

DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 18 February 2026
Jubilee Hall, Waller Park Pavilion, Wood Lane, Darenth, Kent DA2 7LR

Councillors Present: T Hicks, G Manuel, T Prentice, D Risely, N Weavis (Chairman) and K Webb

Also Present: E Mote, Parish Clerk
One member of the public

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the protocol regarding the audio and visual recording of proceedings.

112/02/26: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors I Armitt, K Holmes and S Holmes and Borough Councillor P Denman.

113/02/26: TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

None received.

114/02/26: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 JANUARY 2026

RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 January 2026 as a true record.

115/02/26: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Chairman confirmed no urgent items had been raised for Member consideration.

116/02/26: TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL AUTHORITIES AND WORKING GROUPS

- (a) **Dartford Borough Council Report**
- (b) **Kent County Council Community Warden Report**

Members, having previously received reports provided by Borough Councillor Denman and the KCC Community Warden Joanne Appleton, duly noted their contents.

- (c) **Greenlands School Parking - Working Group Report**

There were no updates to note.

117/02/26: FINANCE

- (a) **To agree Monthly Bank Analysis as at 31 January 2026**
- (b) **To note Monthly Budget Analysis as at 31 January 2026**

RESOLVED: To agree and note financial records as presented.

118/02/26: TO FORMALLY NOTE TERMINATION OF THE COTTAGE COMMUNITY HIRE AGREEMENT

Members were asked to formally note that regular hirers of Waller Park Pavilion, The Cottage Community, would vacate Council premises on 31 March 2026 after giving notice on 28 November 2025.

The Cottage Community thanked the Parish Council for welcoming them to Waller Park and wished special thanks to be noted to the Facilities Warden for his help during the three years spent with us.

The members asked the Clerk to send a formal letter of thanks to The Cottage Community, showing appreciation for their use of Jubilee Hall.

RESOLVED: That Members officially note The Cottage Community's departure from Council premises together with related storage arrangements. That the Clerk responds formally to the group on behalf of the Parish Council.

119/02/26: PLANNING

(a) To consider new applications

26/00121/FUL 24 Hill Rise Darenth Kent DA2 7HY

Erection of a summerhouse

Observations: Members noted the application.

25/00425/REM - Blackshole Farm Watling Street Dartford Kent DA2 8DE

Reserved matters application relating to, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to condition 1 of outline planning permission DA/18/01640/OUT for demolition of existing buildings and hard standing and redevelopment of the site to provide: a building comprising a care home (Use Class C2) comprising up to 5,469sqm of ground to second floor space and a 20 bed hospital ward (Use Class C2) with associated parking; a multi-storey car park comprising up to 12,181sqm of floor space; and associated works together with discharge of condition 6 (existing and proposed levels), condition 7 (contaminated land assessment), condition 8 (tree survey and tree protection measures), condition 9 (surface water drainage scheme), condition 10 (reptile presence survey), condition 11 (ecological design strategy), condition 12 (landscape and ecological management plan), condition 13 (noise impact assessment), condition 14 (materials), condition 15 (landscaping), condition 16 (green roofs and green walls), condition 17 (car parking layout), condition 18 (pedestrian routes), condition 19 (BREEAM), condition 20 (storage and collection of waste), condition 21 (boundary enclosures) and condition 22 (extract system).

Observations: Members noted the application and commented as follows: The Parish Council has no objection to the reserved matters in principle providing they are in line with the original outline approval. However, we have grave concerns regarding excessive traffic in this vicinity causing obstruction for residents and visitors of Darent Valley Hospital and would hope there is no further impact on the local community.

25/01431/VCON - The Ship Green Street Green Road Darenth Kent DA2 8DP

(CLERK REQUESTED EXTENSION TO RESPONSE DEADLINE) Variation of condition 2 and removal of condition 34 of planning permission 22/01444/FUL (partial redevelopment of site to provide 2 no. 1 bed flats and erection of 2 no. 5 bed detached houses) to regularise changes to the external design and increased width of the rear projection, extended hardstanding area, enclosure of front porch and changes to the internal layout to include staff welfare facilities at first floor and changes to the arrangement of the flats at 1st and 2nd floor. Also, to remove the requirement to demonstrate rights of access to rear dwellings. Submission to include details of foul & surface water drainage, biodiversity enhancements & bat mitigation, noise and odour from extraction system and noise insulation between the flats and the public house; waste & cycle storage; boundary treatments; amenity space for flats and M4 (2) details.

Observations: Members noted the application and commented as follows: The Parish Council has no objection to the application variations.

DA/25/00429/FUL APPEAL REFERENCE: 6003840 - St Fiacre Green St Green Rd Darenth

Demolition of existing garage and the erection of two semi-detached dwellings with parking together with new/altered vehicle and pedestrian access.

Observations: Members noted the appeal.

(a) To note recent decisions

No recent decisions had been received from the Local Planning Authority.

(b) To consider new applications/recent decisions received after agenda publication

No new applications were received after agenda publication.

120/02/26; TO RECEIVE PARISH UPDATES

Members received a verbal update on recent Parish matters not requiring Full Council approval. The topics provided included:

- Waller Park garage door installation - installation delayed due to adverse weather. Contractor would provide a start date imminently
- Green St Green Rd bus shelter renovation – works complete with the aid of £780.00 funding from Kent County Councillor's Grant Member Funding. The remaining cost of the project, in the sum of £1,000.00, was paid for by the Parish Council
- Waller Park playground repairs – the hobby horse and rubberised flooring works had been completed by Baylis Landscapes
- Tree Survey Works – following the Council's annual tree survey, works identified as requiring attention/felling, were being carried out by M.A.C. Tree Care Ltd
- Damaged wall at Darenth Road South – awaiting quote in respect of damaged wall, caused by falling tree in November 2026
- Parish litter bins – four new bins had been ordered with delivery taking place on 20 February 2026. Councillor Webb would provide locations to the Clerk ahead of installation
- Wood Lane car park gate – the Dartford Borough Council (DBC) owned gate had been dismantled when a van was left on site after hours. DBC has now reattached the gate
- Waller Park containers – with the Departure of The Cottage Community, container space will be re-let
- Planter damage – one of the planters at the war memorial, donated by CJ Love, had been broken. An appeal was sent out via Parish social media asking for any information
- Great British Spring Clean - in collaboration with Borough Councillor Denman and the Community Litter Pickers, the Parish Council has signed up for this initiative
- Staff Annual Reviews – the Clerk confirmed that staff reviews would be taking place in February and March
- Waller Park footpath – repairs are in hand for the pedestrian entrance to Waller Park path due to its poor condition
- Football cancellations – the Clerk confirmed that 2026-27 season hire agreements would establish conditions for match cancellations

121/02/26: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date for the next Meeting of the Council was confirmed as Wednesday 18 March 2026.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.