

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HASTINGLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL  
ON 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 HELD IN EVINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Day (Chair) Cllr Dryland  
Cllr Helmer Cllr Hill  
Cllr Jakeman

In attendance: Borough Cllr Betty, County Councillor Collins and the Clerk.

<b>1.</b>	<b>To receive and approve apologies for absence.</b>
	There were no apologies for absence.
<b>2.</b>	<b>To receive declarations of interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests). The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared.</b>
	Cllr Helmer declared a personal interest in the Clerk's pay scale.
<b>3.</b>	<b>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b>
	The minutes were signed as a true record.
<b>4.</b>	<b>To discuss matters arising from the above minutes not covered by the agenda.</b>
	Cllr Dryland is yet to collect the information panel
<b>5.</b>	<b>To receive reports from the Borough Councillor/County Councillor</b>  <b>Cllr Collins</b> introduced himself as the County Councillor for the area and Deputy Leader of KCC. He apologised for not visiting the parish sooner. He is available and is keen to be contacted on <a href="mailto:brian.collins@kent.gov.uk">brian.collins@kent.gov.uk</a> .  He feels the potholes should be reported and then will be fixed. Anything not repaired must be brought to the attention of Cllr Collins. The main contractor is to be changed, this should make a difference. If the potholes aren't repaired within 28 days, they should be reported to Cllr Collins and he will take this forward. He also hopes a new structure will allow the Highways Inspector to undertake the completion of potholes and those nearby.  Cllr Collins came via Brabourne this evening and noticed the poor state of the roads in the parish.  Cllr Dryland asked if the new contractor went out to tender, it did. Cllr Dryland highlighted how bad Wye Hill is.  Adult Social Care is out of control and Central Government is not covering this expense. There is a fair funding review has not been published by Government yet. KCC waiting on reports before setting their own budgets for 2026-27. KCC has rescinded the Climate Emergency as it hampered what the Council wanted to do as it stopped local contractors being able to tender as the smaller company didn't have a Net Zero policy.  KCC has a policy of no solar farms on agricultural land. Stone Street Solar was allowed and the fact that it was an NSIP would mean KCC could not be involved. The BESS storage at Aldington was a concern. Brabourne BESS has been refused by ABC and whether it goes to Planning Appeal is unknown yet.  KCC is not against Solar energy but feel it should be in the correct place.  70-acre lorry park in Capel, does that have KCC involvement? Space needs to be provided somewhere.  <b>Cllr Betty</b> had circulated his report.

	It is hoped that the International Station will re-open.												
6.	<b>Public Session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item</b> There were no members of the public in attendance.												
7.	<b>Financial matters:</b> <b>To approve the following financial documents:</b> <b>To note the Parish Council's financial position:</b> The Parish Council noted it had £4893.49 in the bank account. <b>To authorise any payments</b> The payments were authorised: <table border="1" data-bbox="301 583 1114 826"> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary November</td> <td>267.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>66.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary December</td> <td>219.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>54.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank charges</td> <td>8.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Expenses and website fee</td> <td>253.00</td> </tr> </table> <b>To approve the budget for 2026/27</b> The Parish Council approved the draft budget.  <b>To agree the precept for 2026/27</b> The Parish Council agreed the precept of £6600.  The Parish Council approved the quotation for pollarding the willow tree.	Clerk Salary November	267.06	HMRC	66.60	Clerk Salary December	219.41	HMRC	54.80	Bank charges	8.50	Clerk Expenses and website fee	253.00
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8.	<b>To consider any changes to the Risk Assessment.</b> The Parish Council considered the Risk Assessment and there were no changes to be made.												
9.	<b>Planning matters: to authorise a response to any application(s) and to note any recent planning decisions by Ashford Borough Council or any correspondence on planning matters</b> The Council agreed the proposed Becketts Close Green consultation.												
10.	<b>Any Other Business (for information purposes only):</b> Cllr Helmer could not attend the Highways meeting. Highways Steward has scraped up the side of the road near Zigzag and also on Wye Hill.  No tonne bag this year.												
11.	<b>Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council.</b>												
	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2026												
	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2026												
	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026												

Signed: .....

Date: .....