

WAREHORNE PARISH COUNCILMinutes of the meeting held on Monday 17th November 2025 at 6.00pm

Held in the Village Hall

Present:**Parish Cllrs:** Cllrs J Banach, J Saunders, A Bailey**Borough Cllrs:** Cllrs Hicks & Ledger**County Cllrs:** Cllr Barrett – From 6.45pm**Apologies:** 1**Members of Public:****Clerk:** A Beach

Minute No.		Action
1669	Apologies & reasons for absence Cllr Jones	
1670	Declaration of Interest Declaration by Members of any interest, Pecuniary or Other than Pecuniary, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct. To approve or reject any application put to the meeting by the Chairman in respect of Members' seeking a dispensation under the Localism Act 2011, s.33. Request that Councillors' or any other persons' present declare if they intend to record any of the proceedings using any video or audio recording device or camera. None declared.	
1671	Confirm the Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 20 th October 2025 were approved and signed by Cllr Banach.	
1672	Councillor Co-option Cllr Bailey confirmed that he had approached a resident of The Pippins who is unable to take on the role but he will speak to one of his neighbours to fill the space. <i>Post meeting, due to unfortunate circumstances Jessie Banach resigned, leaving a second vacancy.</i>	
1673	At this point the Meeting will be adjourned for the Public Session. This session is for the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the agenda. The public are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting but are reminded that they cannot take part.	
1674	Borough Councillor Report Cllr Hicks reported that the Marshlink train line has joined in the bi-centenary national railway celebrations throughout the year including the unveiling of blue plaques at Rye and Hastings to honour local people, community fairs etc.	

	<p>Cllr Ledger reported that the Local Plan group had another meeting to progress it forward and the first draft is expected to be available mid-December.</p> <p>Local Government Reorganisation will happen but which plan has yet to be decided.</p>	
1675	<p>County Councillor</p> <p>Cllr Barrett joined the meeting and apologized for being unable to attend previously, but hopes to be able to attend as many meetings as possible going forward.</p> <p>He offered the PC a grant of £750 from his Members Grant to spend on any upcoming projects, councillors thanked him and confirmed it would go towards two new noticeboards for village.</p> <p>Councillors briefed him on the proposed Phase II of The Pippins and how Orlestone PC were intending to make a major claim for any S106 funds from it and to apply for a boundary change, reducing the number of properties in Warehorne considerably and affect the funds available to them.</p>	
1676	<p>Phase II The Pippins</p> <p><u>Update on Application</u></p> <p>Cllr Bailey reported that Orlestone PC are considering applying for a boundary change to include The Pippins, Matthews Court, Viaduct Terrace, Hamstreet Road and properties to the rear of Viaduct Terrace.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that this will reduce the number of properties in Warehorne by approximately 100 making it the sixth smallest parish in Ashford out of 42, using the proposed 2026-27 Band D figure of £35.61 the maximum available precept would be £4665 against a proposed budget of £8225.</p> <p>Prior to the meeting the legal advisor at KALC has been contacted for advice on suggested counter measures to avoid any changes.</p> <p><u>S106 Update</u></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	
1677	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Footpath AE622 – Barbed wire on Stile</u></p> <p>Cllr Bailey confirmed the obstacle was still in place and the Clerk will pursue the matter.</p> <p><u>Dandara</u></p> <p>The Street Lamps are now working.</p> <p>Road Works – Planned roadworks at the entrance to The Pippens which should have been completed by 7th November are still ongoing and following contact with the Engineering Manager, he confirmed that KCC Highways refused to issue the adoption certificate as they were unsatisfied with the roads construction and Dandara agreed to reconstruct it. Unfortunately, whilst removing the existing sub-layers a mains water leak was discovered and</p>	

