

**MINUTES OF THE CHIDDINGSTONE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 19TH MAY 2025 AT 7.30PM IN CHIDDINGSTONE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr J. Roper (Chairman), Cllr P. Harris, Cllr P. Myers, Cllr T. Nunn, Cllr K. Outlaw, Cllr M. Quirk, Cllr C. Shamwana, Cllr P. Vicary and Cllr H. Williams

In attendance: Mrs L. Kleinschmidt (Clerk). District Cllr R. Streatfeild attended the meeting until 7.47pm.

Closed Session:

1. a. Election of Chairman for year 2025/2026

Cllr Myers proposed that Cllr Roper be re-elected as Chair for the year 2025/26. This was seconded by Cllr Williams and there were no other nominations. Members unanimously voted to accept the proposal. Cllr Roper said that he was willing to stand and was duly elected.

b. To receive Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Roper signed the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was countersigned by the Clerk.

2. Election of Vice-Chair for year 2025/2026

Cllr Roper proposed that Cllr Outlaw be re-elected as Vice-Chair for the year 2025/26. This was seconded by Cllr Quirk and there were no other nominations. Members unanimously voted to accept the proposal. Cllr Outlaw said that she was willing to stand and was duly elected.

The Closed Session was suspended for the Open Session.

Open Session

Report by District Cllr Richard Streatfeild

District Cllr Streatfeild reported that not much is happening currently at SDC in policy terms but in political terms, there has been an upheaval. Seven Conservative members have changed to become Independent members. The new political split is as follows:

- Conservative Group – 24 members
- Liberal Democrat Group – 14 members
- West Kent Independent Group – 9 members
- Green Party Group – 4 members
- Sevenoaks Independent Group – 2 members
- Ungrouped / Independent – 1 member

SDC has called an urgent extraordinary meeting of the council to note the political composition as above, and then the cabinet is meeting to approve the membership of the advisory committees and boards.

District Cllr Streatfeild reported that Kent County Council after the elections on 1st May now have 57 councillors with no experience. KCC is on the brink of bankruptcy. Kent Adult Social Care has been found to 'require improvement' by the Care Quality Commission. Potholes and road repairs in Kent had a backlog costing £600m, this has now risen to £900m. This is a non-statutory responsibility.

District Cllr Streatfeild left the meeting at 7.47pm.

Closed Session

3. Apologies for absence

None.

4. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest / Non-Pecuniary Interest on matters to be discussed

None.

5. Appointment of Committees and representatives to other bodies

Planning Committee: Cllr Trevor Nunn (Chairman)
Cllr Mitzi Quirk
Cllr Paul Myers
Cllr Jonathan Roper
Cllr Chris Shamwana
Cllr Howard Williams

Finance Committee: Cllr Jonathan Roper (Chairman)
Cllr Paul Myers
Cllr Paul Vicary
Cllr Kerry Outlaw

Affordable Housing Committee: Cllr Jonathan Roper (Chairman)
Cllr Mitzi Quirk
Cllr Kerry Outlaw
Cllr Howard Williams

Local Parish Plan Committee: Cllr Jonathan Roper
Cllr Trevor Nunn
Cllr Mitzi Quirk

Representatives to other bodies:

Liaison between Parish Council and Parochial Church Council:	Cllr Howard Williams
Kent Association of Parish Councils, Sevenoaks Area Committee:	All
Chiddingstone Tennis Club:	Cllr Paul Vicary
Eden Valley Museum Trust:	Cllr Howard Williams
Margaret Hyde Almshouses:	Cllr Kerry Outlaw
	Cllr Penny Harris
Chiddingstone Village Hall Management Committee:	Cllr Penny Harris
Chiddingstone Causeway Village Hall Management Committee:	Vacant
Chiddingstone Sports Association:	Cllr Chris Shamwana
	Cllr Paul Vicary
Chiddingstone Emergency & Resilience Plan	Cllr Kerry Outlaw
CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England):	Cllr Trevor Nunn
Countryside Access Wardens:	Cllr Howard Williams
	Mr Rob McCoy
	Mr David Hunt
Chiddingstone Community SpeedWatch:	Cllr Jonathan Roper
	Cllr Howard Williams
	Cllr Kerry Outlaw
	Mrs Gilly Roper
	Mr Andy Major
	Mr Jeremy Pearce
	Mr Scott Evans
	Clerk (co-ordinator)
	Mrs Abby Brunning
	Mr Dan Brunning
	Mr Steen Carndorf
	Mr Chris West
	Mrs Kathie Foster

6. To confirm that the Parish Council remains eligible to use the General Power of Competence

The Clerk reminded members that the General Power of Competence gives authorities the power to take the reasonable action they need 'for the benefit of the authority, its area or persons resident or present in its area'. Under the provision a local authority has power to do anything that individuals generally have full legal capacity to do. To remain eligible, the Parish Council has to confirm that:

- (a) the number of members of the council that have been declared to be elected, whether at ordinary elections or at a by-election, is equal to or greater than two-thirds of the total number of members of the council;
- (b) the Clerk is qualified in the Certificate in Local Council Administration;
- (c) the Clerk has completed the relevant training.

There are some restrictions: to abide by statutory duties such as considering the likely effect of crime and disorder and conserving biodiversity, and to abide by legislation, such as employment law, health & safety, equality and data protection.

Members agreed that the Parish Council remains eligible to use the General Power of Competence.

7. **The minutes of the Chiddingstone Parish Council Meeting held on 14th April 2025** were approved and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr Nunn, seconded by Cllr Myers, and all were in favour.

8. **To hear report of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 28th April 2025**

Cllr Roper said that the meeting was a success and well attended. The speakers were Abbie Le Hardy regarding Chiddingstone fete, Richard Deville from ERHA regarding affordable housing, Cllr Nunn on the Chiddingstone Area Character Assessment, Cllr Outlaw with an update on the Emergency Plan, and the Margaret Hyde Almshouses. Cllr Roper gave a Chair's report. The Community Award was presented to Abbie Le Hardy for her hard work and commitment as the Chair of the Chiddingstone Fete Committee, and for reinstating this much loved village event. The Parish Council is most appreciative.

9. **To hear report of the Real Football event held on Friday 18th April 2025**

Cllr Shamwana reported the event was a success and £14,800 has been raised. Donations will be given to Mind, the Hospice in the Weald and Kent Air Ambulance. The committee is considering having a fallow year next year, the event has become so large and a lot of people outside the parish come to play and at times play is too rough. There may be a separate event next year. The committee is very grateful to the farmers for supporting the event.

10. **Planning:**

i. To consider planning applications received

- i. SE/25/00657/FUL: Causeway Stores, Tonbridge Road, Chiddingstone Causeway TN11 8JP - proposed single storey cafe extension with rooflights, alterations to fenestration and landscaping. Members fully supported this application providing there is adequate provision for parking.
- ii. SE/25/01305/AGRNOT: Newtyehurst Farm, Cowden Pound Road to Truggers Lane, Markbeech - proposed demolition of existing forestry building and erection of replacement forestry building with maintenance bay and welfare facilities and wood chip boiler with wood chip storage. Members felt that there is no justification provided for the increased size of this forestry building compared to the previous application SE/25/00780/AGRNOT.

The Clerk reported that the Planning Committee has considered the following applications since the last meeting.

- iii. SE/25/01095/WTCA: Pear Tree Cottage, Truggers Lane, Chiddingstone Hoath TN8 7BP - T1 Cupresses tree - fell. Members had no objection to this application.
- iv. SE/25/00376/HOUSE and SE/25/00377/LBCALT: Coneyearth, Hampkins Hill Road, Chiddingstone TN8 7BA - Alterations to timber frame and internal partition. Changes to fenestration, including additional doors, windows and rooflights. Addition of shutters. Changes to number and position of flues and vents. Additional woodburner stove. Members had no objection to this application.
- v. SE/25/00986/HOUSE: 2 South Row, Wellers Town Road, Chiddingstone Hoath TN8 7BG - demolition of existing rear single storey kitchen extension, greenhouse, store and log store. New 2 storey rear extension. Removing the existing front door and repositioning within the centre of the property. Alterations to fenestration. Landscaping. Members had no objection to this application.

ii. To report SDC notifications of planning decisions

- SE/25/00780/AGRNOT: Newtyehurst Farm, Cowden Pound Road to Truggers Lane, Mark Beech - proposed demolition of existing forestry building and erection of replacement forestry building with maintenance bay and welfare facilities. Decision: Prior Approval Not Required.

