

# AGENDA

## MEETING OF DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL Wednesday 19 February 2025, 7:30pm

Jubilee Hall, Waller Park Pavilion, Wood Lane, Darenth DA2 7LR

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*The Chairman will remind the Meeting of the protocol regarding the audio and visual recording of any part of the proceedings. Anyone wishing to film events are asked to declare an intention prior to commencement of the meeting.*

**111/02/25: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**112/02/25: TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST**

**113/02/25: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2025**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the minutes be approved as a true record.

**114/02/25: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

The Chairman will announce his decision as to whether any items received for consideration since agenda production, are suitably urgent to be discussed at the meeting, and indicate their position on the agenda.

**115/02/25: TO RECEIVE EXTERNAL REPORTS**

- (a) **Borough Councillor Report**
- (b) **KCC Community Warden Report**
- (c) **Darenth Woods Partnership Working Group Report**
- (d) **Friends of Darenth Country Park Minutes**

**RECOMMENDATION:** To note reports as presented.

**116/02/25: TO INCORPORATE PARISH OWNED TREES LOCATED AT DARENTH ROAD SOUTH AS PART OF THE COUNCIL'S TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

As part of the Parish Council's commitment to protect and maintain our rural and urban landscape, a Tree Management Policy was adopted in March 2022. Following this, a tree survey inspection was instructed and a Forestry Commission License obtained for a digital tree location map to be established. Initially the Tree Mapping and Inspection Survey Management Plan included trees situated at Lane End and Green Street Green wards. As part of this exercise, Parish owned trees were recorded on the Ordnance Survey Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA) mapping software which determined ownership, tree types and site location, with a further Inspection Survey carried out by our tree contractor.

Alltree Consultancy Ltd will carry out their follow-up tree inspection survey in April 2025 in line with the Council's Tree Management Policy. Members are asked to consider incorporating additional trees located at Darenth Valley ward, in line with the Council's long-term strategy of protecting and monitoring all Parish trees under the Tree Mapping and Inspection Survey Management Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To approve Parish owned trees located at Darenth Road South in the Darenth Valley ward, be incorporated as part of the Council's Tree Mapping Inspection Survey from 1 April 2025.

#### **117/02/25: TO CONSIDER HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

Darenth Parish Council submitted a Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) in August 2024. Our first proposal, being details relating to vehicular activity outside the Lane End Co-op, remains with the Kent County Council (KCC) Highways Engagement Team and we will be updated in due course.

Our second scheme suggestion, following a public engagement request, resulted in one resident asking to have the speed limit reduced from 40mph to 30mph at the junction of Green Street Green Road and Sandbanks Hill. Our subsequent HIP submission resulted in an automatic traffic counter (ATC) speed survey being carried out between 9 to 15 November 2024 to the West (west of Shellbank Lane), Mid (outside Green Spice) and East (east of Sandbanks Hill) on Green Street Green Road. Results from the survey showed the existing 40mph speed limit was well complied with and it would be unlikely to see reasonable compliance if the road was to be reduced to 30mph.

The Engagement Team has reported that to install a speed indicator device (SID) at this location, warning drivers of the speed limit, would cost in the region of £10k. KCC's Engagement Team Leader has indicated a £4k contribution towards the project.

Members are asked to consider the financial viability of committing to the remaining funding and confirm potential initiation of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To consider and confirm if a speed indicator device is to be located at the junction of Green Street Green Road and Sandbanks Hill at a cost to the Parish of £6k.

#### **118/02/25: TO RECORD THE INSTALLATION OF AN ADDITIONAL WASTE BINS ON PARISH OWNED LAND OUTSIDE GREENLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREEN STREET GREEN ROAD**

Members are asked to note that, following reports of excessive litter outside Greenlands Primary School, two new waste bins have been installed. The School has been duly informed, and Dartford Borough Council has confirmed weekly collections have been scheduled on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at no extra cost to the Parish Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Members formally note the installation of two new waste bins located on Council owned land outside Greenlands Primary School.

#### **119/02/25: TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR 2025-26 COMMUNITY EVENTS**

#### **120/02/25: FINANCE**

##### **(a) To note Cambridge & Counties interest rate decrease effective from 14 February 2025**

<b>Account name</b>	<b>Current interest rate</b>	<b>New interest rate</b>	<b>Date effective</b>
60-day business notice account - Issues 1-4	4.05% Gross/AER (monthly 3.977%) variable*	3.55% Gross/AER (monthly 3.494%) variable*	14/02/2025

##### **(b) To note that the amendment process for bank signatories has been instructed**

##### **(c) To agree Monthly Bank Analysis as for 31 January 2024**

##### **(d) To note Monthly Budget Analysis for 31 January 2024**

**RECOMMENDATION:** To agree and note financial items as presented.

**121/02/25: PLANNING****(a) To consider new applications**

<b>Planning Reference</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposals</b>
DA/24/00846/FUL	Salinas Darenth Wood Road Darenth Kent DA2 8AA	Partially retrospective (3 existing Traveller pitches) application for a Gypsy / Traveller site, demolition of building and construction of a replacement bungalow. DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS THE PARISH COUNCIL SUBMITTED AN OBJECTION AHEAD OF THE MEETING
DA/25/00067/FUL	108 Coombfield Drive Darenth Kent DA2 7LH	Conversion of loft with creation of rear dormer window and roof windows to front roof slope in connection with providing additional rooms in the roof space
DA/24/00608/FUL	Darent Valley Hospital Darenth Wood Road Darenth Kent	Creation of Temporary contractors' compound and temporary drop-down zones around the Darent Valley Hospital site

**(b) To note recent decisions and appeal notices made by the Planning Authority**

No decisions had been received at the time of agenda production

**(c) To consider new applications/recent decisions received after agenda publication****122/02/25: DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The proposed date for the next Meeting of the Council is Wednesday 19 March 2025.