

KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES: of the Meeting of Council held on 19 March, 2026 commencing at 8.20 pm in Our Lady Star of the Sea Hall, Vermont Drive, East Preston.

PRESENT: Cllrs Wetherell (Chairman), Andrew, Marr, Masson, Randall and Hall (part of meeting).
Also Present: County Cllr Elkins. Val Knight (Clerk).

- 20/26 **Welcome and Safety Procedures** – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained safety procedures.
- 21/26 **Apologies for Absence** –Cllr Buckenham.
- 22/26 **Urgent Matters Arising** since the preparation of this Agenda - none.
- 23/26 **Declarations and Dispensations of Interests** – Further to declarations held in the Register of Members Interests, in the interest of openness, Cllrs Marr and Masson declared membership of Kingston Gorse Estate and Cllr Randall declared membership of West Kingston Residents Association and that he is on the Board of the Association.
- 24/26 **Public Opportunity** – No members of the public were present.
- 25/26 **Minutes** - Council approved Minutes of the Meetings held on 15 January, 2026 (circulated). The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- 26/26 **Matters Arising from the Minutes** - None.
- 27/26 **Policing** – The Clerk reported that PCSO Raju had advised that only 4 minor incidents in Kingston had been reported to him: Anti-social behaviour 1 and Other 3 (domestic abuse).
- 28/26 **West Sussex County Council:**
- a. **Report of County Councillor** – County Cllr Elkins reported on current County matters, including that Devolution is still being progressed to Government timelines.
The Chairman thanked County Cllr Elkins for his report, who then left the meeting.
Cllr Hall joined the meeting.
 - b. **Highways and Footpaths:**
 - The Clerk advised that County had said they would not replace the damaged bollards along Kingston Lane (west from Newcote Farm to the bend south of the Gateway sign, as there had been no recent incidents to suggest they are needed. It was agreed the Clerk would go back to County to ask for this to be reconsidered.
 - It was noted that a licence is now in place for Council to arrange for the Village Gateway sign to be cleaned and the ground around its base to be cleared on a regular basis. The quote from Mark Molica for each visit is £70 – within Budget. The first clean is currently being arranged with Cllr Andrew and the Clerk as main contacts.
 - c. **Speed limit request for Kingston Lane:** The Clerk advised the TRO request had been submitted to County.
- 29/26 **Arun District Council Report of District Councillors:**
- a) **Report of District Councillors** – No District Cllrs in attendance.
 - b) **Arun Flood Forum** – Council noted that District were hosting the next meeting on Monday, 13 April, 2026 commencing at 6pm.
- 30/26 **Planning Committee** – Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January, 2026. A committee meeting had been held earlier in the evening, and the proceedings were noted and recommendations agreed.
- 31/26 **Finance and General Purposes Committee** – Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January, 2026. A committee meeting had been held earlier in the evening, and the proceedings were noted and recommendations agreed.

- 32/26 **Devolution** – It was noted that the West Sussex County Council elections would now be going ahead in May, 2026.
- 33/26 **Dr Beccy Cooper MP:** It was noted that:
- a) the ‘Meet the MP’ event for residents of Kingston will now be a joint meeting with East Preston (venue in East Preston) – date TBC.
 - b) Council members would meet with Beccy on the morning of Friday 27 March (venue TBC) and agreed items for the agenda should include: Roundstone Crossing delays, Sea Defences, Standard of roads, Development/planning and the need for a CMP (Construction Management Plan) to be in place before development re K/46/23/PL commences.
- 34/26 **Housing Development** – The Clerk advised that following the January meeting of Council the Clerks of the EAPG (Eastern Arun Parishes Group) had been contacted and from that came the suggestion that a jointly commissioned report from planning consultant Steve Tilbury to contact MP's with, could be a way forward. Co-incidentally the Arun District Association of Local Councils (open to all Town and Parish Council's in Arun) was meeting on 3 Feb, 2026 so the idea was floated there and well received. The Clerk contacted Steve who was concerned that the remit for the report was too wide and would be expensive, as well as repeating information the Government already has. Steve suggested an alternative approach that would involve approaching Arun re a joint report. Council noted the information and decided to raise this with Beccy Cooper MP at the forthcoming meeting on 27 March, 2026.
- 35/26 **South Strand Community Toilets** – Cllrs Marr and Randall reported they had walked past the toilets and all seemed in good order.
- 36/26 **Next scheduled meeting** is Thursday, 21 May, 2026 commencing at 7.30 pm. Agenda confirming details of the meetings are published 3 days before this on our website <https://kingston-wsx-pc.gov.uk/>.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

Chairman:

Date: