

ORLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Orlestone Parish Council's Meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025 at 7pm in Hamstreet Sports Pavilion, Pound Lees, Hamstreet.

Present: Parish Councillors: Andy Othen (Chairman), Mike Wady (Vice-Chairman), Dave Farrell, Sid Gittens, Sadie Michell, Steve Newton, Mags Wellsted-Boorman and the Parish Clerk (Sue Stiffell).

Also Present: Borough Councillors David Ledger and Beat Officer PC Darren Laker.

Public Comments & Observations:

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from David White and Basil Smith who had prior engagements. Those present agreed these apologies be accepted. Apologies had also been received from Borough Councillor Aline Hicks who was unwell.

2. Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest (relating to items on this agenda made in order to comply with the Kent Code of Conduct): None were made at this point from Councillors present.

Declarations of Significant Interest (relating to items on this agenda made in order to comply with the Kent Code of Conduct): None were made at this point of the meeting

3. Minutes From OPC's Meeting Held on 7th July 2025: To Be Authorised as Being A Correct Record: Mike Wady proposed that the minutes from the meeting held on 7th July 2025 be accepted as a correct record of the meeting and signed/authorised by the chairman. Dave Farrell seconded this proposal which was agreed by those present.

4. Matters Arising From Minutes of The Meeting Held on 7th July 2025:

Parking Issues in the Centre of Hamstreet: Various correspondence had been received regarding the parking issues relating to delivery lorries. No solution had been forthcoming. ABC have been sending parking wardens to the village regularly.

Morrisions have been using smaller vehicles and using their car park.

Suggestion: In the future requests for S106 funding could be made asking for a pedestrian crossing, flashing speed monitor signs. Check that it is in the HIP.

Chase up about oak tree being cut back by old chocolate box

5. Reports/Updates From Representatives of the Community Including Kent County Councillor Bill Barrett, & Borough Councillors Aline Hicks and David Ledger

Kent County Councillor Bill Barrett: No show and no response to email inviting him to meeting. Spoke to Wayne Chapman who is also a KCC councillor, rather than him being reported report him to the Reform Party. He is not supporting parish council, why did he stand Will liaise with Chair regarding complaint. Invite to meeting MP Katie Lam. Always had regular correspondence and contact with Kent County Councillor.

Borough Councillor David Ledger: Nothing to report, Local Plan 2042 is now out for consultation until 13th October. Current thinking will be ¾ unitaryies less people representing each area. East Kent is weak link and no group seems to want to take this area on. Noel Ovenden is trying to get the best representation possible.

6. Pound Leas Recreation Ground: Update

Agreements: Need to be signed by both parties ie HDSL A and OPC. A meeting is required between reps from both groups so that this can take place.

New Field: FA rep coming to speak to the HDSL A, will know about funding and consultation results. FA want the 3G pitch closer to the existing facilities.

2 cotainers have been moved to new field.

Old Field Ground work to house new containers on existing field nearly complete.

4 end opening containers and one side opening, hope to be sited in October. 75% grant from FA paid for these and HDSL A covered the rest of the cost.

7. Allotments: Update and Review Annual Fee: It was noted that currently OPC charge a fee of £5 per allotment plot.

ABC currently have 12 allotment sites that contain a total of 400 plots and charge £17 per perch per year. An allotment perch is just over 5 metres in length and width (approximately 17 foot).

All agreed that rate will be raised to £7.50 per year. Measure the allotment plot.

8. Highways:

Met with Wayne Lynett Highways Rep in July: water leaks still have 3 existing. One by Quince Orchard fixed. One by Fairfield Terrace had sewage going into it. 1 Cotton Hill Walk,

Highlight issues again.

Contact Cotton Hill manager – David and

Some issues have been done, but Squirrells Walk resurface section. Bourne Lane nasty pothole not done, opposite Dukes Head pot hole not done. By Dukes Head one way street, kerb bubbled up, asked for double yellow lines to be extended. Broken drain in Ashford Road fixed.

By St Mary's Close, should there be a white link across road to halt traffic, he did not know. Said he would raised it with his superiors.

Deer Sign: Chase

Malthouse Lane: sign up says uneven kerbs.

Chase things not done.

Lorry parking across Pound Leas car park: parked close to junction of Cock Lane and spoiling sight lines making it dangerous.

