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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council  
held in Kenton Victory Hall on  
Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 7.30pm**

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**Present**

Councillor D Blount (Chair), Cllr A Bryant, Cllr H Bright, Cllr J Hare & Cllr K Savill

**Also present**

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), District Cllr Taylor, Derry Tydeman (Powderham Estate) and 7 members of the public

**The meeting was opened by Cllr Blount at 7.30pm.**

**260513.01 Election of Chairman**

It was proposed by Cllr Bryant, seconded by Cllr Bright and agreed unanimously that Cllr Blount is re-elected Chair.

**260513.02 Election of Vice Chairman**

It was proposed by Cllr Blount, seconded by Cllr Savill and agreed unanimously that Cllr Bryant is elected Vice Chair.

**260513.03 Apologies for Absence**

- Cllr Calderwood

**260513.04 Declarations of Interest**

All members were invited to state whether they have any interest in the items to be discussed during this meeting in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

Cllrs Bryant, Hare and Calderwood declared an interest in item 11.1.2. It was agreed to grant those Councillors a dispensation to allow them to discuss and vote on the item, otherwise it would impede the transaction of the business as the meeting would be inquorate.

**260513.05 Open Forum**

Derry Tydeman, Powderham Estate, summarised the traffic management arrangements which have been put into place for the events 25-28 June. He also plans to attend June's meeting to answer and questions or concerns which arise between now and then.

In summary, Powderham has been planning for four-day concert series at the end of June. They are expecting 24,000 people on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 26,000 on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 35,000 on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June and 35,000 on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June. A further 2000 people will be working at these events. At the end of last year, they met with various representatives from different local authorities for feedback on last year's concert arrangements and have tried to address the concerns that were raised. These were primarily around traffic, including parking, picking up/dropping off and generally people trying to avoid the parking restrictions. It was noted that this caused a lot of difficulties for local residents. This has resulted in a fairly heavy-handed

traffic management plan that prevents all non-authorised, non-pre-arranged private vehicles accessing the Estate. Unfortunately, this information has been released to ticket-holders before the announcement went out to local residents which was a Ticketmaster error. The maps which have been shared were intended for ticket-holders not residents. All roads will have restrictions on them from 2pm on each of the four event days. Road closed signs will be erected on every road leading to Powderham from Kenn, Cockwood, Mamhead and Exminster. Each sign will be manned by traffic enforcement officers. Residents will be issued with car mirror hangers, however, enabling them to pass through. Anyone trying to access the village for any other reasons will be able to do so and this will be done on an honesty-based system. All 21 traffic marshals will be linked by radio to Derry in case of any issues. In respect of local people who are trying to access the event, a private No.2 bus has been paid for by the event and will be able to transport local people safely along the A379. 160 shuttle buses have been put on and anyone trying to walk along the A379 will be picked up. There should therefore be no foot traffic through Kenton and Starcross. At 9pm, the A379 towards Exminster and along The Strand in Starcross will become one-way systems and effectively dual carriageways so that people can exit the concerts quicker. The organisers have requested a short pyrotechnic display at around 10pm on the Saturday and Sunday nights. They will each last 1min 19sec. The event has appointed 3 x Community Resident Liaison Officers (CRLO) and they will be on various shift patterns from next week until the end of the events. They have a dedicated phone number which will be shared in due course. If any resident has any issues, they should call a CRLO who are well-known members of the community (Heather Mcgrouter-Bradley, Jennifer Rowland and Philippa Sage). Designated litter wardens have also been appointed. Additional trains in both directions will be running. Starcross station will be manned throughout the event and the coastguard and RLNI will be on stand-by. Four traffic officers are being appointed to issue parking tickets if necessary and tow trucks will be situated at either end of the village and vehicles will be removed if in breach of the parking restrictions. They have also paid for 4 off-duty police officers on motorbikes who will respond to any issues when required. The event has also arranged to buy out the car park in Starcross to accommodate residents' displaced street parking. Once the main arena closes, a second stage will open to try and retain some people as others are exiting. Derry concluded that this is a very expensive traffic management plan but they want to get it right as they would like the show to come back every year. He hopes to return to the June meeting to answer any outstanding queries. Otherwise, the Estate will host a feedback session at the end of the events season (October) and another at the start of next year's events. Residents can sign up to their newsletter to receive notifications of those meetings.

Derry also informed the meeting that Powderham has been shortlisted in a National awards for their schools programme: Access All Learning - Education on an Event Site.

The Chair thanked Derry for attending the meeting and comprehensively explaining the work that has gone in to the management of these events. He also thanked the Estate for putting on these events which residents can enjoy on their doorstep.

## **260513.06 Ratification of Minutes**

- 6.1 Members received the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8 April 2026. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.
- 6.2 Members received the minutes of the meeting on 8 April 2026. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

## **260513.07 Roles and Responsibilities**

It was agreed that responsibilities would be shared across the whole Council. These include Finance, Planning, Playing Field/Hard Court and all Council-owned spaces. It was agreed, however, that Cllr Blount would continue as the guardian of the defibrillators, carrying out the weekly checks and reporting to the Ambulance Service. He will also keep a watching eye over the car park including monitoring the sandbag store and recycling banks. Roles will be allocated for specific projects as they arise.

## **260513.08 Review of Policies and Governance Documents**

8.1 Members reviewed the assets register and noted that the youth shelter (£2,000) and basketball hoops (£20) have been removed.

8.2 There were no changes proposed to any other governance documents.

## **260513.09 Reports**

### **9.1 Police Report and Community Speedwatch**

In the period, 1 – 30 April 2026, there were 2 recorded offences in the Kenton area:

- Theft x 1
- Sexual offences (teenagers exchanging photos) x 1

### **9.2 County Councillor's Report**

The Chair reminded members that at the last meeting, a question was asked about government flood grants and that Kenton was understood to be one of the beneficiaries. This was something that had been highlighted in an article on the BBC's Spotlight programme. Having followed this up with Cllr Connett, members were informed that the annual Flood Risk Action Plan went to Cabinet in March this year, setting out what grants the council received. The term 'flood grants' is misleading as the £2.8million for flood risk is this year's total budget including £800k for the team resources, £945k for the DEFRA funded Devon Resilience Innovation Project and a further £1m of revenue, capital and external funding to deliver the optimistic programme of flood studies, resilience and improvements outlined in this year's Action Plan. There wasn't a specific grant for Kenton. That said, the County Council significantly helped regarding the repair of Brook Path and the culvert at the pumping station end. Works also continue into research and options for the wider catchment to reduce the chance of a similar event happening again.

### **9.3 District Councillor's Report**

Cllr Taylor reported that the Teignmouth Lido will be opening in 10 days' time in time for the May half term. A 36m observation wheel has also been installed on the Den in Teignmouth for the summer. Next week, the Local Plan goes to Full Council for approval and adoption. This will give at least 5 years protection against speculative development. He is pleased to see that the planning application for The Dolphin has now been submitted.

### **9.4 Volunteer Flood Warden's Report & Kenton Flood Prevention Scheme**

Robert Neill advised that there is nothing to report. There has been no update from Martin Wrigley about a meeting with SWW. It was agreed to contact Martin Wrigley for an update with a view to sending a further letter to SWW seeking an on-site if progress is not being made.

### **9.5 Kenton Nature and Green Spaces**

Anette Grahns-Doan sent the following updates:

- We had an ok to work on the hedge laying by Tony McQuire and the allotment group, but think we missed the right time for the live hedge laying this year.

- Three of us have attended (free) training by Teignbridge Wildlife Wardens.
- We've promoted Devon Wildlife Trust's (DWT) garden scheme in the newsletter.
- We've continued creating the dead and live hedge on the Harmony Meadow side.
- Cleaning of the steps (bird mess) has taken place a couple of times, to prevent people slipping.

Following the Devon Wildlife Trust report in September '25, we have progressed some of their recommendations, namely:

- Introduce more woodland loving flowering plants - bulbs and yellow rattle planted.
- Thinning of branches done that cut out the light - for more biodiversity.
- Introduced log and leaf piles.

Other activities that we are discussing:

- Help source a suitable replacement tree for the Triangle - as mentioned above. Working with DWT.
- Arrange a planting event for two cherry trees at the Triangle green - question above re removal of roots..
- Enhance the bog area, reduce bramble and introduce wet loving plants.
- Thinning of less healthy trees to benefit the overall health of the copse.
- Investigate holding a community picnic event - possible alongside an event at the Allotment (their seed swap or 'work' day). To increase footfall and interest in the space.

We are (still) eagerly keeping an eye on the new owl nest box and hoping to see some sign of inhabitants.

#### 9.6 **Kenton Pub and Community Group**

The planning application has been submitted. More fund-raising events are being organised. The May Day event was very successful. If planning consent is granted, a further village meeting will be arranged to update residents.

#### **260513.10 Playing Field & Equipment**

Members considered a quotation from Taylor Construction Management Ltd Mike for significant upgrading of the play equipment. The quote includes removal and replacement of rotting wooden equipment (post and rail fencing, climbing wall timber, top beam of swing 'A' frame, picnic benches and bench). It is proposed that the equipment that is reinstated is built in such a way that it can be detached and relocated to a suitable area once the new school is built, making it future-proof.

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the work needs to be carried out in order to provide a safe place for children and parents to enjoy, and it was agreed to accept the quotation of £10,056.50 + VAT. This will be funded from reserves.

