**WICKHAMBREAUX PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2026 AT 7.30PM AT WICKHAMBREAUX VILLAGE HALL, THE STREET, WICKHAMBREAUX, CT3 1RJ**

**Present:** Parish Cllr Peter Collinson (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Philippa Barber
Parish Cllr Caroline Rees
Parish Cllr Susan Matthews

Mrs Chenice Howard-Sparkes, Clerk to the Council

2 Members of the Public

**1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Parish Cllr Emma Denning (Illness), Parish Cllr Martin Twyman (Medical) and City Cllr Lee Castle.

**2. CANDIDATES FOR CO-OPTION**

A news item was posted on the website on 17 May 2026 to ask for expressions of interest. The Clerk confirmed that no candidates have put themselves forward to date. Councillors were asked to approach residents who may be interested directly. Cllr Barber proposed a letter drop to residents in Wickhambreaux should nobody come forward, which was unanimously agreed.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**4. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2026**

It was proposed by Cllr Rees, seconded by Cllr Barber and unanimously AGREED that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 May 2026 be accepted as a true record of the meeting with one amendment (change 'KCC PROW' to 'KCC Highways' under Any Other Business) and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

9 – The Clerk confirmed that the annual return was submitted to Mazars LLP via email on 17 May 2026. The Notice for the Exercise of Public Rights was published in the noticeboard and on the Parish Council website on 02 June 2026 in accordance with regulations.

Please refer to Item 17 (Clerk Report) for any updates on non-agenda items since the last meeting.

**6. REPORTS**

The following full reports can be found in the Appendix at the end of the minutes:
Cllr Mike Sole
Cllr Lee Castle
KCC Community Warden – Roger Lithgow
Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) – Linda Lodge

**7. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Barber has reported to KCC two issues on Grove Road; the first outside Chapel Cottage where the road appears to have partially sunk, and the second a number of potholes between Linton House and New Grove House.

Cllr Barber reported on behalf of Cllr Twyman that the A257 Group petition for safety improvements along the A257 is now live. The Clerk posted a news item on the website on 20 May 2026, and a poster with a QR code has been placed in the noticeboard.

The Group calls for a 50mph speed limit on the Ash bypass; a 40mph speed limit in the hamlet of Shatterling; central double white lines on the Roman Road and enforcement of the speed limits to improve safety for everyone living, working, walking, cycling, riding and driving on this road. An e-petition has been set up, which runs until 19 August 2026. To sign, please click on the link below to access KCC's e-petition portal:
https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=567&RPID=316529147&HPID=316529147

Councillors considered possible locations to leave a hard copy of the petition for signatures in the parish but could not identify an appropriate venue.

**8. PLANNING**

**New Applications**

**CA/26/00704 – Grove House, Grove Road**

An application has been received for a single-storey rear extension to existing garage as use as ancillary accommodation. The Parish Council has no objections to the proposals.

**Determined**

**CA/25/02053 – The Pear Orchard, Hawthorn Bungalow and Altona, The List**

During the course of the application, the description was amended to omit reference to the 7no self-build plots, temporary access and off-site highway improvements. The application that has now been granted by CCC only comprises the proposed construction of access road following the demolition of Altona.

**CA/26/00455 – Hook Farm, Grove Road**

CCC has granted the application for erection of a single storey outbuilding following demolition of existing outbuilding.

**9. QUOTATIONS FOR LEGAL ADVICE ON THE FRANK MONTGOMERY PLAYING FIELD TRUST DEED**

The Clerk submitted the brief agreed at the last meeting to four solicitor firms requesting quotations. Three quotations have been received to date as follows:

- Solicitor Firm A – between £1,750 and £2,250 plus VAT
- Solicitor Firm B – between £750.00 and £950.00 plus VAT
- Solicitor Firm C – £650.00 plus VAT

All quotations are caveated by stating 'in the region of', so there may be additional charges should the advice received be more complex than envisioned.

It was proposed by Cllr Collinson, seconded by Cllr Barber and unanimously AGREED that Solicitor Firm C, Kingsfords Solicitors Limited, be appointed, and the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements. Councillors felt Kingsfords Solicitors were value for money, had a good understanding of the brief and appreciated the offer of a meeting as part of their services. It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Barber attended any meetings on behalf of the Parish Council and Cllr Rees and Linda Lodge be invited to attend from the Playing Field Committee. All members of the Parish Council and Playing Field Committee will be invited to attend joint discussions following receipt of the legal advice.

**10. UNREGISTERED LAND ON THE CORNER OF WICKHAM ROAD AND WICKHAM LANE**

The Clerk and Cllr Collinson met with Mark Jones from Mark Jones Tree Surgery on 06 June 2026 to undertake a visual inspection of the trees. The purpose of the meeting was to get a better understanding of potential financial responsibilities should the Parish Council chose to adopt the land.

Without accessing the land and only viewing from the highway, there are a number of trees that need attention to make safe on the boundary. Mark estimates this would take approximately 4-5 days' work and gave an estimate of £4,500 plus VAT to undertake the

work (subject to a more thorough assessment should the Parish Council take ownership of the land). This does not include any work that may be required to trees in the centre of the parcel of land, which could not be inspected from the highway.

To add to the annual tree survey of all Parish Council owned trees, Mark gave an estimate of £650.00 plus VAT. There would be a reduction in subsequent years as the first year includes cataloguing the trees.

The Clerk contacted HM Land Registry and was advised the only application route available would be to submit an Adverse Possession application. However, to be successful, the Parish Council would need to demonstrate it has been managing or using the land in some way for 12 years. As the Parish Council has not maintained or used the land, the criteria has not been met and therefore an application cannot be submitted.

Mark suggested that an alternative to taking ownership of the land could be to explore having a blanket TPO (Tree Preservation Order) applied to all the trees. This would make it difficult to develop the land from the current green space. The Clerk checked CCC's Interactive Planning Map and this land already has a group TPO (Ref No. 4/1972/ICK, TPO Group A1).

The Clerk contacted CCC's Tree Officer to clarify the designation and request a copy of the TPO documentation. A copy of the TPO documentation was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. The following response was received from CCC Planning:

*"Anyone is able to put in an application to fell the trees on the land but without valid reasons as to why the trees would need to be removed it would not be accepted. Normally it would be applications where the tree is dead or dangerous as to when they would be granted.*

*If someone wants to develop the land in the future, just because there are trees on the land which have a TPO cover on them does not mean we could guarantee if it was going to be granted or refused as every application is based on its own individual merits."*

For felling trees under a group TPO without consent, you can face a fine of up to £20,000 if convicted in the Magistrates' Court. In serious cases referred to the Crown Court, the fine is unlimited. The Court also factor in any financial benefits gained (such as increased property value) when determining the fine and will issue a strict order to replace the felled trees.

**11. CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

A Community Governance Review (CGR) considers "community" level governance – parish and town councils and their equivalents. There are strict legislation and statutory criteria that must be adhered to. CCC must, by law, have regard to the need to secure that community governance within the area under review:

- reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area, and
- is effective and convenient.

The views of local people are very important throughout the process.

CCC has decided to undertake a CGR due to Local Government Reorganisation. With the removal of CCC and KCC (Kent County Council) and the new unitary authority being formed (size not confirmed), there is the potential for loss of local representation in unparished areas.

This review is asking two questions:

1. Does the city of Canterbury and the coastal towns of Herne Bay and Whitstable need any different arrangements such as a new town or parish council?
2. Are any changes needed to any of the existing parish councils such as boundaries or numbers of councillors? This could be because of developments or other changes near a boundary, or because the parish has too few or too many parish councillors.

Councillors were unanimously in support of town and parish councils being formed in Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable. Councillors felt it important to have another layer of representation underneath the Unitary authority to help residents have more of a voice. These should be formed to reflect the identity of local communities and the preference of the residents they will serve.

With regards to Wickhambreaux Parish Council, councillors were unanimously in agreement not to suggest any changes to the current arrangement. The Clerk agreed to submit the Parish Council's views to CCC.

**12. SPEED SURVEYS ON GROVE ROAD**

To explore further whether it is possible to reduce the speed limit on a section of Grove Road, speed surveys will be required. Three possible locations have been identified by Kent County Council (KCC) for the speed surveys; outside Kelsey Farm at 30mph sign, near Green Lane on public footpath sign, and between Linton House and New Grove House located on road narrowing sign. The speed surveys cost £105.00 each, payable by the Parish Council.

KCC has previously advised that the Compass data they hold demonstrates low average speeds already, and therefore Grove Road does not meet the criteria for a speed reduction. KCC consider the data they hold to be accurate. Should the Parish Council fund new speed surveys and the data records higher average speeds, this could open a discussion for a reduction in speed limit, however there is no guarantee.

Although there is no guarantee that the results will support a reduction in speed limit, in recognition of continued concerns from residents regarding speeds along Grove Road, councillors felt the speed surveys should be commissioned to ensure all avenues have been explored.

It was proposed by Cllr Barber, seconded by Cllr Rees and unanimously AGREED to fund 3no speed surveys at a cost of £105.00 each, and the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.

**13. VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REQUEST FOR FUNDING TOWARDS REDECORATION**

The Village Hall Committee has instructed a contractor to undertake external and internal redecoration works this summer (2026). They have £6,200 funding from CCC and £800.00 funding from the 4VPO (4 Villages Post Office and Shop), with potential additional funding from the 4VPO in this year's round of applications, but there remains a shortfall.

At the committee meeting on 09 June 2026, it was agreed to put forward a request to the Parish Council to consider providing up to £1,500 to meet any shortfall. The Clerk has checked the Parish Council's budget for 2026-2027 and considers it possible to meet the request, without there being a shortage of funds at the end of the financial year.

It was proposed by Cllr Collinson, seconded by Cllr Rees, and unanimously AGREED to provide up to £1,500 to cover any shortfall in the Village Hall Committee's funds. The Clerk was asked to thank the Committee volunteers for all their efforts.

**14. CLERK OVERTIME REQUEST**

In line with the Parish Council's retention policy, all documents held both electronically and in hard copy need to be reviewed to establish whether they should be retained. Files no longer required need to be appropriately/confidentially disposed of.

The Clerk advised it is difficult to estimate how many hours it would take to go through all the documents in the filing cabinet, the Clerk's home office, and any documents held by councillors in their homes. Cllr Barber proposed approving an initial 12 hours, with a review at the completion of those 12 hours to establish if any more hours are needed.

This would include time spent scanning in all documents to be retained to ensure an electronic copy and also arranging for the appropriate disposal of documents not being retained.

The Clerk advised that she is due to start her CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) qualification from July 2026, and therefore time that can be dedicated to this task will be limited. However, the Clerk will undertake this as and when time allows.

It was proposed by Cllr Barber, seconded by Cllr Rees, and unanimously AGREED that the Clerk be reimbursed up to an initial 12 hours to cover reviewing all documents in line with the Retention Policy.

**15. REPORTS**

**Trees**

Cllr Collinson reported that the tree in the front garden of the village hall has died. The Village Hall Committee propose reducing the canopy to create an umbrella effect to make it safe but, rather than felling the tree completely, grow climbing plants around it to create a nature feature. Councillors had no objection to this proposal. The Clerk will liaise with the Village Hall Committee to submit the necessary tree work application to CCC. The Clerk will also consult with the Conservation Society prior to the submitting the application.

**KALC**

The Kent Association of Local Councils Canterbury Area Committee Annual General Meeting was held on 22 May 2026. James Hodgkinson was elected as Chair, Alan Atkinson as Vice-Chair and the Clerk as the Secretary. Main items of discussion were the Community Governance Review and Dog Fouling.

