

MINUTES of the Badgers Mount Parish Council held on **Thursday 5th Mar 2026** in Badgers Mount Memorial Hall at **7.00 pm**.

Meeting attended by: Cllr Grint, Cllr Plumb, Cllr Dunlop, Cllr McCartney, Cllr Lake, Cllr Tony Marshall (HPC), Clerk + 4 residents

Meeting commenced: 19:05

MINUTES

1. *APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:* There were no apologies for absence.
2. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES:* The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 February 2026 were reviewed and approved without amendment.
3. *DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS:* No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or other interests were made by any member in relation to items on the agenda.
4. *PUBLIC SESSION:*

Residents in attendance raised concerns regarding the proposal for thirty additional Conway vehicles to be parked and operated from the Chelsfield depot. They expressed worries about the potential increase of up to sixty HGV movements per day on the A224, the lack of prior consultation, and the likelihood of overnight parking commencing as early as the following week. Issues relating to increased traffic, noise disturbance, and possible road-surface deterioration were discussed. The Parish Council noted its ongoing communication with Conway and encouraged residents to report any problems promptly so that they can be addressed.

A resident suggested that large-scale community surveys could be conducted on election days when turnout is naturally higher. The Council agreed to explore whether such an approach would be permissible.

Cllr Tony Marshall of Halstead Parish Council addressed the meeting regarding recent road-racing incidents near the Hewitts Roundabout. He encouraged residents to report any witnessed incidents to the police and explained the importance of providing the correct postcode to ensure the appropriate force—Metropolitan Police or Kent Police—is dispatched. He also commented on the occasional monitoring of online platforms for intelligence on illegal racing activity, noting that such information is inconsistent and unpredictable.

5. *DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:* The District Councillor informed the meeting that district elections would take place on 26 March, with four candidates standing, three of whom are local. The recent Sevenoaks District Council budget had been passed, including the decision to discontinue the bulky waste collection service from 2026–27. The forthcoming reorganisation of local government was discussed, with reference to the anticipated May 2027 elections for the new Unitary Council. Concerns were raised about the potential negative impact on existing district councils and the feasibility of the proposed governance models.
6. *FINANCE AND STAFFING*
 - 6.1. The accounts presented for payment were approved.
 - 6.2. The bank reconciliation for the period was completed and noted.
7. *CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:* The Chairman reported that there were no new matters to bring before the Council.
8. *CLERKS REPORTS*
 - 8.1. Post report submission to Kent Highways for reduction of speed limit: The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council's report requesting a reduction in the local speed limit had been submitted to Kent Highways. A copy of the report is available on the Parish Council website for public viewing. The next stage involves Kent County Council initiating a Traffic Regulation Order, followed by a formal consultation undertaken by Kent Highways. This will be separate from the informal consultation already carried out by the Parish Council. Depending on the responses received, the process for implementing the reduced speed limit will then proceed.
 - 8.2. Discontinuation of the Saturday Bulky Waste Freighter Service by SDC with immediate effect: The Council expressed disappointment at the immediate cessation of the Saturday bulky waste freighter service by Sevenoaks District Council and voiced concerns that this may lead to an increase in fly-tipping. The Clerk to put together the communications package regarding the cancellation for March 21st. The Council is currently assessing private operators who may be able to provide a replacement service. It emphasised the importance of ensuring

that any provider operates ethically, sustainably, and in a manner that does not contribute to further waste-management issues.

- 8.3. Discuss communication for additional Conway vehicles to be relocated to the Chelsfield Distribution Centre: This matter had already been discussed in detail during the Public Session, and no further comments were added.
- 8.4. Debrief on meeting with Fort Halstead developers: Cllr Grint and the Clerk reported on their recent meeting with the Fort Halstead developers, attended jointly with Halstead Parish Council. A range of concerns were raised, including the potential for water shortages, increased vehicular traffic, and the provision of affordable housing within the development. It was agreed that periodic meetings would continue to ensure that concerns from residents of both parishes are communicated effectively to the developers.
- 8.5. Parish Priorities Statement – The Parish Priorities Statement was briefly introduced, and it was agreed that a detailed discussion of its advantages and disadvantages would take place at the next meeting.

9. AMENITIES/PROJECTS/SAFETY

- 9.1. Discuss “No Parking” signs requests from various locations in the village along with other road safety issues - The Council discussed various wording options for proposed “No Parking” signs in several locations within the village. A shortlist of preferred wording was agreed upon. The logistical arrangements will be finalised via email, and residents in the affected areas will be informed and consulted before any installation takes place.
- 9.2. Discuss Postcode & Address anomalies within certain parts of the village- The Council considered reports of postcode and address inconsistencies affecting certain properties within the village. It was agreed that the matter would be raised with Sevenoaks District Council. Individual homeowners will be contacted to confirm their details, and the appropriate procedure for resolving any anomalies will be established.

10. PLANNING:

- 10.1. 25/03318/FUL - Oak Tree Farm London Road Badgers Mount Halstead Kent TN14 7AB. Development: Use of dwelling for office purposes. Extension of existing car park to provide 2 disabled parking bays, planting and cycle stands. Amended Proposed Block Plan (05B), indicates 8 parking spaces (2 accessible), cycle store and electric charge points - The Council confirmed that it had no further comments beyond those submitted in its earlier consultation response.

Meeting ended : 21:30