	<p>reported to SEW on 14th October, and we have been in constant contact with them.</p> <p>Dandara understand the issues this is causing and held a meeting with KCC Highways on 12th November to agree how they can resolve the issue together, if the proposals were accepted work can restart although it will take a minimum of 3 weeks to complete from the date they receive acceptance.</p> <p><u>Flag-flying Policy</u></p> <p>Cllr Banach raised concerns and suggested we should follow the Government guidelines, the existing policy remains. This was agreed.</p> <p><u>Caretaker Scheme</u></p> <p>Cllrs Jones and Bailey met with the current caretaker and feel he is happy to continue to do the work and he suggested a meeting with the current administrator of the scheme, the Chair of Kenardington and the caretaker and discuss a way forward from April. The ideas suggested were: -</p> <p>Caretaker working independently for us and hiring the equipment from Wittersham, or Working in conjunction with Wittersham.</p> <p><i>Post meeting, after trying to arrange a meeting, and received the following reply from Wittersham: -</i></p> <p><i>Unfortunately, Alf wasn't in a position to suggest a meeting. Wittersham Parish Council has already decided that following ABC's reduction in funding, to run the Scheme was no longer viable. I sent a letter from my chairman to all three Parish Council Chairman involved in the Scheme in September, but this is the first time a meeting has been suggested. We have already informed ABC that the Scheme will cease on 31st March 2026 and Alf has agreed to reduce his hours. He is 70 now and we have been lucky to have kept him working full time as long as he has. He will still carry out the work for KCC, clearing drains and grips and cleaning road signs etc. in all the parishes. We have a separate contract with KCC. ABC will be responsible for the grass and hedge cutting and the emptying of waste and dog bins which they own from 1st April 2026.</i></p> <p>The Clerk has also contacted Cllr Guy Pullen, Cabinet Member for Parks & Recreation, to explain the issue and how it will impact our annual expenditure and request that Aspire also undertake the 'extras' at no cost to WPC, and confirm the agreed works are on their schedule from April 2026. Unfortunately, despite Cllr Pullen supporting our case, Aspire will only cover areas owned by ABC although they are prepared to quote on the additional areas.</p>	
1678	<p>Village Matters</p> <p><u>Village Green</u></p> <p>Nothing to report</p> <p><u>Village Hall</u></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	
1679	<p>Malthouse Lane</p> <p><u>Breach of Planning</u></p>	

	Awaiting update from the Ombudsman's office	
1680	Planning None received	
1681	Gov.uk Email Addresses The Clerk asked if all members agreed this could be removed from the agenda, no problems were highlighted and the item will be removed from the January agenda.	
1682	Correspondence <u>Previously emailed</u> KALC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Chief Executive Bulletin – November Newsletter – Training & Weekly Bulletins – AGM on 22nd November in Rochester – Annual Planning Survey KALC – Ashford Branch NALC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Chief Executive Bulletins Katie Lam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – October in The Weald Ashford BC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Update on Eurostar – Parish Forum 24th November 	
1683	Finance a. <u>2026-27 Proposed Budget & Precept</u> The Clerk presented the proposed budget for next year; due to the status quo of the caretaking service the proposed budget has increased by £520 and the precept by £525 making the cost per Band D properties to £35.61 and increase of £1.54. Councillors discussed the proposal and Cllr Banach proposed its acceptance, seconded by Cllr Saunders and agreed. b. <u>Authorisation of Payment</u> Chq No 507 - A Beach – October Salary £227.70 Chq No 508 – A Beach – Poppy Wreath £29.49 Chq No 509 – P Jones – Gift for R Henderson £50.00 Direct Debit Hugo Fox September - £11.99 <u>Receipts</u> None	

1684	<p>Working Party Reports</p> <p>Finance - Monthly Transaction Statement, following the above transactions the balance of the Current Account is £8,832.59, NSI Investment Account £6,865.44, total working capital is £15,698.03. Unable to reconcile as no bank statement available.</p> <p>Highways – Nothing to report</p>	
1685	<p>Items for Information</p>	
1686	<p>Date of the next scheduled meeting, 19th January 2026 at 6pm.</p>	

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Dates for Future Meetings

January 19th 2026

Meetings normally start at 6.00pm