- SE/25/00399/WTCA: Chiddingstone Hoath Green, Chiddingstone Hoath - Works to Trees in a Conservation Area: Oak; crown reduce 25% (1.75m height and 1.5m width). Decision: No Objection Lodged.
 - SE/25/00400/WTCA: St Mary's Church, The Village, Chiddingstone TN8 7AH - Works to Trees in a Conservation Area: Large Oak overhanging road - prune back 1.5m from road. Decision: No Objection Lodged.
 - SE/25/00469/LDCPR: Finch Green House, Finch Green, Chiddingstone Hoath TN8 7DJ - Lawful Development Certificate Proposed - erection of 4m. single storey extension to rear of original dwelling. Application approved.
 - SE/25/00585/WTCA: Apple Tree Cottage, Truggers Lane, Chiddingstone Hoath TN8 7BP - Works to Trees in a Conservation Area: fell Silver Birch Tree. Decision: No Objection Lodged.
 - SE/25/00499/MMA: Bassetts, Tonbridge Road, Chiddingstone Causeway - Minor Material Amendment to SE/24/00521/FUL for the reduction of glazing across the elevations of the dwelling and the removal of brise soleil on the side elevation. Application approved.
 - SE/25/00505/MMA: Tithe Barn North, Clouts Farm, Ide Hill Road Minor Material Amendment to SE/24/01313/LBCALT to change rear door from double door to stable door. Application approved.
 - SE/24/03444/FUL: Pilbeams, Bradley Road, Blackham - demolish grounds maintenance building and shed, erection of tennis court and pavilion plus ancillary garden landscaping works. Application approved.
 - SE/25/00529/HOUSE: Glebe House, The Village, Chiddingstone - erection of two storey rear extension, re-provision of front door on southern elevation, alterations to windows and tile hanging and introduction of basement to provide swimming pool to be served by rear facing windows. Application approved.
 - SE/24/03042/HOUSE: Annexe at Coles Farm, Bore Place Road, Chiddingstone TN8 7AP - extension of the property to provide two new dormer windows. Application approved.
 - SE/24/03426/FUL: Watstock Farm, Wellers Town Road, Chiddingstone Hoath - conversion of part of the existing stables into two dwellings. Parking. Alterations to fenestration. Internal alterations. Landscaping and raised beds. Fencing. Application refused. Reasons: (i) The proposal would result in an insufficient level of outlook for future occupiers of one of the units through the lack of suitable fenestration proposed to bedrooms of the residential unit. The proposal also results in insufficient level of privacy for future occupiers of the proposed residential units due to the distance and relationship with the adjacent Watstock Farmhouse. As a result, the proposal would not be compliant with EN2 of the Sevenoaks Allocations and Development Management Plan and Paragraph 135 f) of the National Planning Policy Framework. (ii) Insufficient information has been provided to demonstrate that the proposal would conserve the biodiversity value of the site and protect nationally important wildlife including bats. As such, the proposal would be contrary to policy SP11 of the Sevenoaks Core Strategy, Paragraph 193a) of the National Planning Policy Framework and national planning policy guidance - the Biodiversity and geological conservation: circular 06/2005 and the aims and objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework.
 - SE/25/00143/HOUSE: 1 Newtyehurst Cottages, Cowden Pound Road to Truggers Lane, Markbeece - erection of a double garage. Application withdrawn.
- iii. To hear update on potential breaches of planning policy
The Clerk updated members regarding potential breaches of planning policy in the parish.
- iv. To discuss the process and content of the proposed Chiddingstone Character Area Assessment
Cllr Nunn said that a Character Area Assessment will become a Statutory Planning Document, thereby holding weight in the planning process. It could also feed into a new Neighbourhood Plan. The first step will be to look at a map of the parish and decide which areas could be defined. The character of these areas would then be assessed and the categories agreed, such as land use, architecture, age of buildings etc. Volunteers would then be sought within the community to help bring this information together. Bore Place has shown interest in the process and has offered some help. It may be sensible to consider working in a cluster with Leigh and Hever Parish Councils.