Ask for signage preventing parking. Parking wardens have been made aware of the problem. Believe that it is an untaxed red lorry. White unit sometimes red sometime blue

PC Darren arrived to meeting:

Lorry parking near junction and causing an obstruction will investigate.

ASB at The Pippins in the hands of Housing Association.

9. Reports/Updates Received From Parish Councillors:

Mike Wady: bollards in main high street, took him to Farm Road and he measured width and said that it was wide enough and would investigate possibility of having bollards put in.

Steve: do you get regular police reports for Hamstreet. He can provide this.

Sid: Overgrown hedges. The one by the old bakery impringes on to footpath. Eastside opposite complain to Highways.

Ally way Bunkley Terrace – overgrown hedges

Pavements awful outside Graham Woodcocks uneven, outside Stella House grating not taking water away.

Ask Wayne Chapman if he would attend a walk around. And invite KCC Councillor

Sadie: Morrisons are now parking in designated car park with smaller vans

HDSLAs: MUGA costs have been increased, Going to make a statement regarding fireworks finishing, fireworks account will be closed and existing funds will go into the MUGA account.

Car park fencing is rotten, and need looking at. Whose responsibility is the fencing around car park investigate. Long term perhaps looks at concrete posts. Need to have a conversation as to who is responsible for paying for fencing. Look at agreement.

Comedy evening on 2nd November being held in village hall. Tickets on sale.

Any new development: need rubbish bins

Andy Othen: CCTV for pound lease car park, expensive could potentially put up a pole is it worth carrying on as problem seems to have gone away ie human fouling. CCTV cameras need to be have a responsible person to monitor them. If a crime is committed

10. Planning: ABC's Draft Local Plan 2042; Applications Received & Updates

Draft Local Plan 2042: The following was noted:

- i) Consultation had commenced the closing date for comments being 13th October 2025
- ii) Details had been circulated via email of in-person events.
- iii) All five sites that had been put forward at the start of the year in Hamstreet and its border had passed stage 1 of the assessment process.
- iv) Various emails had been exchanged with ABC regarding the site near Carters Wood that borders with Ruckinge. This had been refused planning permission. However, although the site had planning refused it had still passed stage one in the assessment process for the Draft Local Plan 2042. OPC have argued against its inclusion however ABC have deemed that it is acceptable and are to assess the site again under the conditions set in the local plan.
- v) It had been agreed that comments be made on each of the sites, this would help form a response to the consultation. A list was circulated and the Clerk asked that all comments be passed to her and she would update the list which could form OPC's response to the Draft Local Plan 2042.

No: PA/2025/0600

Land North by Northwest of 2 Brimstone Road –
Nightingales Estate

Proposal:

Erection of 8no. dwellings with associated access, car ports, landscaping and biodiversity enhancement.

It was noted:

- i) This site had originally been set aside for a nursing home. However ABC noted in their pre-application response: ‘... *The care home was not listed within Policy S31 and was therefore not conditioned to be delivered as part of the outline permission. Therefore, there is no objection to the care home not coming forward now. Alternatively, residential dwellings are proposed, and we consider the principle of this to be acceptable.*’
- ii) There were currently 6 objections to the application. One from Adam Colton notes that the original plan would have provided employment opportunities and the executive houses planned was not what the area needed. The other objections highlight concern that the football field would also be developed on, noise etc from any building works, flooding and drainage issues that were currently being experienced in homes that are sited lower down from this plot that could worsen, increase in traffic.

No: PA/2025/0996 Parker Farm
Proposal: Erection of 8 dwellings together with all necessary infrastructure.
Decision: Refused: decision notice made available to those present.

11. Correspondence Received: not covered under other agenda items:

- Various circulars, bulletins and fraud notices had been circulated to members via email.
- Email from Margaret Hanlon who noted that the Orlestone WI is celebrating its 60th Anniversary in 2026. She requests permission to have a bench put on Pound Leas to mark this anniversary. The bench will be made by the Shed Men.
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11. Finance:

Budget Review: had been circulated to members prior the meeting. Paper copies were made available to those present.

Authorisation of Payments: The following payments were noted. It was agreed that the Chairman had delegated authority to approve payments if required before the next meeting. An up-to-date bank statement was made available to those present.

To	For	Amount	Pay Details
<i>(FPO: Faster Payment Order)</i>			

12. Items for Next Agenda/Any Other Business:

13. Date & Time of Next Meeting: Monday 6th October 2025 at 7pm

Meeting Concluded at

Chairman's Signature: