



Minutes: Ordinary Meeting of Leysdown Parish Council
Tuesday 27th January 2026 at Leysdown Village Hall at 7pm

Present: Cllr. Switters, Cllr. Moore, Cllr. Bidgood, Cllr. Partis, Cllr. Lammin, Mrs E O’Neill – Clerk, Mrs S Poole – RFO.

Members of the Public: 7 parishioners, plus PC Kinrade and Cllr. Maxwell Harrison (KCC)

LOSPCM25/26-126 Apologies:

Cllr. Sandle and Cllr. Noe sent their apologies.

LOSPCM25/26-127 Public Session (30 minutes)

A parishioner raised that there is a resident parked in the coastal park who is chopping up trees and using them as fuel for their caravan. The car parking signs are often removed, and the lack of enforcement was discussed. Cllr. Moore asked the parishioner to email her about the issues.

LOSPCM25/26-128 To receive any report from Borough Councillor:

Cllr. Moore provided an update about the last Swale Borough Council meeting which was disrupted by members of the public. A debrief meeting is scheduled from Swale Borough Council and the arrangements to attend public meetings may change as a result.

Cllr. Moore provided an update about the Pride in Place funding. There is a workshop day in London on 12th February 2026. There are currently no places available to attend; the RFO has sent details of the issue onto Cllr. Harrison and Kevin McKenna, MP.

LOSPCM25/26-129 To receive any report from County Councillor:

Cllr. Maxwell Harrison provided a written report. **See Appendix 1.**

LOSPCM25/26-130 To receive any report from Community Warden Claire Jones and PC Neil Kinrade

PC Kinrade read through his report, which can be viewed at **Appendix 2.** PC Kinrade will provide the Clerk with information about staying safe in the community, which can be shared on social media.



Cllr. Switters noted that Claire Jones could not attend the meeting but has sent a written report, which was read out. **See Appendix 3.**

LOSPCM25/26-131 For Members to make or receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests

None to note.

LOSPCM25/26-132 Approval and Adoption of Minutes

The minutes from the Full Council Meeting of 25th November 2025 were circulated to Councillors, prior to the meeting.

Cllr. Switters proposed that the minutes were adopted as a true record of the meeting. Cllr. Moore seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; accepted.**

LOSPCM25/26-133 Matters arising from the previous minutes and not covered by other agenda items

None to note.

LOSPCM25/26-134 Community Engagement – Working Groups

a Review of the Christmas Lights Switch On Event – 29th November 2025

The event was well received and well attended by members of the community. There was a lot of positive feedback about the Christmas lights from members of the public.

Future community events for 2026 were discussed. Councillors were asked to send any ideas for events to the Clerk for collation.

c Eastern Sheppey Resilience Meeting with Warden and Eastchurch Parish Council

The meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 3rd March at Eastchurch Village Hall, between 12.30pm and 2.30pm. The Clerk is to email all Councillors to ensure they are aware of the date/time. The RFO will email Warden Parish Council.

LOSPCM25/26-135 Interim Committee Reports

a Footpaths, Properties and Greens Committee

The next meeting is on 3rd February 2026.



b **Planning & Transportation Committee**

i. HIP Update

Cllr. Switters provided an update about the HIP. The Clerk has contacted St Clement's School to enquire about their School Travel Plan but has not had a response yet. KCC have confirmed that a traffic survey will be completed in the Easter holidays along the Promenade (no cost to the Parish).

c **Staffing Committee**

i. Set a date for the next meeting

The meeting was set for Saturday 21st February at 9.30am. It will be held at the Eastern Sheppey Community Hub.

d **Finance Committee**

i. Recommendations from committee meeting on 15th November include:

a) War Graves Project, to proceed with the War Graves Project within the next three months, ensuring the necessary planning and permissions are in place before commencement.

Cllr. Moore proposed the above recommendation. Cllr. Switters seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

b) Bandstand Maintenance – To arrange for the repainting of the bandstand to ensure its continued preservation and visual upkeep.

Cllr. Moore proposed the above recommendation. Cllr. Switters seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

c) Councillor Skills Audit – To carry out a full skills audit of all councillors to identify areas for development and strengthen governance and community engagement.

Cllr. Moore proposed the above recommendation. Cllr. Partis seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

d) Mandatory Councillor Training – To implement mandatory training for all members, as determined appropriate by the Parish Council, to support effective decision-making and compliance with statutory duties.

