

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF CHESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL: Councillors are summoned to attend a meeting of Chestfield Parish Council on **Monday 09 March 2026 at 7.30pm** at the Women's Institute Hall, Chestfield Road, Chestfield, for the transaction of the business described in the following Agenda.

Amendances

A SPARKES, CLERK TO THE COUNCIL
A G E N D A

1. Chairman's Opening remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests and Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests, and a reminder to think of any changes to the DPI register held at CCC, such as change of job or home.
4. To agree as a correct record the Minutes of the last parish council meeting held **12 January 2026**.
5. **UPDATES** (not covered elsewhere on the agenda):
 - TO NOTE the installation of the Grasmere Gardens noticeboard is still on hold with Kitewood.
 - TO RECEIVE any update from Cllr Bailey re the Project "Remembering the war dead of the parish."
 - TO NOTE the next Quiz is confirmed for Friday 10 April 2026 at the cricket club - TO RECEIVE an update and to seek volunteers to help with catering.
 - TO NOTE a Community litter pick has been booked with CCC for Sunday 22 March 2026, from 11am - 1pm and is being advertised in the March magazine.
 - TO NOTE the new noticeboard at the Doctors' surgery should be installed imminently.
- Bus stop improvements - update:** A resident's concerns to one stop have been replied to and hopefully answered. The plans and designs have been submitted via KCC's Technical Approval design process, and should be ready by the middle of March. As soon as the technical approval has been completed and all parties are satisfied, the officer will raise the works order - subject to road space booking, etc. The officer will keep us updated.

For the Willow Way southbound stop TO CONSIDER:

 - i) **Whether the parish council would like to refurbish/repaint the bench there once the improvement work is completed**
 - ii) **A request from a resident for a new bin outside No 83-85 Chestfield Road (by the existing bus stop). If the parish council purchase a bin, CCC has confirmed it will be added to the emptying schedule.**
7. **Adjournment of the meeting for parishioners' questions and comments.** This is the only opportunity during the meeting for residents to speak. The period for public participation will last no longer than 10 minutes and a single member of the public is afforded no more than 3 minutes to make their representation, with the discretion of the Chairman.
8. TO RECEIVE City and County Councillor Report (if applicable)
9. **Community Governance Review**

At the CCC Cabinet meeting on 19 January 2026 a report commissioned by Cabinet members invited Cabinet to consider whether resources should be allocated for a Community Governance Review in 2026/27. Cabinet recommended a district-wide review focusing on the unparished areas of Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable. Money will be added to the budget to enable the review to be carried out. Terms of Reference will go to General Purposes and then be ratified by Council in April. If Council resolves to go ahead on this basis, there will be an opportunity to look at the boundaries between the parished and unparished areas as part of the review.

TO RESOLVE therefore that if the opportunity arises that Chestfield Parish Council requests that the unparished parts of both the Brooklands Farm and Bodkin Farm planning application areas become part of the Chestfield parish, whether built on or not.
10. **Local Government Reorganisation - Update:**

Government ministers launched their consultation on 5 February 2026 on the future number of unitary councils in Kent and Medway, and the areas they should cover. In the biggest proposed shake up of local government in 50 years, ministers asked councils to come up with plans to create unitary councils in a process known as local government reorganisation (LGR).

Under the current system Kent County Council (KCC) delivers some services such as education, social services and roads, and district or borough councils deliver others like emptying your bins and providing housing services.

Under the proposed system, a much smaller number of unitary councils would deliver all council services in one area. Medway Council operates in that way today. Councils across Kent and Medway worked together to draw up a series of options for the number of Unitaries needed and what areas they should cover.

Ministers want views on how Kent and Medway's councils should be organised.

Take part in the government's consultation at gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-kent-and-medway. The deadline for responses is 11.59pm Thursday 26 March.

Background information, including the detailed explanations of each of the options, is at KentCouncilLeaders.org.uk/lgr-consultation.

When consultation closes, civil servants and ministers will consider responses alongside the evidence presented to them. A decision on the ministers' chosen option is likely to be announced in the summer.

11. Update on the Neighbourhood Plan:

- TO RECEIVE the Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meetings held on 23 January 2026 and 23 February 2026.
- TO RECEIVE and ENDORSE that the Regulation 15 Submission Neighbourhood Plan, the Consultation Statement and the Basic Conditions Statement now be submitted to CCC.

12. Use of section 101 Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk in conjunction with a minimum of two councillors since the last meeting: None.

13. Financial matters (Appendix 3)

- o Schedule of Payments Appendix 3 Finance Schedule to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel Quadrennial Review

(More information on the Clerk report): TO DISCUSS and CONSIDER the recommendations and RESOLVE whether to implement a Parish Basic Allowance or Chairman's Allowance for 2026-2030 or to keep the current policy and not adopt a Parish Basic Allowance or Chairman's Allowance for 2026-2030.

14. TO RATIFY to hold another Community Fun Day at the cricket club on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August 2025 - and to book AMG Ambulance to over the event as before - and for the Clerk to book the inflatables and do other necessary actions.