Cllr Vicary said that the Eden Farm Cluster is working to protect the landscape and has undertaken studies such as hedgerows and carbon levels. An officer employed by the South-East Rivers Trust is assisting the group.

11. To discuss the process for applying for an extension to the National Landscape (AONB) area

Cllr Nunn reported that whilst the Government is increasing targets for new homes, it also wants to increase the National Landscape Areas. An initial approach has been made to the Kent Downs National Landscape, and Cllr Nunn undertook to update the Parish Council in due course.

12. Finance

i. To approve 2024/25 Year End Accounts

Members reviewed and approved the Year End Accounts, proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Myers, and all in favour.

ii. To review the effectiveness of the Parish Council's Internal Control Procedures

Members reviewed the Internal Audit Procedures and agreed that they remain effective. Proposed by Cllr Outlaw, seconded by Cllr Williams, and all were in favour.

iii. Audit for year ending 31st March 2025: To consider and agree Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

Cllr Roper read the statements as set out on the Annual Governance Statement and members responded as appropriate. Proposed by Cllr Roper, seconded by Cllr Outlaw, and all were in favour.

iv. Audit for year ending 31st March 2025: To consider and approve Accounting Statements 2024/25

Cllr Roper proposed that the Statement of Accounts be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Williams, and all were in favour.

v. To discuss the Internal Audit report 2025

The Clerk reported that the internal audit was carried out by Mulberry & Co on 28th April, and the report has been received and circulated. The report states "Our sample testing did not uncover any errors or misstatements that require reporting to the external auditor at this time, nor did we identify any significant weaknesses in the internal controls such that public money would be put at risk. It is clear the council takes governance, policies and procedures seriously and I am pleased to report that overall, the systems and procedures you have in place are fit for purpose and whilst my report may contain recommendations to change these are not indicative of any significant failings, but rather are pointers to improving upon an already well-ordered system. It is therefore our opinion that the systems and internal procedures at Chiddingstone Parish Council are well established and followed." There were the following recommendations:

- i. I recommend that the acceptance of office form contains an additional part with a formal acceptance to receive information by electronic means in the form "As per Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, I consent to the receipt of all council meeting papers by electronic methods. I understand I may withdraw this consent at any time"
- ii. I recommend publishing agendas, minutes and meeting dates for all committees as well as writing and publishing their terms of reference.
- iii. I recommend highlighting that minutes are draft until they have been approved at the next meeting.
- iv. I recommend the council consider adding a risk matrix to the risk assessment to further enhance the content.
- v. I recommend the council open another bank account to stay within the FSCS limits.
- vi. Public notice of rights of electors: I remind council that this notice must be published in order to sign section 4 of the annual governance statement as yes.

Members thanked the Clerk for a positive internal audit report. It was agreed that recommendations i, ii, iii, and vi be approved and actioned. Recommendation iv is already in the process of being actioned, and members agreed to watch the bank balances and will open a new account if necessary, recommendation v.

vi. To approve membership renewal to KALC: £563.22

Members approved this subscription renewal, proposed by Cllr Nunn, seconded by Cllr Vicary, and all were in favour.

vii. To approve membership renewal to SLCC: £180.00

Cllr Roper proposed that this subscription be renewed, seconded by Cllr Quirk, and all were in favour.

