's hourly rate of pay

After a discussion it was unanimously agreed to increase the Clerk's hourly rate of pay to £16 with effect from 1st April 2026. The Clerks thanked the Cllrs for the increase

10 Communications and correspondence

There was nil of note to report

11 Traffic & Highways, including proposed yellow lines on Station Road

Cllr Washer updated on his recent email exchange with the Office of Rail & Road regarding the need for additional car parking spaces at the Station

Cllr Pearson updated on the progress of plans to improve parking in the Village centre. It was agreed to ask ABC to press ahead with the agreed measures, after the pot holes had been fixed, and to request a yellow hatched area outside the entrance to the houses between the shops to stop people parking there and blocking access
Cllr Pearson

It was agreed that Cllr Robinson would speak to the operators of the Black Horse PH to ask if parents could use their car park at School drop off/pick up times to ease the parking problems
Cllr Robinson

12 Recreation Sport & Leisure

After a full discussion the following actions were agreed –

Clerk to contact Aspire and request the grass be cut asap
Cllr Dilley to circulate a draft lease agreement for the football pitches and pavilion
Cllr Pearson to obtain prices for a bike rack
Clerk
Cllr Dilley
Cllr Pearson

Cllr Dilley reported that he had fixed the electrical cupboard and that the water leaks would be fixed soon

13 AOB and Diary items

The date for the Litter Pick was confirmed as 21st March 2026 and the following agreed -

Cllr Pearson to advertise this on social media
Cllr Washer to speak with M. Taylor about using his trailer
Cllr Dilley to print and display notices advertising the event
Cllr Pearson
Cllr Washer
Cllr Dilley

14 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 7.30 pm at Pluckley Village Hall

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.50 pm