**Village Hall Committee**

The most recent meeting, which was the Annual General Meeting, was held on 09 June 2026. Patrick Duffy and Tebiena Martin were elected as Chair and Co-Chair, Karen Newton-Anker as Vice-Chair, Tebiena as Bookings Secretary and the Clerk as the Secretary. Main items of discussion included bookings activity, grant applications, redecoration works, maintenance and events. The next large project will be upgrading the windows. On 02 June 2026, the bank balance was £7,350.75. The next meeting will be held on 11 August 2026 at 7.30pm.

**Playing Field Committee**

The most recent meeting, which was the Annual General Meeting, was held on 02 June 2026. Cllr Rees was elected as Chair, Linda Lodge as Vice-Chair, Cllr Rees as Treasurer and the Clerk as the Secretary. Main items of discussion included review of booking form and condition of hire documents, events, provision of dog waste bag dispenser, and purchase of play area safety surfacing mats for future use. On 16 June 2026, the bank balance was £14,454.99. The next meeting will be held on 08 September 2026 at 7.30pm to discuss feedback and summer monitoring of the basketball hoop and football goal. The following meeting on 06 October 2026 at 5.30pm will be the next standard Committee meeting.

Cllr Rees reported that the zip wire is currently out of action. The seat and hanging chain have been removed to prevent use until a replacement seat and chain are obtained. The Clerk has contacted Peak Playgrounds to request a quotation but has not received a response to date. The Clerk agreed to chase.

Cllr Rees also reported that KOMPAN has advised it would be more cost effective to replace the Pirate Ship in due course rather than undertake repairs to the timber structure. The Clerk agreed to seek a second opinion from Peak Playgrounds, who installed the equipment originally. Cllr Rees advised that a member of the Playing Field Committee has experience with playground installation and repair and agreed to undertake a survey with them with a view to obtaining a quotation to undertake the repairs.

The Clerk advised that a resident bordering the playing field has reported damage to their fencing and potential loose fence post. Cllr Rees agreed to inspect and report back as necessary.

**Speedwatch**
Cllr Barber reported that a session was recently undertaken in early June and a further two sessions are scheduled.

The Clerk reported that the £500.00 KCC Members Grant has been received and the Parish Council is waiting to hear the outcome of the 4VPO application. Ickham Parish Council has formally agreed to fund the remaining cost 50/50 with Wickhambreaux Parish Council.

**Footpaths**
Cllr Barber reported that she has completed the spring review of all footpaths through the parish. Two signs requiring attention on blue bridge have been reported to KCC PROW (Public Rights of Way), in addition to a damaged stile on the path going towards Grove Ferry.

**16. FINANCE**

**Income received**
The Clerk advised that £4,472.95 was received between 01 May and 31 May 2026, consisting of £3,972.95 VAT Reclaim and £500.00 KCC Members Grant towards new speedwatch equipment.

**Payments**
The expenditure totalling £746.87 was authorised, made up of:

- Cllr Caroline Rees – Reimbursement for APM expenses - £9.08
- Cllr Peter Collinson – Reimbursement for posting KALC Community Award - £23.63
- Majestic Garden Care – Playing Field Grass Cutting May 2026 – £120.00
- Chenice Howard-Sparkes – Reimbursement for ink cartridges - £42.83
- Little Stour & Nailbourne River Group – Membership contribution - £50.00
- Mr Chris Harris – Reimbursement for fuel for mowing village green in Stodmarsh - £9.55
- Chenice Howard-Sparkes – Clerk salary June 2026
- HMRC – Employee & PAYE June 2026
- Verdi Stevens-Greenwood – Village Hall cleaning June 2026

The above payments were proposed by Cllr Barber seconded by Cllr Matthews and AGREED thus authorised for payment.

**Unity Trust Bank**
A bank mandate was signed to update the Clerk's postal and email address and also remove Mark Wrightson as a signatory. It was unanimously agreed to add Cllr Matthews as a signatory and the Clerk agreed to arrange for the necessary paperwork to be signed at the next Parish Council meeting.

**Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) Confirmation**
The Clerk completed Unity Trust Bank's annual review to confirm the Parish Council remains eligible under the FSCS, which protects deposits up to £120,000.

**17. CLERK REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**CLERK REPORT (for items not included elsewhere on the agenda)**

A. **Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) Updates**

<u>20mph in Stodmarsh</u>
The Planning and Advice Officer assigned to undertake the feasibility study undertook their site visit on 21 May 2026. A copy of the Officer's feedback was circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting.

In summary, the Officer has concluded that the road through Stodmarsh village, including the spur road Lambkin Wall, would be suitable for a 20mph speed limit to the same extent as the current 30mph. The next stage is for KCC to prepare an extents plan to assist with consultation of local residents by the Parish Council.

B. **Wickhambreaux Primary School Updated Hire Agreement**
The Clerk received the signed agreement and updated school inventory on 18 May 2026.

C. **Pill Box Graffiti**
CCC has undertaken an inspection of the graffiti and due to the tight confines of the space, it is not appropriate to use their jet washer or graffiti-removal chemicals for health and safety reasons. The most workable option proposed is to paint over the graffiti using a mid-stone masonry paint.

CCC has contacted the Pill Box Study Group for their advice on this proposed method. The Clerk suggested the Conservation Society be consulted and they have no objections. Cllr Twyman advised that graffiti previously was cleaned by hand, and this suggestion has been put forward by Cllr Castle.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A. **CCC Parish Engagement Meeting**
The Clerk attended CCC's next parish engagement meeting on 19 May 2026. The purpose of the meeting was to provide a question-and-answer session on the Community Governance Review, an update on the Local Plan, and an update on neighbourhood plans. The Clerk circulated a write-up from the event, and a copy of the presentation slides provided by CCC.

B. **Kent Downs National Landscape Management Plan**
The consultation on the draft Kent Downs National Landscape Management Plan is open until Sunday 19 July 2026. This is a key opportunity for local communities, including parish councils, residents, landowners, farmers, businesses and organisations, to help shape the future of the Kent Downs National Landscape. More information can be found by visiting Kent Downs website - https://kentdowns.org.uk/landscape-management/management-plan-review-2026-2031/.

C. **Open Spaces Society Annual General Meeting (AGM)**
The Open Spaces Society AGM will be held on 02 July 2026. Representatives can either attend in person or virtually. Deadline to register attendance is 22 June 2026.

D. **Old Stone House Property Boundary**
The Clerk received a complaint on 11 June 2026 from local residents regarding the state of the property boundary of The Old Stone House, between the fenceline and property boundary. The fencing was approved under planning application CA/21/00840. Conditions 4 and 5 of the planning permission required approval of soft landscaping works prior to the fencing being installed. The Clerk contacted City Cllr Castle to follow up with CCC Planning to check whether these conditions were met and, if so, what was agreed. Since the complaint was received, clearance work started on 15 June 2026 but has not been completed.

E. **Nuisance Geese**
The Clerk received an email from a resident complaining about two nuisance geese loitering around Seaton Road, which appear loud and aggressive to passers-by. The Clerk contacted City Cllr Castle to enquire with Environmental Health whether they will take any action. Local wildlife charities will only intervene if the geese are injured.

F. **KALC News June 2026**
Previously circulated via email.

All other correspondence was noted.

**18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Parish Council wished to record its congratulations to Cllr Lee Castle on his appointment as Chair of Littlebourne Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 8.48pm.

Signed……..... (Chairman)

Date…….....

**16 June 2026 Appendix – Copy of Reports**
**County Cllr Mike Sole – May 2026 Report**
A little bit later than usual, but here is my April 2026 update.

Well May has certainly been busy, eventful and enjoyable.