- viii. To approve insurance policy renewal: £446.71
Members approved the insurance policy renewal, proposed by Cllr Outlaw, seconded by Cllr Shamwana, and all were in favour.
- ix. To consider application for grant by Stonewall Park Cricket Club
The Clerk reported that an initial request has been made but further information has not been received. Item to be considered next month.
- x. To hear update on the domain name for Chiddingstone Parish Council
The Clerk reported that the new web address will be www.chiddingstoneparish.gov.uk. Each member and the Clerk will have a new email address, and emails from the existing system will be migrated across. There will be a new SSL add on.
- xi. To approve list of payments
Cllr Vicary proposed that the list of payments be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Harris and all were in favour. Cllr Roper and Cllr Outlaw to authorise the payments online.

13. Affordable Housing provision in the parish

- i. To hear update regarding the Chiddingstone Affordable Housing schemes
The Clerk reported that English Rural Housing Association has provided the following update:
 - i. Chequers (Millbrook) site in Bough Beech: “Arazu Construction Limited have issued their 8-week notice to complete which includes most internal works at the point where they are being snagged. Externally they are forming the patios, parking and gardens with fencing partially completed. Work on the estate footpaths and road has also commenced. All services are connected, and we are just waiting on the commissioning of the sewage treatment plant. The final planning condition submission has been made for the surface water remediation which should be discharged at the end of June, this is driving Arazu’s forecast completion date. Our Sales and Lettings teams have been liaising with SDC who lead on assessing the applicants for the new homes. Applicants have been shortlisted for the interview stage which will be carried out by the Regional Housing Manager for the scheme, who will liaise with the Parish Council to confirm local connections for the applicants. Once we are at the 4-week notice period we will be able to confirm the date for practical completion. In the week prior to handover, we arrange a viewing session for the new tenants which also gives us the opportunity to explain how the heating system works, also the Photovoltaic panels and sewage treatment plant etc. I would also be extending an invitation to members of the Parish Council to view the scheme.”
The Clerk reported that she has been in contact with the Regional Housing Manager at ERHA and there is an ongoing dialogue about the allocations for the scheme.
 - ii. Bassetts site in Chiddingstone Causeway: “The planning application was submitted as planned at the start of April and we are working with the SDC planning team who have requested additional information to complete the validation process and commence the determination period. We remain confident that the scheme will be positively received and are forecasting a start on site in the spring of 2026. I would like to thank the Parish Council for their ongoing support for this scheme.”
- ii. Visit to Chiddingstone schemes during Rural Housing Week
The Clerk reported that ERHA are arranging a visit from the National Housing Federation and the Housing Minister on Friday 11th July during Rural Housing Week. Cllr Roper and the Clerk to attend.
- iii. To discuss measures to mitigate flooding in Redleaf Close
Cllr Roper reported that a site visit was held with WKHA, their contractor and Batcheller Monkhouse to look at the proposal which is to take water from the field behind the houses into the road drain, which will join the pond at the culvert point, so the water will drain away through the pipe under the road and across the sports field. Formal approvals will be sought from the landowner, KCC and Southern Water. The landowner is going to make enquiries about assessing the width of the pipe across the sports field.

14. Highways and Rights of Way

- i. To hear update regarding applications for speed reduction measures in Bough Beech and on Camp Hill
The Clerk reported that she has emailed KCC Highways to request that the 30mph zone starts before the two Charcott access roads, but has not received the draft TRO consultation yet.

This is partly in the Leigh parish and Leigh Parish Council in support of the initiative. Cllr Roper said that more signage was promised by KCC for Bough Beech, this does not appear to have been installed. Clerk to request re-painting of the white lines at the bridge in Bough Beech as vehicles have been seen driving straight across the bridge without stopping at the junction. Cllr Nunn reported that he witnessed a coach trying to turn right into Hever Road from the bridge, but as the turn was too tight it had to proceed into the pub carpark and back into the road. It caused a lot of congestion and safety issues.

ii. Highways Road Closures

- Truggers Lane, Chiddingstone Hoath - 14th May 2025 for up to 10 days outside Truggers Oast to outside number 30. This is to enable drainage works to prevent flooding to be carried out by KCC.
- Moat Lane, Chiddingstone Hoath & Moat Lane, Cowden - 19th May 2025 for up to 4 days between Top Hill and Blowers Hill. This is to enable carriageway patching to be carried out by KCC.