In the meantime, it is intended to approach the Ivy Education Trust to discuss a financial contribution.

The changing room shed also needs to be removed, but due to access issues, this will have to be done in conjunction with the school as removal of this will leave a hole in the fence.

There was a question about who should be emptying the rubbish bin in the playing field. It was agreed that the clerk would contact TDC to remind them.

## **260513.11 Finance and Governance**

### **11.1 Payments**

Members received the invoices for payment and it was agreed unanimously that the payments as listed are approved (attached).

### **11.2 Audit 2025/26**

11.2.1 Members received and noted the year-end bank reconciliation.

11.2.2 Members received the internal audit report and noted that no issues had been raised. It was agreed that this Council is confident that the internal audit arrangements provide excellent reassurance for the public that the financial systems are robust and fit for purpose and to continue with the appointment of Lee Accounting (South West) Ltd as the Internal Auditor to the Parish Council.

11.2.3 Members received Section 1 of the Annual Return (Annual Governance Statement 2025/26). It was agreed to approve Section 2 of the Annual Return and authorise the Chair and Clerk/RFO to sign it.

11.2.4 Members received Section 2 of the Annual Return (Accounting Statements 2025/26). It was agreed to approve Section 2 of the Annual Return and authorise the Chair and Clerk/RFO to sign it.

### **11.3 Insurance**

Members received a quotation for insurance for £1106.61 which was accepted.

## **260513.12 Planning**

### **12.1 New planning applications/appeal**

#### **12.1.1 [26/00401/OUT – Shambles, Fore Street, Kenton](#)**

Outline planning application for up to 4 dwellings (all matters reserved except to access)

Kenton Parish Council has no objections to this application.

#### **12.1.2 [26/00703/FUL – Dolphin Inn, Fore Street, Kenton](#)**

Sub-division of part of the public house to form a new dwelling, demolition of two storey rear extension, erection of single storey rear extension and associated alterations

Kenton Parish Council supports this application.

### **12.2 Decisions**

#### **12.2.1 [26/00773/EXMPTC – Alfin, Fore Street, Kenton](#)**

Cut a small amount of trees back so Openreach can access the pole with a hoist

Members noted that TDC has determined that these works are exempt from Conservation Area approval.

## **260513.13 Car Park, Triangle, Cemetery and Other Green Spaces**

13.1 Members received a request from The Rodean to host a small event with drinks and music on the Triangle over the August Bank Holiday weekend. It was further agreed that the Rodean should continue to seek approval each year for future events so that arrangements can be reviewed annually.

13.2 Members discussed and approved action to remove vehicles from the village car park which are contravening the car park rules. Section 41 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 notices will be attached to offending vehicles.

13.3 EV charging points – no further news

13.4 The Chair informed members that the cemetery lych gate and railings have been treated. He thanked the Red Barrows for their voluntary efforts.

**260513.14 Highways & Footpaths**

*Residents are encouraged to report all potholes:*

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/>

The Chair thanked the Red Barrows for fixing the granite post at the corner of the Triangle. Unfortunately, it has already been hit by a vehicle and knocked over. The Chair has contacted the Neighbourhood Highways Officer asking whether an alternative post can be installed which is taller and more sturdy in order to protect the war memorial railings.

Sue Craythorne is retiring from the role of parish footpaths warden and Matt Robbens will be taking over the role. The clerk advised that DCC has brought their grant payments up to date and have also allocated a further £700 so that two parishioners can attend strimmer training.

**260513.15 Correspondence**

None

**260513.16 Members' items for information or general discussion, for inclusion on future agendas and/or items requiring urgent attention**

*[Members were reminded that they have not received the statutory notice of this business to be transacted and should therefore recognise that any decision made may be taken to be unlawful if challenged in the future]*

None

**260513.17 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on 10 June at 7.30pm.

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**Chairman**

**13 May 2026****Item 11.1:****Expenditure**

<b>Payment type</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Standing Order	Salary (Clerk)	May	£459.97
DD	Lloyds Bank	Bank service charges (April)	£4.25
Online	Plant Tech	Grass cutting and maintenance	£540
Online	Ultim8 Construction Ltd	Construction of dwarf wall and fence (Brook Path)	£2340
Online	Lee Accounting (SW) Ltd	Internal audit of accounts	£240
Online	A Grahns-Doan	KN&GS (plants)	£50.14
Online	R Neill	Materials to paint cemetery lych gate and fencing	£71.49

**Income (3 April – 8 May 2026)**

<b>Date received</b>	<b>Received from</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
April	TDC	First instalment of precept	£15997.50
April	HMRC	VAT 126 reclaim	£2489.08
April	Kenton Village Allotments	Half yearly rent	£487.50
April	Sillilfants	Cemetery	£650

**Bank Balance at 8 May 2026**

<b>Current account</b>	£57,594.84
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