Early on the month the Liberal Democrat group on Canterbury City Council left the coalition with the Labour Party, who are now running a minority administration. This means that I am no longer the deputy leader of Canterbury City Council and that Liberal Democrats no longer hold cabinet positions.

May is always a busy month of Parish Council Annual Meetings. It is always good to see many residents at these meetings, and many had interesting guest speakers. During the month I attended meetings at Barham, Lower Hardres, Thanington, Upper Hardres, Kingston and Chartham.

At KCC I attended a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee and also the full council meeting – you may have seen some of the headlines from this meeting, including that the Reform administration have changed the constitution so that Council meetings start with the Lord's Prayer and end with the singing of The National Anthem. I spoke against both of these changes, as whilst there is a time and place for both, I do not believe that place is the council chamber.

I was pleased to attend the unveiling of the new village sign in Petham and launch the Bishopsbourne Church fundraising event. I continue to follow up with Canterbury City Council the issues of public open space land at St Augustines, Chartham and also the continuing concerns in Barham about potential planning breaches along Valley Road.

Changes to KCC travel assistance for those aged 16+ with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are a worry many families. There seems to have been an increase in miss bins and bins left in the wrong place recently – get in touch if I can help with these issues.

KCC, the police and National Highways have met to discuss safety improvements at the A2 slip road following further accidents on Bifrons Hill – I've been pushing for changes and will provide further updates when known
.
I have been chasing KCC about the promised improved bus service in Thanington. Developers have paid the money to KCC, but KCC don't have a plan.

New bus shelters are planned at Beech Ave, St Augustines and at Bramling near the Haywain.

Email: mike.sole@kcc.gov.uk

**City Cllr Lee Castle – May 2026 Report**
I was honoured to be elected Chair of Littlebourne Parish Council and look forward to serving in this new role while continuing to represent residents across the ward as your Canterbury City Councillor.

Although there have been fewer council meetings recently, casework has continued across all our villages.

In **Littlebourne**, I have continued to raise concerns regarding footpath maintenance and the ongoing traffic light issues on Littlebourne Road.

In **Bramling**, I have been following progress on proposals for new bus stops with grants from KCC to CCC to progress with the projects and responding to enquiries from local residents.

In **Adisham**, I have been assisting residents with concerns relating to road closures and school access arrangements.

In **Wickhambreaux**, planning matters and highways issues have remained a regular feature of my casework.

In **Ickham,** I have continued dealing with local highways and environmental concerns raised by residents.

In **Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne,** I have been assisting with casework relating to highways, waste services, and a range of other local matters
.
The launch of the CCC RISE Grant Scheme has been a positive development, creating new opportunities for community groups to access funding for local projects.

Across the district, I have continued dealing with reports of missed bin collections and other waste service issues, helping residents obtain updates and resolutions where possible. If you have contacted Canterbury City Council and have not received a response, please do get back in touch with me, as I have been advised that all enquiries should now have been answered.

In May, I also met with our local police officer, who remains very active across the area and is following up on several matters that residents have raised with me.

Likewise, our local Kent Community Warden, Roger, continues to be out and about across the villages, helping residents and signposting people to the appropriate services and support where needed.

Highways matters remain one of the most common concerns raised with me. While I continue reporting issues to Kent County Council and seeking updates, progress is often slower than residents would like. I will continue pressing for action where necessary. Kent County Councillor Mike Sole has also been actively pursuing a number of outstanding issues with KCC where responses or action have been delayed.

On 11 June 2026, from 10am to 12 noon, I will be holding a joint councillor surgery with Kent County Councillor Mike Sole at The Ivy Barn in Littlebourne. Please do come along if there is anything you would like to discuss.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can assist you with.

Email: lee.castle@councillor.canterbury.gov.uk.

**KCC Community Warden Roger Lithgow – May 2026 Report**
I am still undertaking team leader training and some responsibilities. I have completed the current team leader training courses which are required, while also conducting extensive Visible Presence around the Wards of: Sturry and Little Stour during the month of May 2026.

