



ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

The Village Hall
The Street
Acol
Kent CT7 0JA

e-mail: clerk@acolparishcouncil.org.uk

Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Friday 9th May 2025 at 7.00pm, Acol Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors Richard Steel – Chairman [RS], Sarah Corby [SC], Gavin Winpenny [GW], Wendy Winpenny [WW], Kate Ruranski [KR]

In Attendance: Sara Archer – Clerk

13/25-26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies received.

14/25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests declared.

15/25-26 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council both held on 17th April 2025.

These were proposed by Cllr W Winpenny, seconded by Cllr Ruranski, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/25-16 FINANCE

a) The Clerk presented the annual accounts which had been previously circulated and gave a brief explanation of the significant variances noted following the audit. The Internal Auditors report was also duly acknowledged. No issues of concern were raised, and the relevant Certificate of Exemption and Sections 1 & 2 of the AGAR were signed by the Chairman and Clerk accordingly.

RESOLVED: To approve the annual accounts for 2024-25 and Certificate of Exemption to be submitted to Mazars. This was proposed by Cllr Steel and seconded by Cllr Ruranski.

b) The Clerk gave a short explanation of the General Power of Competence and the benefits to the Parish Council should they wish to adopt the power. The Parish Council were now in a position to adopt the power, due to the Clerk being qualified and at least two thirds of its members have been elected. It was discussed and agreed to approve the proposal to adopt the GPoC with immediate effect.

RESOLVED: To approve the proposal to adopt the General Power of Competence with immediate effect. This was proposed by Cllr Ruranski and seconded by Cllr Steel.

c) The Clerk had circulated the quotes obtained for an additional Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera. It was discussed and agreed that if grant funding could be sourced, it would be advantageous to install two cameras, to capture images from both directions. The Clerk was awaiting a quote for a second unit, which would be potentially be provided with a small discount. The ANPR unit would be beneficial for speedwatch data, lorry watch as well as adding another level of security for the village.

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of an ANPR camera, plus an additional unit, if grant funding could be secured. This was proposed by Cllr Steel and seconded by Cllr Ruranski.

17/25-25 DEVOLUTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Cllr Steel advised that KALC would be circulating a questionnaire to Parishes, to seek their views on the devolution and local government reorganisation proposals. Ward boundary changes would also be taking place, which could affect the villages. The sustainability of a small Parish such as Acol would need to be considered, and a possible merger with neighbouring Parishes may be suggested going forward. The impact of this would need careful consideration. The next Thanet Area Committee meeting would be discussing this issue in more detail.

18/25-26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 19th June 2025, 7:30pm, Acol Village Hall

The meeting was closed by the chairman at 19:30hrs