iii. Parish Council meeting with Highways

The Clerk reported that she had a meeting with Highways on Thursday 15th May, and reported as follows:

- Pothole policy – Highways will respond to reports put on the system, they will mark the pothole and then come back and repair it. KCC will not be liable if they have not been informed of the pothole, otherwise they may settle claims, but details are on their website.
- Mill Lane is down for a full resurface.
- Chiddingstone Causeway patching work planned.
- Moat Lane patching work planned.
- The uneven sides of Lockskinners Lane is booked in, KCC can now only use recycled Type 1 and not road planings which contain tar that could get in the waterways.
- If the road is under 6.2m wide, there will be a road closure, rather than a traffic light system.
- Coordination of road closures, this is often out of their hands as there may be a booked road closure and then an emergency one is arranged by the utility company, there is nothing they can do about this.
- If the Parish Council think that signage for road closures is incorrect, contact should be made with the person who manages the utilities. She can also arrange for the Pubs and Businesses remain open signs.

15. To discuss the relocation of the bench on the green in Chiddingstone Hoath and agree costs

The Clerk reported that three quotes for this work have been received, all from local contractors. Members approved the lowest quote which was received from Viper Groundwork & Construction. The quote is £450 + VAT to move the existing bench onto a new concrete base, and £200 + VAT to remove existing concrete base.

16. Aviation

The Clerk reported that an email has been received from Gatwick Obviously Not, which has been circulated. Members agreed to respond to the consultation to the Secretary of State.

17. To discuss correspondence received

The Clerk reported that lists of correspondence received have been circulated and drew members' attention to the following:

- Item 2: KALC's invitation to an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Kent Association of Local Councils on Thursday 19th June 2025 at 1.30pm at Aylesford Community Centre. The theme of the meeting is the important and evolving issue of Local Government Reorganisation and its potential implications for town and parish councils across Kent. The Clerk has booked onto the event.
- Item 3: Kent Police: April report.
- Item 4: KALC: Annual Conferences:
 - 20th June: Annual Planning Conference at Silverhands Estate. Cllr Roper and the Clerk to attend.
 - 12th September: Annual Finance Conference at The Bat & Ball Centre
 - 23rd October: Annual Standards Conference at Kings Hill Community Centre
 - 13th November: Annual Clerks Conference at Lenham Community Centre
 - 2nd December: Climate Change Conference at West Faversham Community Centre
 - 24th February: Chairmanship Conference at New Romney Community Centre

- iv. Item 5: Kent Police: Hill Hoath Road, Chiddingstone: between 00:01 on Sunday 16th March and 12:40 on Wednesday 16th April, somebody tried to break into a residential property. Crime Report No. 46/63576/25
- v. Item 6: High Weald National Landscape Partnership: High Weald Nature and Community Fund now open for new applications – deadline Monday 15th July. The Fund offers support for work that benefits nature and people across the High Weald National Landscape, including the villages and towns in and around it. Grants range from £500 up to £20,000, with larger amounts available for large-scale, multi-year projects. highweald.org/grants/high-weald-fund. The High Weald Nature and Community Fund aims to:
 - Create wildlife-friendly spaces like community gardens, pocket parks, allotments, orchards, and school growing areas, especially in towns and villages.
 - Enhance habitats through pond creation, wetlands, tree and hedge planting, wildflower meadows, and wildlife boxes.
 - Support habitat restoration, including hedge-laying, coppicing, and removing invasive species.
 - Engage communities in managing green spaces, volunteering, and provide training for conservation projects.
 - Improve access for underrepresented groups, including young people, those with physical or mental health challenges, and people living with disabilities.
- vi. Item 11: CPRE's invitation to the first virtual Town Hall event taking place on Tuesday 3rd June, 4:30-6pm. The event offers a unique look at the key issues that CPRE is campaigning on. The Clerk has booked onto the event.
- vii. Item 12: SDC News Releases:
 - (i) "Cllr Lynda Harrison became Chairman of SDC on Thursday 15th May 2025. Lynda has spent her entire life living in Bromley and Kent, including the past 28 years in West Kingsdown. Lynda has chosen to support two Chairman's charities this year, 'Head in the Game' and 'Friends for families'.
 - ii) A Hartley resident who put up two buildings in the Green Belt without planning permission, then refused to comply with a planning enforcement notice, has been fined £20,000 by Sevenoaks Magistrates. He was also ordered to pay a £2,000 victim surcharge and £250 towards the costs of bringing the case.

