

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYDD TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Monday 6th July 2026 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber at the Guild Hall

Present:: Cllrs Bob Jones (Town Mayor), Darren Chapman, Mrs Sadie Crump, Clive Goddard, Mrs Jean Jones, Della Lewis, Tony May, Mrs Kim Rye, Paul Rye

Fr. Jack Greenhalf lead the Council in prayers.

Cllr Clive Goddard advised Council that Giles Barnard who had worked for Folkestone and Hythe District Council and then Kent County Council as a community warden and had worked closely with Lydd Town Council had sadly passed away.

A minute silence was held in memory of Giles.

165. APOLOGIES

Cllr Maria Beach (holiday), Cllrs Tom Dawes and Mrs Pippa Harston (both family commitments)

ABSENT: Cllr Tony Hills

166. TOWN MAYOR'S UPDATE

The Town Mayor announced his Charity for the year as Pilgrims Hospice and said that he had a very productive meeting with them and that they will help with fundraising.

The standing Mayoral charity is the Army Benevolent Fund

The Town Mayor had attended the Cinque Ports conference VIP reception held on 26th June at Maison Dieu, Dover which had undergone a major refurbishment costing £10 million.

The Town Mayor said that the Lydd in Bloom judging was to take place at 7pm on Tuesday 7th July by the Mayoress and Roger Hooper.

167. MINUTES

a) **RESOLVED:** *That the minutes of the Statutory Annual Council meeting held on 18th May 2026 were approved and signed as a true record*

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Jean Jones and seconded by Cllr Darren Chapman

For: 6

Abstentions: 3 Cllrs Crump, Lewis and Mrs Kim Rye

b) **RESOLVED:** *To receive and note the already approved minutes of the Buildings and Amenities Committee meeting held on 6th October 2025*

c) **RESOLVED:** *To receive and note the already approved minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 11th May 2026*

168. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Clive Goddard declared an interest in any matters relating to Folkestone and Hythe District Council and the agenda item requesting use of the Rype for Lydd Fest as he has pledged to provide funding towards the event from his District Councillor Ward budget and also his son supports the event through his business.

169. CIVIC ROLES (Appendix A page 192 to 195)

Following the May Mayor Making meeting where it was discussed that more details on what is expected from those appointed to Civic roles would be helpful Councillors and the Mayor's Chaplain received a briefing note on the expectations of the respective roles covering the Mayor and Mayoress, the Mayor's Chaplain and the Mayor's Cadet.

Received and noted

170. APPOINTMENT OF MAYORS CADET (Appendix B page 196)

The Town Mayor welcomed and appointed Hazel Greenhalf as his sea cadet for the Municipal year and presented her with the official badge.

Hazel Greenhalf has lived in Lydd for two years now and loves being a part of this unique and vibrant community. Hazel rejoined the Sea Cadet Corps in May 2025, serving at TS Rye, having been a Junior Cadet some years before. She currently holds the rate of Cadet First Class and has chosen First Aid as her Specialisation, currently holding an Intermediate

Qualification. She is especially interested in taking courses in naval aviation, skill at arms, drill and ceremonial, and power boat handling.

Hazel is currently taking her GCSE exams and is looking forward to studying Art and Design at college next year and wants to follow her grandfather and his brother in becoming an artist and photographer. Hazel is also looking forward to remaining in the Sea Cadet Corps as an Instructor, and joining the Dungeness Lifeboat, when she turns eighteen. Hazel is honoured to have been nominated by her unit to serve as Mayor's Cadet for Lydd and has been selected by the Commanding Officer for her smartness, dedication, and good conduct.

RESOLVED: That Hazel Greenhalf be appointed as the Town Mayor, Cllr Bob Jones, Mayor's Cadet during this Mayoral year.

171. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The meeting was adjourned

A written question from a resident of Lydd, Nathan age 11 years, requesting that the goal posts which were removed for Lydd Club Day on the Rye are reinstated.

The Town Mayor said that he would install them again the following week.

The meeting will be reconvened

172. FINANCES (Appendix C page 197 to 201)

- a) **RESOLVED: To receive and approve/ratify the income and expenditure reports**
Proposed by Cllr Mrs Jones and seconded by Cllr Darren Chapman
Unanimous
- b) **RESOLVED: Councillors received and adopted the internal audit report.**
Proposed by Cllr Paul Rye and seconded by Cllr Mrs Jean Jones
Unanimous
- c) **RESOLVED: To approve the invoice for the internal audit report for the sum of £350.00**
Proposed by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Paul Rye
Unanimous
- d) **RESOLVED: To re/appoint the internal auditor for 2026-27 following the determination of independence.**
Cllr May queried if there was anybody better and cheaper to carry out the internal audit.
Proposed by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Mrs Crump
For: 8
Abstention: 1 Cllr May
- e) **RESOLVED: To receive and note the annual subscription to the Confederation of the Cinque Ports for the year for the sum of £400**
- f) **RESOLVED: To receive and note the annual subscription to Breakthrough Communications for the year for the sum of £595.00 + VAT**
- g) **RESOLVED: To receive and note the Explanation of Variances submitted with the Annual Governance and Accountability Return**

173. COUNCIL ETIQUETTE POLICY (Appendix D page 202 to 204)

- a) Councillors received a Motion on Notice request from Cllr Mrs Jean Jones who addressed the Council as follows:
Standards have slipped over the years; Councillors were always expected to raise their hands when wishing to speak and then when called by the Mayor they should stand to address the Council clearly. In recent years Councillors are not abiding by the rules by putting up their hands and asking to speak and they are not standing when invited by the Mayor to do so.. The way in which Councillors dress has also declined, male councillors always wore a shirt and tie, and female councillors were in business like dress, skirt or trousers and jacket. Now the standard of dress is casual and not formal enough for a Council meeting.

Cllr. Mrs Jones said that Councillors vote and do not always remember what they have voted on to become a decision of the Council.

Cllr Mrs Jones said that if Councillors take on the role then they should come to the meeting dressed properly and abide by the rules and show the respect for the role and behave in a befitting manner that is appropriate for the business of the Council.

Cllr Clive Goddard said that when he joined the Council, Margaret Weaver was the Town Clerk and insisted that he wear a suit and Councillors were not allowed to speak until they had been on the Council for a year. Cllr Goddard said that he always knows and remembers what he is voting on so could not agree with that comment but he agreed that standards have slipped and the standard of dress is now too casual at Lydd Town Council meetings and that he always wears a suit and tie when attending FHDC Council meetings so he felt that this was fair comment and we should be more formal in the way we dress and behave in accordance with Standing Orders at Council meetings.

- b) Councillors to consider the policy as circulated in line with Cllr Mrs Jones request which was proposed by Cllr Mrs Jones and seconded by Cllr May.

RESOLVED: That the policy as circulated be adopted and that Standing Orders are abided by when wishing to speak and the correct standard of dress adhered to by all Councillors when attending Council meetings and when representing the Council.

Unanimous

174. TENNIS COURTS (Appendix E page 205)

The Town Mayor reported that following a decision made by the Buildings and Amenities Committee after their consideration of three quotes and ensuring that the cost was within the agreed budget head that the tennis courts have now been relined as shown in the briefing note circulated with the agenda paperwork

175. REQUEST TO USE THE RYPE FOR A CHILDREN'S FUNFAIR (Appendix F page 206 to 209)

Councillors considered a request from Festival Amusements to hold a vintage children's funfair providing a selection of children's rides, bouncy castle, catering units, games stalls and a family aerial ride. Two hour wristband sessions. Trading dates are Friday 31st July until Monday 3rd August 2026 from 10am until 8pm and 6pm on Monday. Set up on Wednesday 29th July and clear up on Tuesday 4th August.

The following paperwork had been circulated to Councillors in support of the request:

Lydd Town Council agreement form

Risk Assessments

Public Liability insurance for the rides

Public Liability insurance for the catering stalls

ADIPS/PIPA inspection and compliance certificates

The Mayor said that they have held fairgrounds on the Rype previously and they were thoroughly enjoyed by the community. The Mayor will meet them on arrival to guide them to the correct set up point.

RESOLVED; To grant permission to Festival Amusements to hold the vintage children's funfair from 31st July until 3rd August with additional set up and clear up days. This is to include rides, bouncy castle, catering units, games stalls and a family aerial ride.

Proposed by Cllr May and seconded by Cllr Mrs Jean Jones

Unanimous

- 176. REQUEST TO USE THE RYPE FOR LYDD FEST (Appendix G page 210 to 213)**
 Councillors considered a request from Jessica Duncan, Emily Smith and Kerry James to hold Lydd Fest 2027 on Saturday 7th August 2027 – the event to run from 1pm until 11pm. Set up on 5th and 6th August and clear up on 8th August. Live music event with marquee licenced bar, food vendors and stallholders. Trailer stages for the performers which will be fenced off. Supporting paperwork to follow.
 Cllr Goddard said that this is a request for August next year and that he declared an interest because he has given Lydd Fest money through his Ward Budget and that his son donated money through his local business.
RESOLVED: To grant permission for Lydd Fest August 2027 subject to supporting paperwork being received.
Proposed by Cllr Goddard and seconded by Cllr Paul Rye
- 177. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM LYDD PRIMARY SCHOOL (Appendix H page 214)**
 Councillors considered a request from Lydd Primary School for support and endorsement in their approach to KCC for road surface and street signage upgrades, directly outside the school gates, Queen's Road, Lydd.
 Cllr Mrs Kim Rye said that in her role as Highways Lengthsman that she had met with the Highways engineer and looked at the condition of the road and potential for signage. She said that markings have been put around the potholes and that Tourney Road and the High Street are due to have resurfacing work done by KCC.
 Cllr Goddard said that the Nick Southgate from the school had emailed him as District Councillor, KCC David Wimble and KCC Peter Osborne and they had all given their support to this.
 The Town Clerk said that she had spoken to Cllr Wimble two weeks ago and that he was confident that the surface outside the school would be attended to following the work on the High Street and that the signage would come along later.
RESOLVED: That Lydd Town Council supports the request from Lydd Primary School and their approach to KCC for the road surface and signage upgrades outside the school gates on Queens Road Lydd.
Proposed by Cllr. May and seconded by Cllr Chapman
Unanimous
- 178. NOTICE OF UNCONTESTED ELECTION (Appendix I page 215)**
 The Town Mayor advised Councillors that no candidates were nominated for the seats on Lydd Town Council and therefore the election planned for 23rd July 2026 will not take place.
Received and noted
- 179. KCC MEMBERS REPORT**
 The Town Clerk advised Councillors that the KCC members report from Cllr David Wimble has been circulated to them this morning.
 Cllr Goddard said that Cllr Wimble had telephoned him before the start of the meeting to give his apologies as he had hoped to attend the meeting this evening, but an urgent matter had come up that he had to attend to.
Received and noted
- 180. CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS (Appendix J page 216)**
 Councillors received the civic engagements at which the Town Council has been represented.
Received and noted

