East Peckham Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting, to be held on Wednesday 21st October at 7pm in the Parish Meeting Room, Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham TN12 5BT.

EPPC Full Council Minutes

1. Attendees, Apologies for absence

Attendees: D Seal, T Eastwood, H Wright, T Hendry-Lewis, M Joannes, J Scorey, S North, Parish Clerk, Assistant Clerk, KCC Councillor S Hudson, 5 residents
Apologies received: Claire Hughes (Family bereavement) M Williams (leave of absence for personal health reasons) approved by council. Also received for TMBC Chair M Boughton.
Proposed: D Sseal, seconded: T Hendry-Lewis, all in favour

2. Signing of Minutes of previous meeting; Wednesday 16th September 2026

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record.
Proposed: T Eastwood, seconded: H Wright, all in favour

3. Declarations of interest or lobbying

M Joannes declared an interest in agenda item 10.5

4. To receive an update on items discussed and resolved at previous meetings

No updates given

5. Reports from Police & Community Warden

Police – none received
Community Warden: report received – please see appendix 1

Standing Orders Suspended to enable members of the public to address the meeting.

6. County Councillors, Borough Councillors, Residents,

6.1 Reports from County Councillors, Borough Councillors
Sarah Hudson – KCC budget concerns still ongoing with significant debt.
TMBC – have approved the new Angel Centre to be built in Tonbridge, approx. cost of £20m. TMBC one of very few boroughs in the country with no debt. With the Local Government Reorganisation on pause, the current format for May 2027: there will be borough council elections for 2 year's standing. In May 2028 elections for new unitary council for a shadow council. Vesting date in early 2029, when TMBC will cease to exist.
Has been acting as Mayor due to ill health of current mayor and attended many local events.

6.2 To receive correspondence from residents.
General correspondence received by the office regarding street lights out and another accident along Tonbridge Road.
T Hendry-Lewis – has received requests from a resident regarding a memorial bench on the playing field (to be sent on to the parish office) and contacted about an issue with a tree on Westwood Green, which will be reported to Clarion.

6.3 To listen to residents.
No one wished to speak at this time.

Standing orders reconvened

7. Chairman / Clerk's Report

Clerk: The role of Administration has been temporarily filled and it has been a great help to the office during staff leave and in attacking the ever-increasing workload the Parish Office is experiencing. Has received notification from the Parish Council website host that the website may be down at times whilst patches are applied. This is due to a national issue affecting websites across the country.

8. Groups & Organisations:

To receive reports from the Chairman of Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups that have met since the last Full Council Meeting
D Seal gave a brief update on the Local Development Committee meeting, which was then followed by an update from the Vice-Chair of the Local Development Committee, K White – see appendix 2.
M Joannes – gave a brief update on the upcoming Halloween Event on Sunday 1st November and requested any available volunteers to help man the event on the day.

9. Reports from members who attended any meeting on behalf of EPPC not included elsewhere on the agenda

None given

10. Finance

10.1 To note the approval of bank reconciliations.
Bank reconciliation not completed due to current workload.

10.2 To review and approve the schedule of upcoming payments
Schedule:

TMBC Non Domestic Rates	£441.00
Castle Water	£74.64, 90.92
Veolia	£181.68
Salaries (October)	£3700 circa due to recent increase, plus potential overtime
HMRC	£1547.17
PC Matters	£111.11
Brookstreet Recruitment	£344.96 x 2 (2 invoices)
Paice	£761.43 and £1066.50
bEarth (cleaners)	£1239.00
MDM Business Group	£149.94

Proposed: T Eastwood, seconded: T Hendry-Lewis, all in favour

10.3 To consider and resolve any requests for grants and donations

Baby Umbrella – request received for £250 towards cost of supporting families living within the area. It was resolved to approve.

Proposed: M Joannes, seconded T Hendry-Lewis, all in favour
Royal British Legion – it was resolved to make a donation of £200 to the RBL.
Proposed: M Joannes, seconded: T Eastwood, all in favour

10.4 To consider and resolve any quotes received

Laptop for the Parish Clerk – It was resolved to approve up to £1000 for a new laptop, plus arrange for HSE desk assessments to be completed for the Parish Office staff.
Proposed: M Joannes, seconded: T Hendry-Lewis

Telephone and wifi contract – current contract needs to be renewed. 3 options were out forward and it was resolved to go with option 1: T2K at £49.99+VAT a month.
Proposed: M Joannes, seconded: T Hendry-Lewis, all in favour

Pitch Seeding – it was resolved to ratify the pitch overseeding required for maintenance.
Proposed: T Eastwood, seconded: S North, all in favour

Replacement Ergonomic Chair for Parish Office - £299, resolved to approve.
Proposed: M Joannes, seconded: S North, all in favour

Retesting of the water tanks for legionella – resolved to approve
Proposed: T Eastwood, seconded: D Seal, all in favour

Purchase of Flood lights for Events x 4 for winter based events - £2640. There are ring-fenced funds from previous event sponsorship to cover this. Resolved to approve.
Proposed: M Joannes, seconded: H Wrights, all in favour

10.5 To consider and approve Parish Council Allotment Fees from 1st April 2028
After a brief discussion it was resolved to increase fees by 10%, inline with the increase of other facilities and services. Allotment Holders to be notified at the AGM on Friday 30th October. From 1st April 2028, annual fee for a full allotment garden will be £48.40 and a half allotment garden will be £30.25.
Proposed: T Eastwood, seconded: H Wright, all in favour (no vote by M Joannes)

11. Remembrance Sunday 2026; 8th November

To resolve who will be in attendance on the day and which councillor will read out the list of the Fallen during the service.
It was resolved for D Seal to read the names out as acting Chair of the Parish Council.
It is anticipated that there will be at least 4 councillors in attendance.
Proposed: T Eastwood, seconded J Scorey, all in favour

12. KALC AGM - Wednesday, 25th November 2026, at Ditton Community Centre

To resolve if any councillors wish to attend on behalf of EPPC, and if so wish to vote on any of the proposed motions.
It was resolved D Seal will attend on behalf of the PC. As no motions received as yet, it was proposed that council would agree on email if they wish to vote on any of the motions and

that D Seal would vote on EPPC's behalf.
Proposed: D Seal, Seconded: T Hendry-Lewis, all in favour

13. Lone-Working Policy

To consider and approve draft policy, as part of the Fire Risk Assessment requirements.
It was resolved to adopt the policy.
Proposed: T Hendry-Lewis, seconded: S North, all in favour

14. Terms of Reference for Combined Youth and Community Engagement Committee and the Events Committee; To consider and approve proposed merged TOR for the 2 committees.
It was resolved that the updated Terms of Reference would be adopted, subject to Point 10 a remaining and adding in 'without good reason', and removing the proceeding section regarding 20% of the budget.

15. Planning Applications to be considered by Full Council

15.1 **Ref:** TM/26/01812/FL **Address:** 124 Pound Road East Peckham Tonbridge TN12 5BL
Proposal: Single storey extension of existing ancillary accommodation and relocation of garden and cycle store, with associated internal and external works.

https://publicaccess.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/26/01812/FL

After discussion it was resolved that council had no objections.
Proposed: D seal, seconded: T Eastwood, all in favour

15.2 **Ref:** TM/26/01802/FL **Address:** 19 Fell Mead East Peckham Tonbridge TN12 5EQ
Proposal: Single storey front porch and side/rear extension

https://publicaccess.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/26/01802/F

After discussion it was resolved that council had no objections
Proposed: D Seal, seconded: M Joannes, all in favour

15.3 **Ref:** TM/26/01718/FL **Address:** 52 Westwood Road, East Peckham, TN12 5DB
Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Dropped Kerb
https://publicaccess.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/26/01811/LDPDK

After discussion it was resolved that council had no objections
Proposed: S North , seconded: D Seal, all in favour

16. TMBC Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation Response

Council considered the five proposed Regulation 19 representations prepared by the Local Development Committee. Council acknowledged the considerable level of detail and expertise reflected in the representations and approved them for submission.
Proposed: D Seal, seconded: H Wright, all in favour

17. **To discuss recent Social Media Posts and the accusations made against staff member, Local Development Committee member and the Parish Council as a whole, and resolve any potential actions required.** This item may require the exclusion of the press and public at a point due to some parts potentially being confidential in nature (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings) Act 1960).

    Council discussed recent online comments and allegations concerning the Parish Clerk, members of the Local Development Committee and Parish Councillors. Legal advice obtained from several sources, together with the recommended options available to the Council, was considered.
    It was resolved that the Council would maintain its policy of not responding to such posts or comments online. Any further accusatory or harassing comments would be reported to Meta and/or the Police, as appropriate, and the Council would continue to seek legal advice through the relevant channels. The Clerk and Chair will continue to update Full Council as and when there is further to report. The update report regarding the Local Development committee will be published online as well as part of the minutes of this meeting.
    Proposed: H Wright, seconded: D Seal, all in favour

18. **Matters for future discussion.**

    Resilience Planning

19. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 18th November 2026

Meeting closed 20.47

Appendix 1 – Community Warden Report

In the last few months, I have continued to support residents of East Peckham with a myriad of concerns, from leaking gutters caused by UK Power Networks, trips and falls of elderly residents, ASB in and around the area, and have kept residents up to date with scam information. Informing them how to keep themselves safe from scammers.

