



**An Ordinary Meeting of the above Council
was held on Wednesday 09th October at 6.30pm,
in the St Marys Community Centre.**

- 177/24 **To note those, present and record apologies and those not present.**
Present: Cllr Alan Cooper (Chair), Cllr Jac Wood, Cllr John Seaton, Cllr Matthew Bridger, Cllr Chacko Jacob, Cllr Payal Khandalaker, Cllr Chris Morley and Cllr Shafi Khan.
Also Present: The Clerk and Peter New Neighbourhood Watch
Apologies: Cllr Paul Bartlett (Planning), Cllr Ellie Crook, Cllr Greg Faulkner, Cllr Trish Cornish and Cllr Brian Varney (Health), Cllr Charles Ellis – Work.
Apologies also received from: PC Adam Staughton.
Resolved: Agreed by those present to accept all apologies received.
- 178/24 **To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI's) or a Voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda.**
None declared.
- 179/24 **To consider and adopt the Minutes of the September 11th 2024.**
Agreed: Cllr Morley had declared a voluntary interest due to his work on the Parish Rooms, and took no part in the discussions on this so minutes therefore amended to show this.
Action: Agreed Clerk to amend minutes as per agreed wording and bring to next Council meeting for signing by the Chair.
- 180/24 **Public Open Session, this included report and presentations from Peter New, Neighbourhood Watch.**
Report received from Peter New, Neighbourhood Watch
Noted: As circulated.
- 181/24 **Finance Payments - Council to authorise and note expenditure and payments to be made as per document circulated.**
Agreed: To defer as need budget line expenditure detailing, balances not configuring correctly on accounts package from last years to this years, additionally noted Septembers payments are yet to be made.
Action: Agreed Clerk will look to add to next agenda, but will be deferred until resolved.
- 182/24 **Committee Membership: Council to elect additional members to Committees**
- 1) **Environment and Places (2 vacancies).**
Resolved: Agreed to elect membership to Cllr Chacko Jacob to the Environment and Places committee, in so doing resigning from the Allotment Sub Committee.
Action: Agreed Clerk to add committee membership to the Meet your Councillors website page
Resolved: Agreed to elect membership to Alan Cooper to the Allotment subcommittee.
Action: Agreed Clerk to add committee membership to the Meet your Councillors website page.
- 2) **Planning (2 vacancies).**
Resolved: Agreed to elect membership to Cllr Payal Khandalaker to the Planning committee.
Action: Agreed Clerk to add committee membership to the Meet your Councillors website page.
- 3) **Finance and General Policies (1)**
Noted: no interest for additional members.
- 183/24 **Bockhanger Community Facility: Council to receive a report of the Chair of the Environment and Places Committee.**
Noted: By all present the Current status of meeting the 10 architects for base meeting.



Action: Agreed Clerk to push for meetings to be before December Council meeting.

184/24 Planning applications: Council to consider and agree to any comments or actions, on any applications received that need a response before the next Planning committee meeting is held.

Noted: No applications needed considering.

185/24 Women Together Event: Council to receive an oral update and agree any next step /actions.

Noted: Date set for 6th December 10am until 1pm at the Spearpoint Pavilion, currently awaiting Kent Police re finalising details and Mayors confirmation of attendance.

186/24 Percolation testing on the Ridge: Council to consider a proposal re percolation testing on the Ridge and agree any next step /actions.

Noted: Response received from ABC and recommendation by Clerk that now the extensive leg work and those that completed the work had been sourced by Kennington Community Council, it would be advisable that this then be taken on by Ashford Borough Council officers.

Agreed: Action Clerk to write to ABC and thank them for taking on this project, but to ask if we can be kept informed and advised if further funding cannot be supported by ABC that Kennington Community Council would like to opportunity to assist to ensure the project can be completed.

Cllr Jacob left the meeting at 19.15

187/24 Kennington Coffee and Chat: Council to consider continuation beyond December into 2025 and agree any next step /actions.

Resolved: Proposed by Cllr Alan Cooper and seconded by Cllr Morley all with all voting in favour it was agreed with Freedom honouring current hire fees that the Kennington Coffee and Chat decision to hold these be extended for a further 6 months, taking up to and including the June meeting.

Action: Agreed Clerk to bring back to Council for the June agenda for decision July 2025 onwards.

188/24 Temporary Bus Stop: Council to discuss writing to the bus operators to see what information they receive and whether can help to publicise temporary changes.

