



Boughton Aluph & Eastwell

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.15pm on Wednesday 16 September 2026 at Iron Room, Faversham Road, Boughton Lees, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4HP

Present:

Cllr Peter Burrows
Cllr Adrian Coles
Cllr Jessica Fermor-Fox
Cllr Spencer Phillips
Cllr Doreen Titmuss

Absent:

Cllr Chelsea Pearce

In attendance:

Parish Clerk Mrs Rachel Girt

74/26. Apologies were received, and reasons accepted from Councillor Pearce.

75/26. **Disclosures of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
None

76/26. No members of the public were present.

77/26. **Resolved:** to confirm as an accurate record, minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 July 2026.

78/26. i. **Resolved:** to note income & expenditure account for the period ended 31/8/26.

ii. **Resolved:** to agree payments schedule, note credit card and payments made. Councillors Coles & Titmuss to authorise online payments.

iii. **Resolved:** to note the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services agreement of a 3.3% increase in pay rates, applicable from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027, and that this will be applied to the Clerk salary as per employment contract.

79/26. **Resolved:** to award a grant of £600 to Boughton & Eastwell Cricket Club towards refurbishment of grounds entrance.

80/26. The Clerk had attended and spoke with members with a local premises that might work as a possible Community Warden base. The Clerk advised the Council that despite interest in, and support for a Community Warden a conclusion had not been reached regarding a room. The Clerk and Chairman were now pursuing two possible alternatives.

81/26. The updated lease & licence to Boughton & Eastwell Cricket Club is with Fields in Trust awaiting approval. The Cricket Club has been provided with the proposed revised documents.

82/26. The reports of the Clerk to the Parish Council dated 16/9/26 was noted (appended).

83/26. Correspondence

The Annual Parish Forum, arranged by Ashford Borough Council will be held on 9 November 2025 at the Singleton Environment Centre from 9 am to 3 pm.

The programme is likely to cover a range of topics including health and wellbeing, environmental enforcement, affordable homes and assets. 2 attendees (maximum) from each Parish are invited. Any Councillor wishing to attend please contact the Clerk.

Further to notification about the re-start of the Local Plan consultation due to changed national planning law, on the 2 September 2026, ABC commenced a scoping consultation for the new Local Plan. The scoping consultation runs until 5pm on Wednesday 23 September 2026. This is principally a consultation on the consultation method, rather than on sites and development principals.

International Day of Older Persons 2026 is being marked by Ashford Borough Council. They are collating events happening during the w/b 28 September that older people may enjoy. I have added Chatty Café Perry Court to the event list, unfortunately Chatty Café Pheasant falls in the wrong week. The Clerk requested that if anyone knew of any events happening in or near the Parish that may be suitable for inclusion to please let her know.

Two letters have been received from residents detailing concerns regarding crossing safety on the A251. n.b. this is a live issue on the HIP

The Parish Council has been notified that construction of a short footpath linking two existing paths on Faversham Road opposite Trinity Road junction has been approved (KCC Highways).

84/26.i, Planning Applications & Planning

The Parish Council is a *consultee* of Ashford Borough Council, the Local Planning Authority.
The Parish Council *is not* the Planning Authority (it does not make planning decisions).

Case Reference: PA/2026/1474

Location: White Hill Grain Store, White Hill, Boughton Aluph, TN25 4HB

Proposal: Erection of a new crop store following the demolition of the existing building and silos.
(Retrospective)

View Files: [Click Here](#)

No objection

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Appendix 1

	Gross	VAT
RP Wood (All Seasons Gardening) 5713	108.00	18.00
Surrey Hills Solicitors LLP (Cricket Pavilion)	1940.50	320.00
Community Heartbeat Trust (Goat Lees unit)	235.20	39.20

HMRC for quarter 2

Back pay & NJC revised agreement 25/26

Overtime payment as per wages schedule (agreed)

Credit Card Payments Made

July:

Card fee 3.00

RWG mobile 3.50

Bilting Self Storage 46.00

John Lewis Online 169.00 (Parish Council mobile)

August:

Card fee 3.00

RWG mobile 3.50

Bilting Self Storage 50.00

Cartridge Save 23.19

Viking 52.74

Amazon 14.58

Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council: 16/9/26

[Sandyacres \(Southern Water & Battery Box\)](#)

Southern Water contacted the Parish Council, as custodian trustee of Sandyacres regarding exploratory surveying regarding pipework. They had already been in contact with Ashford Borough Council and the Sandyacres Trust and will liaise with the Trust for practical access and keep in touch with the Parish Council in its statutory role.

A payment of £2000 has been made to the Parish Council from Battery Box regarding the strip of land at Sandyacres, (legal costs associated with the deed of surrender was £1500 + VAT).

[Sandyacres \(padel court update\)](#)

The Chairman of the Sandyacres Trust sent pictures showing groundworks that happened in August. He advised that installation was planned for September.

[Storage/Archive Space](#)

The storage space has been organised to improve accessibility and racking added to make it more useable in a timely manner.

[Annual Return \(AGAR 2026\)](#)

An update has been received from the external auditor. The Parish Council is one of those yet to receive its final Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), external auditor's report and completion letter (due by 30 September). The auditors have asked that enquiries are not made in the interim to allow time for them to finish the work.

[Data Request](#)

A data subject access request has been completed.