18. To hear report and discuss Parish Projects, including approval of costs:

- i. Chiddingstone Closed Churchyard
The Clerk reported that a meeting was held with the contractor and church warden, and works agreed.
- ii. Chiddingstone Car Parking
None.
- iii. Rural Swathe cutting contract
The Clerk reported that the cost of the two rural swathe cuts will be the same at £7,200 + VAT unless there is a rise in fuel prices, which will be reflected in the cost. The devolved funding from KCC this year will be £5,418.18. The first cut is due in April and May. The contractor will start the round on Wednesday. The second cut should be in September and October. The Clerk reported that very sadly the contractor died unexpectedly yesterday, but the business has confirmed that the work will continue. Members expressed their sympathy for this loss. The Clerk also advised that an anonymous email has been received regarding the verge cutting. Members are unable to act upon anonymous correspondence, and confirmed that the verge cutting dates are set by KCC.
- iv. SpeedWatch
The Clerk reported that the group has been out on 16th April, 9th May and 16th May. The Clerk reported that Leigh Parish Council has contributed half of the cost of the equipment which is now jointly owned. The amount received is £992.50.
- v. Summer Family Fun Play event
The Clerk reported that this is on Friday 1st August in the Chiddingstone Causeway Sports Field.
- vi. Litter Pick, Bulk Refuse Freighter and Flytipping
 - i. Parish litter pick: next date: 8th November 2025.
 - ii. Bulk Refuse Freighter visits

2025 dates:	14.06.25	10.00-10.30: The Rock Inn
		10.45-11.15: The Wheatsheaf
		11.30-12.00: Richards Close

13.09.25 10.00-10.30: The Rock Inn
 10.45-11.15: The Wheatsheaf
 11.30-12.00: Richards Close
 08.11.25 10.45-11.15: The Rock Inn
 11.30-12.00: The Wheatsheaf
 12.15-12.45: Richards Close

iii. Flytipping
 None.

vii. Emergency Plan

Cllr Outlaw reported that the cluster meeting planned for Thursday 22nd May but been cancelled and new date to be advised. There will be two guest speakers at the next meeting so it is important that as many people as possible attend.

19. Items for reporting or inclusion in future agenda

The following items to be discussed at the June Parish Council meeting: Earmarked Reserves and CIL expenditure: £6,217.02 needs to be spent by 12.10.25.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 16th June 2025 at 7.30pm in Chiddingstone Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.14pm.

Chiddingstone Parish Council – 19th May 2025

List of Payments since last meeting (figures inclusive of VAT)

Payment Number	Date	Payee	Amount inc. VAT	VAT
718	19.05.25	Clerk - salary	£1,363.63	
719	19.05.25	HMRC – PAYE	£308.59	
720 SO	19.05.25	Kent County Council – pension contribution	£549.66	
721	19.05.25	Clerk – mileage and reimbursement costs (annual meeting flowers and refreshments, zoom renewal, purchase clips for SpeedWatch)	£338.37	£15.63
722	19.05.25	KALC – membership renewal	£675.86	£112.64
723	19.05.25	SLCC – membership renewal	£180.00	
724	19.05.25	Zurich Municipal – insurance policy renewal	£446.71	
725	19.05.25	Mulberry Local Authority Services Ltd – internal audit	£252.36	£42.06
726	19.05.25	Hever Landscapes Ltd – closed churchyard	£366.00	£61.00
727	19.05.25	SDC – bulk refuse freighter 05.04.25	£458.32	£76.39
728	19.05.25	Edenbridge & Oxted Agricultural Show - sponsorship	£150.00	
			<u>£5,089.50</u>	<u>£307.72</u>

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