

NORTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Meeting held on Thursday 8th January 2026 at 7pm
At Church Rooms, Northbourne

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

In attendance: Cllrs Steve Morgan (Chair), Eileen Rowbotham and Mark Pays.
Cllr Steve Manion and Cllr Nicholas Kenton (DDC)
Clerk: Steph Woods

Apologies: Cllrs Michaela Hubble, Brian Butcher and Bridget Porter (KCC)

Two members of the public

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 30th October 2025

It was agreed that the minutes were an accurate representation of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Pays, seconded by Cllr Morgan. ALL AGREED.

4. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION TIME – limited to items on the agenda, maximum of 15 minutes in total.

None.

5. District/County reports

Both District Councillors wished everyone a Happy new year! Updates from DDC are that they are currently setting the budget for Council Tax 2026/27. There is also an Hobby/Fun Day event on Saturday 17th January 2026 in Dover Town Hall presenting hobbies, crafts, dancing etc. There was also some discussion on DDC Planning Policy and the forthcoming Local Government reorganisation.

6. PLANNING

- a). To consider any applications received by the date of this meeting.
None.

- b). Compliance concerns foul drainage/sewage arrangements at Redrow Development 20/00419
Sholden Parish Council have written to DDC Planning to raise serious non-compliance with the various planning conditions linked to the above planning application regarding untreated or inadequately treated human and other effluent entering a ditch at the boundary with Cottington Lakes. DDC Planning Enforcement have responded to report they are investigating these concerns and have also reported it to the Environment Agency.

8. FINANCE

- a). Payments and receipts
The balance as of 8th January 2026 is £25,250.33 (with £21,000 in savings account and £4,250.33 in current account).
- Payments:
- Hugo Fox – Monthly Website Costs (November and December 2025) - £23.98
Stephanie Woods – Salary (November and December 2025)
Unity Trust – Monthly Service Fee (November and December 2025) - £12.00
Harmer and Sons Grounds Maintenance Ltd – 2025 Mowing - £3,408.00
EDF – Inv KI-59F12358-0021 - Pavilion Electricity Charges - £144.89
Northbourne Parish Magazine – December 2025 Parish Wide Delivery - £164.00
- The above payments and a £3,000 transfer from savings to current account were approved, proposed by Cllr Morgan, seconded by Cllr Pays. AGREED BY ALL.

- b). Precept 2026/27
The account review was circulated and after some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Pays to set the precept for 2026/27 at the same value as 2025/26 which was seconded by Cllr Morgan. ALL AGREED.

8. PARISH COUNCIL/COMMUNITY MATTERS

- a). The Meadow – there have been two requests for use of The Meadow in 2026. Each event was discussed especially relating to how it would impact any covenants on the deeds and it was agreed that one event would be suitable and the other would potentially be in breach. Clerk to let both event organisers know the outcome.
- b). Bus Shelter – The bus shelter needs some repair so Clerk to get quotes to get these completed. It was suggested to then make it into a book swap for the village which will be discussed once quotations for repair are agreed.
- c). Defibrillator at The Crown – Clerk to arrange replacement battery and pads for the defibrillator.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Pavilion – investigate transfer of ownership or lease option

10. CLOSE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:05.

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 12th February 2026 at 7pm