

SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at Selling Village Hall on Thursday 16th July 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Andy Day (Chair), Cllr Garry Evans, Cllr Sue Henderson, Cllr Sally King, Cllr Jonnie Reeves, Bex Ratchford (Clerk)

Public: 3

38. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Hobson and Cllr Bowles due to family commitments and Cllr Gould (SBC) due to other meetings.

39. Declarations of interest

Cllrs had no interests to declare.

40. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2026

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed and dated by the Chair.

41. Clerk's report

- a. Action 1: HIP meeting arranged but subsequently cancelled by KCC due to staffing issues. It will be rescheduled for the autumn.
- b. Action 2: the resident has been contacted and the minutes will be collected when possible.
- c. Action 3: new defib pads still to be put in case. **Action 1: Cllr Hobson to put new pads in case.**
- d. Action 4: battery still to be checked. **Action 2: Cllr Day to check and clerk to purchase battery if necessary.**
- e. Action 5: Community Speed Watch still to be restarted. **Action 3: Cllr Reeves to speak to Cllr Hobson when possible.**
- f. Action 6: contact details, photos and report still to be provided. It was noted that if residents are sufficiently concerned about the issue it can be reported to KCC. It was further noted that the land is jointly owned. **Action 4: Cllr King to provide contact details and clerk to write to landowner in the first instance.**
- g. Action 7: landowner still to be written to. **Action 5: Clerk to write to landowner requesting the delineation of the path is reinstated on the legal route.**
- h. Action 8: details of the defibrillator at Hogbens Hill provided; it also needs replacement pads. It was **agreed** to add these to the order, as well as a battery for the one at the Sondes if necessary, to save on postage. It was noted that this would be over budget but felt necessary to ensure continuity of service and safety. **Action 6: Clerk to place order once confirmed.**
- i. Action 9: complaints responded to.
- j. Action 10: poster for post office created and put up.

- k. Action 11: SBC still to be contacted regarding wood maintenance costs; agenda item 45.

Action 7: Clerk to contact SBC.

- l. Action 12: Perry Wood walkaround still to be done although a member of the public has reported some overgrown paths.
- m. Action 13: Academy Trust still to be written to. **Action 8: Clerk to write to Academy Trust.**
- n. Action 14: photos still to be obtained and officer asked to attend. **Action 9: Cllr Bowles to send photos to clerk.** A resident has also emailed with more information and evidence. **Action 10: Cllr Day to formulate report including photos and other evidence.**
- o. Action 15: parking restrictions added to HIP; see minute 41a.
- p. The housing association has arranged delivery of a larger skip to the property in Neames Forstal, which is being filled. A timescale has been requested of the housing association. **Action 11: situation to be monitored and housing association to be chased if necessary.**

42. Reports from the police and borough and county councillors

There were no crimes to report and one incident of anti-social behaviour – off road bikes in Perry Wood.

43. Public session

Members of the public raised issues as follows:

- a. The fir plantation is overgrown and should be reported to KCC.
- b. An objection has been raised about a perceived obstruction to the right to inspect the accounts.
- c. It is difficult to get past the cars parked by the school.

50. Planning

This item was brought forward at the Chair's discretion.

- a. 26/502042 – 2 Marsh Cottages, Selling Road – demolition of existing single storey extension and the erection of a two storey side extension with associated internal alterations, including installation of new windows, rooflights, door openings and front external porch. External alterations to match existing materials. The applicant was in attendance and explained the reasons for the application. It was agreed to comment in favour with no objections. **Action 12: Clerk to make planning comment.**

44. Village sign

A brief meeting was held last week; communication is continuing with potential benefactors and costs are being re-evaluated in case of increases.

45. Perry Wood

Emails have been received from a resident with experience in management of the wood with some suggestions for maintenance and costs.

46. Complaints Policy

Some additions had been suggested regarding vexatious complaints. It was **agreed** to incorporate these and to create a parallel policy regarding communication for circulation and discussion at the next meeting. **Action 13: Clerk to amend and create policies.**

47. Local Government Reorganisation

The announcement has been made that the government has chosen option 4b, which will see Swale joining with Ashford and Folkestone & Hythe to form a mid-Kent council. The new councils will come into being in April 2028, with existing councils continuing to deliver services in the meantime.

48. Training

A response is still awaited regarding training times. **Action 14: Cllr King to chase KALC.**

49. Finance

a. The financial statement and bank reconciliation were reviewed and accepted.

Account	Balance as of 30/06/26
Current account	1,663.64
Reserve account	23,083.03
Total	24,746.67

b. The budget report for the first quarter was received and accepted.

c. Due to the credit note, there should still be no payment due to SSE, but £1.78 had been taken by DD, with no bill received. **Action 15: Clerk to investigate.** Payments were **agreed** as follows, as well as that necessary for the defibrillator supplies (see minute 41h):

Ref	Payment	Net	*VAT	Total	Auth
D/D	SSE – energy supply (June)	tbc	tbc	1.78	
S/O	Clerk's salary and office rental		-		
15	Clerk's expenses – ink	5.41	1.08	6.49	AD, JR
16	HMRC – employer's NIC's (months 1-4)	210.60	-	210.60	AD, JR
17	Streetlights – secure column after vehicle impact	375.00	75.00	450.00	AD, JR

* VAT to be reclaimed

51. Reports from parish councillors

Cllr King, Cllr Reeves and the clerk will attend the SBC Parish Council Liaison Forum regarding LGR.

52. Correspondence

All correspondence was noted.

a. An email about the cutting back of the hedges in the wildlife corridor on the footpath behind Gaskains had been received. This had not been requested by the PC. **Action 16: Clerk to respond to resident and ask if a written agreement with KCC exists. Action 17: Cllr Henderson to find a copy of the agreement with Southern Housing.**

53. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 10th September 2026** at 7.00pm.

There is no meeting in August.

Signed.....

Date.....