Resolved: Agreed the Clerk would write to Stagecoach and ask how we can support the advertising of temporary bus stops, and learn how the temporary stops are decided and what current communications are issued by Stagecoach.

Action: Agreed Clerk to write to Stagecoach and update Councillors as soon as response received.

189/24 Rylands Road MUGA event: Council to discuss response from Ashford Borough Council and agree any next step /actions.

Resolved: Agreed by all present that the Clerk and Cllr Matt Bridger will work on this and bring back to Council for updates and funding if so required.

Action: Agreed Clerk to arrange meeting with Cllr Matt Bridger and look at mapping out planning of event.

190/24 Police Chief Inspector Sarah Rivett/ Ashford Borough Council CSU: Council to discuss attendance at November Council and agree on questions and areas we are looking to receive updates, suggestions of how we can work together and promote reporting.

Resolved: Agreed Councillors to consider there questions and for them to be not to specific but aimed at issues such as *what is happening in Ashford re Escooter seizures, how can the Community Council help promote reporting, what initiatives will we see in the next year to two years, what additionally can we do to support the Kent police and promote positivity re reporting.*

191/24 Community Speedwatch Event: Council to receive an oral update and agree any next step /actions.

Noted: By all present feedback from Community Speedwatch event, a number of residents attended, but more volunteers still required.

Resolved: Agreed to invite Speedwatch to do an article for the next newsletter.

Action: Agreed Clerk to write to the Speedwatch co-ordinator and ask for text by the end of November.

Action: Agreed Clerk to add Newsletter to next Council agenda.



- 192/24 Civility and Respect Pledge: Councils agrees to sign up for Civility and Respect Pledge**
Action: Agreed to be deferred and Clerk to add to December council.
- 193/24 Action log: Council to review of action log, to discuss developments for items to then be considered for motion for next or future meeting or to note and be recorded as complete.**
Noted: By all present, Councillors to review and advise Clerk of any updates or completed tasks.
- 194/24 reports. Council to consider/note information received relevant to the Council and agree to any action/s then necessary.**
- 1) Correspondences received and sent**
Accessibility of toilets at Spearpoint: Issue raised as to whether the toilets can be more available.
Action: Agreed Clerk to write to Freedom/ABC and report back on receipt of response.
Bollards on Ball Lane: Issue raised that only two houses have to pull out on to major road that are beyond the bollards on Bull Lane and whether these could moves to the end so all houses in Bull lane are prevented from access on the Canterbury Road.
Action: Agreed to be added to the Highway Improvement plan.
Quinn re architect advice: Cllr Seaton advised had now had discussions with Ben Geering and will be expecting our call to arrange a follow up meeting with Cllr Morley, Cllr Cooper or both with the Clerk.
Agreed: Clerk to arrange meeting. .
 - 2) Clerk update on ongoing projects**
Noted: By those present updates on:
Community/Health Allotment Plot : strimming being done and cardboard to be laid out which has been donated, cutting down of 3 trees in next 2 weeks to help continuation to clear site. A rough plan has been drawn and plans to bring back for Council to consider additional items to purchase such as a lockable unit, and some basic tools, bench and strimmer for example in December/January.
Self Defence with Towers School: meeting set with the Clerk and school in early November.
 - 3) Ward Councillor Reports**
Noted: By all present as circulated.
 - 4) KALC Ashford**
Noted: Date of next meeting
 - 5) Councillors Training / Training attended**
Noted: nothing additional to report at the time of this meeting.
 - 6) Health and Wellbeing**
Noted: nothing additional to report at the time of this meeting.
- 195/24 Items for inclusion on the next agenda.**
Resolved: Agreed by all present to invite the Ashford Volunteer Centre to also present after Chief Inspector Sarah Rivett.
- 196/24 Date of next meeting. (13th November with agenda motions by 4th November and papers by 6th).**
Resolved: Agreed date, time and deadlines on motions and papers
- 197/24 To exclude the public under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and sections 100 & 102 of the Local Government Act 1972.**
The public were excluded and left the meeting room.
- 198/24 Assistant Clerk: Council to receive an oral update and agree a resolution and a start date.**
Resolved: Agreed the Clerk to liaise with the newly appointed assistant clerk and ask for mutually convenient start date on the basis they agree that this is subject to a clear DBS check employment will continue.
- 199/24 Close of Meeting.**
The meeting closed at 20:20.