Nailbourne Ward I am still covering until interviews have taken place for a new warden in the Canterbury team, then I will know more about what is happening.

Little Stour Ward
**Issues:**
Littlebourne - I have been supporting a few residents where there have been some ongoing ASB (anti-social behaviour) Issues in the Recreation Ground. Myself, local Police Constable and Local CCC Councillor are aware and have had discussions about the issues.

Littlebourne - On the outskirts of the village top of Court Hill Road towards Stodmarsh - residents have reported hearing off road motorcycles being ridden at weekends, but nothing seen. I advised this is a police matter and to call 101 at the time and provide descriptions. This is a similar issue being heard in Fordwich near Stodmarsh Road at Weekends.

Littlebourne - List Meadow - damaged pavement reported to Moat Housing who are treating this as an urgent repair.

Littlebourne - I witnessed an altercation between a couple of ladies at the ATM outside Four Villages shop. Shop staff and I intervened by giving advice. Police were called on 999 by public, and I submitted an Intelligence Report to Kent Police.

**Engagement:**
Littlebourne - Freshers Event on the 10 May 2026 in the 14th Century Barn - I attended and set up the KCC Community Warden Service Display. I spoke to residents and gave advice. The event was a success and hopefully will continue to be a yearly event drawing in more residents across the village and ward.

Littlebourne - Ramblers who came from outside the village, stopped and wanted a general chat. I signposted them to the Ivy Barn Cafe, which they were not aware of and appreciated the information and directions to get there.

Littlebourne - I attended an afternoon meeting where the Inner Circle group had a speaker from the Pilgrims Hospice coming to talk about the work they do. Event was well attended.

Littlebourne - Ellen House, while out doing Visible Presence in Nargate Street, I spoke to several residents about some concerns they had and gave advice.

Patrixbourne - one resident approached me to find out the role of the Community Warden, and we had a discussion about my role and other topics

**Other Engagement:**
Family Hub, Northdown Road, Cliftonville - I attended the Family Fun Day for Roma families where there were multiple agencies with stall and displays for the community to engage with. This was an opportunity to work with one of the Thanet Community Wardens and show off the Community Warden Service to public and network with other organisations. It was very successful.

Email: roger.lithgow@kent.gov.uk

**Linda Lodge, Neighbourhood Watch – June 2026 Report**
A reminder that the Police Engagement van will be outside Wickhambreaux Village Hall on Thursday 18 June 2026 from 10.00am to 11.00am. Please try to pop in if only to thank PC Kevin Beatty for finding time for us in his busy schedule.

**Summer crackdown on antisocial behaviour**
Antisocial behaviour will be tackled head-on in Kent this summer as part of robust plans to keep disruption to a minimum. Neighbourhood policing teams from across the county have been preparing for an expected increase in reports of antisocial behaviour between June and September, when there are traditionally higher numbers of visitors to beaches, parks and town centre locations.

High visibility patrols, targeted operations and the use of dispersal orders and other powers are all planned for the summer months and have already been utilised in some areas following the heat wave that brought large numbers of people to Kent's coastal areas at the end of May.

**Fraud Alert-Fake World Cup Merchandise**
Football fans are being warned about scams selling fake World cup merchandise online.

What's happening:

- Criminals are creating fake websites and social media shops posing as official sellers.
- They advertise cheap kits, shirts and "limited edition" items.
- After payment, goods either never arrive or are poor-quality fakes.

Warning signs:

- Prices that seem too good to be true.
- Fake websites using FIFA branding.
- Pressure to buy quickly.
- Requests to pay by bank transfer.
- Protect yourself:
- Only buy from official or trusted retailers.
- Check the website carefully.
- Use secure payment methods (e.g. Credit card).

If it looks too cheap or rushed, it is likely to be a scam.

On a more positive note:
Members of the public have reported 55.7 million suspicious emails to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS). This free service was created by the UK's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) in 2020 and since its launch has resulted in the removal of 250,000 scams across 443,000 malicious websites.