181. **PRESS AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

RESOLVED: *that public and press be excluded from the following confidential agenda items being of a personal nature and being exempt as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.*

Proposed by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Paul Rye

For: 8

Abstention 1 Cllr May

Following the vote the Mayor reminded Councillors that matters discussed for the remainder of the meeting are not to be discussed with members of the press or public.

191. **CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS**

Confidential reports 2026 – C0014, 2026 – C0015 and 2026 – C0016

a) Conclusion of complaint submitted by a resident regarding the use of the Banks for Archery

The Town Clerk reported on a complaint from a member of the public following permission being given to the Romney Marsh Bowmen to use the Banks on Sunday mornings for their sport. The Town Clerk advised that the resident had complained to the police, Archery GB as well as the Town Council. The complainant has now been advised that the police and Archery GB have concluded their investigations, and the matter was closed by them both.

The Town Clerk read a draft letter which would be sent to the complainant advising that the matter was now closed and that this was the final decision of Lydd Town Council. Following the report the Town Clerk asked Councillors if they were in support of the letter being sent or had anything further to add.

Other Councillors said that they had been contacted by the complainant.

Cllr. May said that he felt that the Town Clerk had followed all the correct steps and done everything possible and proposed the letter as read be sent to the complainant.

As the matter is now closed Romney Marsh Bowman retain their permission for the use of the Banks for archery and are being supported by Archery GB.

RESOLVED: *That the letter as read by the Town Clerk be sent to the complainant advising that this matter is now closed*

b) The Chairman of the Personnel Committee, Cllr Darren Chapman updated Councillors on further FOI, EIR and SARS requests and complaints from a member of the public.

Cllr Chapman said that the number of requests from one person are disproportionate to the size of the parish and affects the workload of staff members meaning that additional hours need to be paid for.

Cllr Chapman raised his concerns about a public statement sent by the resident to all Councillors which thanked the Town Council for contacting Kent Online in connection with a gas leak at Lydd Club Day in June 2025. Cllr Chapman read the emails from the reporter which made it clear that these were from a resident who had told the reporter that the Town Council was at fault.

Cllr Chapman said that he needed to make all Councillors aware of the facts and would like it recorded in the Council minutes that Lydd Town Council did not approach Kent Online and that the information put out in the public statement by the resident was not a factual one and had given misinformation.

Cllr Chapman said that the following were the facts

- Lydd Town Council was approached by a reporter from Kent Online and at no time did the Town Council approach the reporter about the gas leak.
- The reporter's email stated that a resident had contacted him and the reporter asked for comments and photographs from Lydd Town Council.
- The reporter was sent a link to the published Council minutes where this matter was discussed.
- The reporter sent two more emails challenging that the matter was discussed in private session.

Following the report Councillors made the following comments:

- The follow up email to Councillors shows that the resident did not receive a reply
- The public statement came just before Club Day this year which was convenient
- Does the resident intend to try to stop Lydd Club Day?
- The later emails do not sound like the impartial wording of a newspaper reporter
- It is unlikely that Kent Online would print the public statement as they know it not to be factual.
- Councillors said that a resident had asked them for their personal email addresses.

RESOLVED: That all Councillors agree that the facts should be recorded in the Minutes that Lydd Town Council did not approach Kent Online with a story about Lydd Club Day gas leak which had happened 12 months ago and that it be noted that the resident who had written with a public statement had given incorrect information. Councillors agreed that should the public statement appear in the Press then the Town Council would respond to this to set the record straight quoting the resolution of the Council. Unanimous

c) Town Mayor addressed Councillors on various confidential matters as follows:

The Town Mayor said that he would like to thank the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk for all the work that they do over and above their day to day work.

On another matter the Town Mayor suggested that the Town Council should seek legal advice.

RESOLVED; That the Town Mayor's gratitude to the additional work carried out by the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk be recognised in the Minutes.

That the cost of legal advice to deal with a confidential matter be researched and considered at the next meeting of Lydd Town Council.

Proposed by Cllr Bob Jones and seconded by Cllr Tony May

For: 8

Abstention 1

The meeting closed at 20.30

Chairman _____

Date _____