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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council  
held in Kenton Victory Hall on  
Wednesday 10 June 2026 at 7.30pm**

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**Present**

Councillor D Blount (Chair), Cllr A Bryant, Cllr R Calderwood, Cllr J Hare & Cllr K Savill

**Also present**

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), Derry Tydeman (Powderham Estate) and Oliver Mason (Live Nation/Cuffe & Taylor) and 20 members of the public

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

**260610.01 Apologies for Absence**

- County Cllr Connett
- District Cllr Taylor

**260610.02 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.

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

**260610.03 Open Forum**

The meeting was attended by Oli Mason (Live Nation and Cuffe & Taylor) and Derry Tydeman (Powderham Estate Director). Both were present to answer any residents' questions and concerns about the upcoming Live at Powderham event at the end of June.

The main concerns of residents were around residents' access during the road closure periods, the bus service and how it would be impacted, residents' parking and the impact on local businesses. The matter of communication was also raised.

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Other open forum matters raised:

There were reports of push bikes and skate boards which had been stolen and dumped in the brook, and concerns that the brook may become blocked.

It was also noted that the brook requires dredging to prevent vegetation from blocking it. This is something that needs to be raised with District Cllr Taylor.

Derry responded to some of the concerns raised by the Parish Council in previous correspondence:

Foliage around the back of the bus shelter outside the main Powderham entrance - he advised that an arrangement has been made for Urban & Rural to take over the management of that area.

The trees at Woodpecker Cottage have been surveyed and there are no issues.

He had noted that the allotments shipping container had been delivered and reminded the Parish Council that this needs to be clad, as agreed.

With regard to the general maintenance of the banks of the river, Powderham is working with the EA. The scheme of works requires EA support with highways to get a solution which addresses flooding from the top of the village to the bottom.

#### **260610.04 Ratification of Minutes**

Members received the minutes of the meeting on 13 May 2026. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

#### **260610.05 Reports**

##### **5.1 Police Report and Community Speedwatch**

In the period, 1 – 31 May 2026, there was 1 recorded offence in the Kenton area:

- Stalking x 1

##### **5.2 County Councillor's Report**

No report

##### **5.3 District Councillor's Report**

Cllr Taylor was not present at the meeting but wished to report that the planning application for the Dolphin Inn has now almost reached the 50 mark for letters of support (including his and Cllr Connett's) and he hopes that even more people will write in to express their support also before a decision is made.

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

Robert Neill has inspected the length of the brook which is flowing well with no fallen obstructions. However, there is an increasing amount of weed and other plantlife which could become an increasing problem as the summer progresses. The Chair advised that he had sent a note to the newsletter to remind riparian owners of their responsibilities to clear their section of the brook. The area around Ford Farm Court is particularly bad; this is the responsibility of Powderham.

The Chair also reported that a second letter has been drafted to SWW requesting a site meeting. Members agreed that this should be sent.

##### **5.5 Kenton Nature and Green Spaces**

Anette Grahns-Doan sent the following report:

- Kenton Victory Hall kindly donated a picnic table, which after refurbishment has created a friendly space for families or groups to use while visiting Harmony Meadow.
- Held a first KN&GS picnic to celebrate the new bench (& Sweden's National Day)
- We have promoted wildlife-friendly features for villagers' gardens, to celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100 birthday in the Kenton newsletter.
- We've continued working on creating a wildflower meadow for the area with the single cherry tree. Weeding and watering the yellow rattle has been the focus.
- The grass areas have been scythed to keep the weeds at bay.

- We are watering the new plants at the Community Garden (on a rota).
- Recently we have spotted birds, hares, deer (and lots of sheep!) around Harmony Meadow.

Clarification was sought as follows:

- Is there funding set aside from KPC for the purchase of the two trees, or shall we use KN&GS funds? Members confirmed that the trees will be funded by the Parish Council.
- Two of the new, tender plants at the Community Gardens have been removed, probably by mistake by the contractor during strimming. Can this issue be raised with the person in charge at PlantTech, please - as we are keen that no further plants are chopped. This was noted and would be actioned.

## 5.6 **Kenton Pub and Community Group**

There has been a lot of support for the planning application. They are hoping to have decision by mid-July.

## **260610.06 Finance and Governance**

### **6.1 Payments**

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

## **260610.07 Planning**

### **7.1 New planning applications/appeals**

None

### **7.2 Decisions**

None

## **260610.08 Car Park, Triangle, Cemetery & Other Green Spaces**

### **8.1 Misuse of sandbags**

It was noted that sandbags have been used to prop a vehicle up to change its wheel and, consequently, the contents have been spread over the car park. The Chair advised that he has tidied it up but the store needs tidying up and the sandbags need replenishing. Cllr Calderwood will organise this.

### **8.2 Update on cars contravening the car park rules**

Notice were placed on vehicles that were contravening the car park rules. One vehicle (Land Rover) appears to have been abandoned. It was agreed that the clerk should take appropriate steps to arrange for its removal. The clerk will also write again to the owner of the vehicle which has mechanical issues to establish when this is likely to be removed.

### **8.3 Plant-Tech**

There are still some outstanding matters which need attending to, including the removal of the yew tree, trimming of the pampas and the reduction of the tulip tree on East Town Lane.

### **8.4 EV charging points**

No further updates

**260610.09    Playing Field & Equipment**

A meeting had been scheduled with Andrew Webber (Ivy Education Trust) but this has now been rearranged for next week. It is intended to discuss a contribution towards the play equipment repairs and maintenance discussed last month. It was also agreed that the future of the changing rooms needs to be discussed. This will need 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.

As a matter arising from June's meeting, the clerk advised that TDC has never emptied the rubbish bin on the playing field. If the school wishes TDC to empty the bin, they will need to arrange this direct with TDC as there will be a cost.

**260610.10    Highways & Footpaths**

*Residents are encouraged to report all potholes:*

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

A dozen or so bags of roof tiles have been dumped at the end of Bidgoods Lane. These are thought to be asbestos. TDC is aware.

**260610.11    Correspondence**

11.1 Save the Date - Celebrate event Westbank PPG - '20 years of achievement, partnership and patient voice' - 22 October 2026, Kenton Victory Hall, 12.30 - 13.30

11.2 Val Stanley from the Westbank PPG will be attending next month to give a short presentation.

**260610.12    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

**260610.13    Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on 8 July 2026 at 7.30pm.

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**Chairman**

**10 June 2026**

**Item 6.1:**

**Expenditure**

| <b>Payment type</b> | <b>Payee</b>            | <b>Details</b>                      | <b>Amount</b><br>(includes VAT where applicable) |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Standing Order      | Salary (Clerk)          | June                                | £459.77                                          |
| DD                  | Lloyds Bank             | Bank service charges (May)          | £4.25                                            |
| Online              | Plant Tech              | Grass cutting and maintenance (May) | £540                                             |
| Online              | Play Inspection Company | Annual inspection of play equipment | £173.70                                          |
| Online              | The Defib Store         | Defibrillator pads                  | £79.20                                           |
| Online              | D Grahns-Doan           | Refurbishment of picnic bench       | £42.16                                           |

**Income (9 May – 5 June 2026)**

| <b>Date received</b> | <b>Received from</b> | <b>Details</b>     | <b>Amount</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| April                | Kenton in Bloom      | Flowers and plants | £359.59       |
| April                | Various              | Cemetery           | £960          |

**Bank Balance at 5 June 2026**

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Current account</b> | £54,022.97 |
|------------------------|------------|