Cllr. Moore proposed the above recommendation. Cllr. Partis seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**



LOSPCM25/26-136 Update from Outside Bodies

- a. **Local KALC Meeting, 16th February 2026**
- b. **Greenway Light Railway Meeting – date TBC**
- c. **Joint Transportation Board (JTB) – 9th March 2026**
- d. **Sheppey Area Committee – 3rd February 2026**
- e. **Swale Liaison Forum – 9th February 2026**
- f. **Sheppey Island Forum – 20th January 2026**

Cllr. Switters attended in-person, and the Clerk and the RFO attended virtually. The Community Governance Review was discussed at the meeting.

LOSPCM25/26-137 Appeals

LOSPCM25/26-138 General matters raised by Parish Councillors Reports for discussion

LOSPCM25/26-139 Financial Statement and Authorisation of Payments

- a. **The Clerk will make payments under the delegated powers of the Clerk/RFO and to seek approval of any additional payments as necessary. See Appendix 4.**

Cllr. Moore proposed that the payments be approved. Cllr. Bidgood seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

- b. **Agree the budget for 2026-2027**

The Finance Committee recommend that a budget for 2026-2027 is set at £133,297.70p. Cllr. Moore proposed that the budget be approved. Cllr. Bidgood seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

- c. **Agree the precept for 2026-2027**

The Finance Committee recommend that a precept for 2026-2027 of £90,038.68p. This works out at an increase of £7.69 per year per parishioner. Total average precept costs for parishioners per month will be £6.27. On a weekly basis, this works out at £1.44.



Cllr. Moore proposed that the precept be agreed. Cllr. Switters seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

LOSPCM25/26-140 Consultations

a. Swale Community Governance Review

The Parish Council discussed the consultation. Only 239 people have responded so far. The RFO will print consultation forms that can be distributed at the Village Hall.

Cllr. Switters proposed that the proposal of a single Leysdown and Warden Parish Council be suggested. Cllr. Lammin seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

b. Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Lettings Policy

The policy was noted.

LOSPCM25/26-141 Correspondence

a. KALC Newsletter December/January

Noted.

b. Kent and Medway Resilience Forum Project Update

Noted.

c. Swale Community Preparedness Webinar Series – January to March 2026

Noted.

d. St George's Survey Report

Noted.

e. Request for Councillor Support: Sheppey Pulse Network Housewarming Starter Parks Initiative

The Council would like further information from Sheppey Pulse Network about how many families in Leysdown parish will be helped.

f. Pride in Place Funding: info event in London, 12th February 2026

Noted.



g. Invitation & Notice: Multi-Agency Workshop on Community Wellbeing

Noted.

h. Kent Parks website

Noted. The application is due to be submitted in the next couple of months.

i. Isle of Sheppey Band Funding Request

The funding request was not emailed into Leysdown Parish Council. The Clerk is to discuss the request with the band.

j. KALC Community Award

Cllr. Bidgood proposed that John Osmond of Leysdown FC be nominated for exceptional services to grounds maintenance in the Parish. Cllr. Partis seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

k. Swale Community Governance Review

Discussed at a previous agenda point.

l. Swale Local Plan Consultation

Cllr. Moore proposed that a copy is purchased for the Parish. Cllr. Lammin seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Accepted.**

The Planning Committee will then review and provide a response.

m. Leisure & Tourism Officer for the Island (suggestion from Sheerness Town Council)

The Council discussed the proposal and suggested that there are other community organisations on the island who can cover such issues. Cllr. Switters proposed that any role is not supported by Leysdown Parish Council. Cllr. Moore seconded. All agreed. **Resolved; Agreed.**

LOSPCM25/26-142 Training

a. Clerk to update on who has done the basic training

The Clerk will forward the details of the Nuts & Bolts Training onto Cllr. Lammin.



b. Update of the Clerk's ILCA

The Clerk continues to work on the iLCA qualification.

LOSPCM25/26-143 General matters raised by Councillors for discussion

None to note.

LOSPCM25/26-144 Recommendations to next Full Council

- Community engagements for 2026.

LOSPCM25/26-145 Dates of Next Meeting

- 3rd February: Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee 7pm
- 6th February: Finance Committee 10.30am
- 12th February: Planning & Transportation Committee 7pm
- 24th February: Full Council Meeting.

LOSPCM25/26-146 Closure of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.56pm.

Appendix 1: Report from Cllr. Maxwell Harrison.

Appendix 2: Report from PC Kinrade.

Appendix 3: Report from Claire Jones.