I am still able to support the many groups that meet in the village, this gives me a great opportunity to meet with many residents in one day to iron out any problems.

I feel most of the residents know me and how to contact me should they need any information or help.

If you know of anyone who many need my help, please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below.

Thank you

Diane Wakeling,
078137 13740

East Peckham Parish Council

Appendix 2 - Update from Local Development Committee for Parish Council

Chair, councillors, thank you. My name is Katie White. I live on Hale Street and have lived in East Peckham since 2019. I am a resident member and Vice-Chair of the Local Development Committee, and I also coordinate the work for the Neighbourhood Development Plan. This is a Report on the processes and work of the Local Development Committee to ensure some matters of fact are clearly on the record.

The current work on the Neighbourhood Development Plan started as a result of advice received from a Barrister in September 2025.

Some of you will know the consultation meeting planned for 19 July was cancelled. That was because of two family emergencies, one of them mine: that Sunday I had major emergency surgery. While I have been recovering over the summer, the committee carried the work: the Church Lane Planning response, the new national planning policy framework in August, and TMBC's Regulation 19 consultation. That work was researched, drafted and checked by the committee with our planning consultant, not by any one person. I came back in near the end of the work. I explain this to highlight that the work is undertaken by the entire Committee and not by any one person in isolation.

The committee's membership has always been recorded in the minutes, and has been on the Parish Council website for many months. Every resident member is added by a vote at a public, minuted meeting that anyone can attend. Some of us have become friends through this work; many of us didn't know each other or regard each other as friends before joining the Committee. We debate, we disagree, and we take professional advice. That is how it should work, and there has been nothing improper about how the committee was formed or how it operates. I have offered to step aside, as Vice-Chair, as NDP coordinator, or from the committee altogether. The committee have so far asked me not to. The offer stands if the Council wishes it at any point. There are spaces remaining for resident members on the Committee, if anyone wishes to join.

People will disagree about how best to protect East Peckham, and they should be able to say so. We welcome challenge. I'd simply ask that we all do it with mutual courtesy and respect. I have seen written recently on EPR page that there should be "no threats, no lies and no nasty games". I agree, and I'd ask everyone in the village to hold to that.

To cover off some specific issues, the first of 6:

1. Questions. It has been said that we don't answer questions. Facebook threads aren't a good place for long, careful answers, so we have answered in writing: the Statement and Fact Checker in May, our briefing papers, and the October update, some of which were delivered to every household. An update also confirming the open event on 7th November is being delivered shortly. All of them are on the Parish Council website. The information regarding the LDC and the NDP is

extensive and updated. Public meetings are open for anyone to ask questions and challenge. To make that explicit, it was agreed at our most recent meeting that an additional agenda item would be included moving forward for public participation.

2. The 48 homes. TMBC has given every parish preparing a neighbourhood plan an indicative housing figure. Ours is 48 homes up to the year 2042, about three a year. The NDP does not create that figure. What it does is let the village decide where those homes go and what they look like, and a plan that allocates them gives East Peckham the strongest protection available against other speculative applications elsewhere. Nothing has been decided, and residents have the final say in a referendum.

3. Interests. These have been declared and minuted at our meetings since July 2025 and lodged with the Parish Clerk, even though there is no statutory framework for resident members. Full Council adopted a Conflicts of Interest Policy on 17 June this year, and anyone with an interest takes no part in related decisions.

4. Meetings. No committee meeting has ever been held at any member's home. Committee meetings are public and minuted, held here. Between meetings, task-group working sessions and admin work needed to progress projects and hit challenging deadlines have often been at my house, because we have tech equipment to support them.

5. Data and IT. My husband and I run a small IT consultancy, Oxygene Group Ltd, which is registered with the Information Commissioner. Under a simple written agreement with the Parish Council, which the Council can end at any time, the company provides, pro bono, some of the systems used to collate the evidence. The Parish Council has access and Parish Councillors were previously advised of the system, and it will now be demonstrated at the open day on 7 November, as we had to cancel 19th July.

6. A bribe. It has been suggested that a bottle of whisky was given to a resident as a bribe. In November last year I gave someone I considered a friend a bottle as a gesture of support during Regulation 18 work. This was at a time that was tumultuous for the LDC. At Christmas they kindly gave us whisky and chocolates in return. I offered a genuine gift and nothing more.

Please let me know if there are any other issues you would like clarifying. I'll answer what I can tonight. Anything I can't, I'll follow up in writing, and I'll be at the open day on 7 November. Thank you.