15. Environment

TO NOTE that on 31 January 2026 Cllr Todd and Cllr East delivered leaflets about flood risk and steps to mitigate this to several houses in Chestfield at higher risk. This leaflet has also been adapted to run in the March magazine for all households.

Dog fouling across the district - Cllr James Hodgkinson the Canterbury Area KALC vice chairman has had the issue of persistent and recurring dog fouling raised with him by a number of different councillors from across the Canterbury district. He is trying to gather some basic information from parishes to get a clearer picture of the problem to then approach CCC with a request to allocate stronger resources and enforcement measures. He asked all parish councils to answer a survey. The Chairman and Clerk completed this on 27 February 2026 to meet the 10 March deadline.

16. TO RECEIVE the Clerk's report.

TO NOTE the Annual Electors meeting is at 7pm on Monday 23 March 2026 - It has been advertised in the March magazine and on the noticeboards and parish council's website. Invitations were sent to organisations in the parish on 21 February inviting 'annual reports'. Invitations were also sent to the parish's city and county Cllrs.

TO RESOLVE The Chairman be asked to prepare a Chairman's report (aided by the Clerk).

TO NOTE that as per the format of recent years, in addition to the standard Chairman's report, each Parish Cllr should contribute a paragraph on 'their year passed' and what they have achieved/worked on in that time (under their responsibilities / references). This will be printed as a 2-sided A4 leaflet and available at the Annual Parish meeting for people to take away as a reference document, and also inserted in the June magazine.

ALL Cllrs to write a paragraph and give to the Clerk.

TO RESOLVE that authority be given to the Clerk to purchase refreshments for the evening.

TO CONSIDER the Clerk request for Cllrs to volunteer to help out in the kitchen at the event.

17. Planning: TO RECEIVE Planning Report including current applications and decisions (Appendix 2)

Broad Oak Reservoir

South East Water is proposing a new reservoir to the north of Canterbury, which is a key water resource scheme in its Water Resources Management Plan. Broad Oak Water will help meet future demand for drinking water in east Kent, while also creating new habitats, increasing biodiversity and providing social benefits for the local community. Public engagement runs 4 February - 18 March 2026. There is an online engagement hub at southeastwater.co.uk/broad oak and public drop-in events - 03 March 12 noon-6pm (drop-in anytime) at Tyler Hill Memorial Hall, Summer Lane, Tyler Hill, CT2 9NJ, or 9 March 12noon-6pm (drop-in anytime) at Sturry Social Centre, 15 Mill Road, Sturry. Public engagement closes on 18 March 2026. Then South East Water will review all the feedback received to help inform the next stage of the design development. In 2027, South East Water will hold further public consultation on refined proposals in 2027 for Broad Oak Water, how the feedback received has been taken on board and seek further comments ahead of submitting a planning application in early 2028. Construction starting is anticipated for 2031 with water in supply in 2035.

Local Plan

The Agenda and the Draft Canterbury District Local Plan for the Overview Committee meeting on 5 March 2026 is at:

<https://democracy.canterbury.gov.uk/documents/g14028/Public%20reports%20pack%2005th-Mar-2026%2019.00%20Overview%20Committee.pdf?T=10>

Key points for Chestfield:

- Brooklands and Bodkin Farm remain in the plan
- (Policy N20) Land to the East of Chestfield Road for 150 homes has been removed
- Land at Golden Hill remains in the plan.
- Two new six-form-entry secondary schools with sixth forms are both still being identified at the Bodkin Farm, and Thornden Wood Close, Herne Bay, developments.

Subject to Overview committee recommending moving to Regulation 19, a special meeting of the Cabinet will be held on 18 March followed by Full Council the same night to vote on the plan (to move to Regulation 19). If agreed there will be an 8-week consultation period. It is expected that the Examination will begin in late 2026, concluding with a report from the Inspector in November 2027, and adoption of the new Local Plan in December 2027.

- I) **CA/24/00224 - Bodkin Farm, Thanet Way - TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATE re Outline application**
 - II) **CA/25/00779- Land At Brooklands Farm Whitstable Outline application - TO NOTE Hallam Land Management responded to the KCC holding objection around traffic and capacity at several junctions. And KCC Highways have submitted their response to the Brooklands Applicant's recent Technical Note on Highways.**
20. **Confidential item - Members of the Press and Public to be excluded; STAFFING & CLLR MATTERS.**
 21. **Close of the meeting**

Dates of planned full parish council meetings:

09 March, 11 May, 13 July, 14 September and 09 November 2026.

Dates for Surgeries for residents - Come along informally between 6.30pm and 7.30pm to the WI hall in Chestfield Road to voice any concerns or give any comments to a councillor and/or the Clerk/Deputy Clerk: 09 March, 13 April, 11 May, 08 June, 13 July, None in August, 14 September, 12 October, 09 November and 14 December 2026.

And Christmas Carols event Wednesday 23 December 2026.