Farningham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Farningham held at Shand Hall, High Street, Farningham on Wednesday 14 October 2026 at 7pm.

1. Attendees and apologies for absence.

Attendees: Farningham Parish Councillors (FPC) Kevin McGeough (Chair), Mrs Daryl Burns (Vice Chair), Elizabeth Bourne (in part), Philip McGarvey and Carol Salmon.

In Attendance: three members of the public, in part, and the Clerk, Helen Penney.

Apologies: FPC Cllr Melanie Baker, Sevenoaks District Councillor (SDC) Laurence Ball and Kent County Council (KCC) Cllr Logen.

2. Co-option.

None.

3. Declarations of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda and updates to members' register of interests.

None.

4. To consider, and approve if appropriate, agenda items sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the Admission to Meetings Act 1960.

Members resolved to consider agenda item 15 as a confidential item.

5. Nomination of a Member to complete the next Trident Report for submission by 11th November 2026.

To be completed by Cllr Salmon. **Action: Cllr Salmon.**

6. To receive a report from the County Councillor. (No decisions may take place as a result of this item).

Members noted the written report from Cllr Logen, Appendix A.

7. To receive a report from the District Councillors. (No decisions may take place as a result of this item).

Cllr McGeough read a written report from Cllr Ball that had been received shortly before the meeting, Appendix B.

8. To receive an update on matters arising from the last minutes that are not covered elsewhere on the agenda. (No decisions may be taken under this item).

None.

9. A Public Open Session. Members of the public can address the Parish Council with any local concerns they have. Please note that the total time for this item is 15 minutes and each speaker will be allocated a maximum of three minutes. (No decisions may take place as a result of this item).

Three members of the public were present in part during the meeting. One with an interest in agenda item 14 and two to observe.

Members resolved to complete the agenda in the following order:

14. Highways

14. 1 Annual Highways Improvement Plan review.

Members resolved to add the following items to the Highways Improvement Plan noting that the existing order of the highest-priority items could not be changed, as these are already being investigated by KCC.

- Junction of London Road/High Street/Sparepenny Lane - Unsuitable for HGVs signs to avoid lorries becoming stuck, and to consider alternative options that KCC might be able to suggest. Extending the double yellow lines along Sparepenny Lane has also been suggested but this would negatively impact the amount of parking for residents and visitors.
- Gateways throughout parish, from feedback from the Neighbourhood Plan Streeting Group.
- Public realm improvements for walking, cycling and getting around the parish safely, from feedback from the Neighbourhood Plan Streeting Group
- Reported speeding on White Post Hill, and to see if this can be considered with the current investigations on right hand turns.

14.2 To consider KCC's Highways Forward Works Programme and agree to raise concerns if necessary.

Members noted the programme.

14.3 To note the survey results from the informal consultation at White Post Hill and discuss if KCC have provided feedback in time for the meeting.

Members noted the consultation and:

69% of responses support further investigations into closure and 31% of responses do not.

Those supporting closure/further investigation generally mention:

- Illegal right turns and vehicles travelling too fast on WPH.
- Previous accidents and regular near-misses.
- Safety concerns for pedestrians and residents.
- Several responses support closure but want the alternative access improved first.
- Residents have suggested widening the White Post Hill entrance to make two-way traffic easier if the other junction is closed.

Those opposed to closure raised:

- Increased congestion on White Post Hill.
- Pressure on the remaining entrance and difficulty accessing properties.

- The possibility that illegal right turns simply move to the A225/Eynsford Road junction.
- Priorities enforcement rather than closure.

Cllr Burns had attended a River Darent Medical Patient Participation Group meeting hosted by the surgery where the consultation was discussed. The surgery did not support complete closure with their main concerns being patient access, congestion and maintaining reliable access for ambulances, deliveries, staff and vulnerable patients. Their response included the following alternative engineering solutions:

1. Redesigning the junction with a traffic island to prevent the illegal right turn while retaining legitimate movements.
2. Widening the White Post Hill entrance to improve two-way traffic flow.

Horton Kirby and South Darent Parish Council also contacted the Clerk during the consultation as some of their residents had asked if they could participate. FPC advised that this consultation was not the appropriate time for residents outside of the agreed consultation area to participate however, the information from HK/SD PC would be included for information. Concerns raised by residents of HK/SD included the need to travel across the A20 from Eglantine Lane to White Post Hill to access the surgery.

Overall, there is support for investigations to continue but, there was not unanimous support for simply closing the junction. If closure is considered, the consequences for the remaining entrance, traffic flow and access to the surgery must be properly investigated first.

Members noted the consultation and were positive that the response rate had been high, 58.3%.

The Clerk advised that the responses have been shared with KCC Highways who are reviewing the information. Once they have determined if they are going to continue with their investigations, the Clerk will update the council.

10. Approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 9 September 2026.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 9th September 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

11. Clerks report. (No decision making may take place as a result of this item).

The Clerk reported that:

- She had met with SDC's Rangers and Cllr Baker at Farningham Woods where SDC had reported that a wildfire had occurred and several dangerous trees had been identified over the summer. The Fire Brigade had attended the fire and were positive about the management of the woods as, the rides created within the woodland had allowed fire vehicles to access large areas to tackle the fire. The creation of an additional ride has been identified and, an existing route will be extended and widened to increase the network of rides in the woods and added to the 10-year management plan.
- She had met SDC Cllr Roddy Hogarth at Oliver Crescent and Farningham Woods with the Rangers as Cllr Hogarth is working with the Public Realm Commission with the Kent Association

for Local Councils (KALC). The commission is Kent county-wide and non-political, rather than being specific to Sevenoaks or SDC. Cllr Hogarth has since advised that the Commissions will explore opportunities to work with SDC and FPC at Oliver Crescent however, it is not clear if there will be similar opportunities at Farningham Woods.

- The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had met with Tibbalds online after a pause over the summer. Tibbalds have outlined the policies to avoid overlap or duplication for the Steering Group to draft with the rest of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting could be a good opportunity for the Steering Group to present the Neighbourhood Plan to residents, which Members supported. Due to limited availability at the Village Hall, Members requested that it be booked for Friday 16th April 2027. Details for the Annual Parish Meeting would be agreed nearer the time.
- The Clerk is on annual leave 17th to 26th October 2026.

12. Planning.

12.1 To note and raise any questions to the planning log circulated by the Clerk on 9 October 2026.

Noted.

12.2 Planning Applications.

To consider any planning applications and to include any received by the Clerk after the agenda has been served to Councillors.

Members noted that planning application 26/01949/FUL, Little Thyme Calfstock Lane Farningham Kent DA4 9JH, has a new description: New forestry building as alternative to forestry storage building approved under 20/01319/FUL and comments deadline on 2nd November 2026 and resolved that no response is required.

Members also noted that planning application 26/01561/FUL, Maplescombe Farm Maplescombe Lane Farningham Kent DA4 0JY, has received further ecology information with a deadline for comments until 3rd November 2026. Members resolved that the application would be considered after the meeting and that the Clerk could respond under delegated powers if additional comments are required. **Action: Clerk.**

12.2.1 Reference: 26/01975/CONVAR

Site: Wildacres Farningham Hill Road Farningham Kent DA4 0JR

Development: Variation of conditions of 24/02792/FUL - a full description is available on SDCs portal

Additional information was submitted related to consultation responses received by the Tree Officer and Environmental Health.

Comments by: 27th October 2026.

12.3 To note planning applications received but not for comment:

12.3.1 Reference: 26/02444/WTCA Site: Farningham Mill High Street Farningham Kent DA4 0DG Development: 3 x Willow - Pollard crowns by 50% (Approx 8-10m) due to recent limb failures and dieback in crowns.

Noted.

12.3.2 Reference: 26/02605/WTPO Site: 1 London Road Farningham Kent DA4 0JP
Development: T1 Beech - reduce the whole crown by 30% to clear garage and telephone cables.
Noted.

12.4 Planning Applications and Appeals replied to under delegate powers:
12.4.1 Reference: 26/02343/HOUSE Site: Walnut Tree Cottage 38 London Road Farningham DA4 0JP
Proposal: Extension to and conversion of existing garage to form annex ancillary to the main dwelling.
Comments by: 6 October 2026.
No comment.

12.5 Updates on enforcement cases and to highlight new activities or sites causing concern.
None.

13. Finance Items for noting and decision.
13.1 To approve items payable, and note items paid and receipts.
Members noted the items paid and receipts and approved the items payable including a late invoice from Tibbalds for Regulation 19 support that Crockenhill Parish Council and Eynsford Parish Council agreed to contribute a third each. The Clerk will request the contributions. **Action: Clerk.**

13.2 To note and raise any questions for the flexed budget September 2026.
Cllr Burns queried if FPC had paid their insurance this financial year, the overspend to date on newsletters and the Village Hall grant.

13.3 External audit 2025/26 - To note the Completion Letter, Audited AGAR for 2025/26 and that the Completion Notice has been published.
The completion letter and audited AGAR were noted and that the Clerk had published the completion notice on 16th September 2026.

13.4 To note the street light inspection report and:
Members noted the report.

13.4.1 Resolve whether to approve all works to be completed this year, or carry some over.
Members resolved that all identified work aside from column 58 should be completed this financial year requesting that the Cllr Bourne and the Clerk investigate an insurance claim on the vandalized columns. Members noted that the work will cost more than the budget and that the overspend would be funded from the Infrastructure Reserve and remaining CIL fund that can be used for upgrading streetlights of which 18 columns require upgrades to the secondary isolation units. **Action: Cllr Bourne and the Clerk.**

Members resolved to repair column 58 during the next financial year. **Action: Clerk.**

13.4.2 Resolve for a new reserve for street light repairs to be created.
Members resolved to:

- Create a new Street Light reserve for repairs and maintenance
- Include column 58 in the budget for 2027/28
- Increase the annual budget for Street Lights to allow the reserves to build.

Action: Clerk.

13.5 To agree for the Clerk to move provider for the Parish Council website.
Members resolved for the website provider to move to Parish Online. **Action: Clerk.**

13.6 Approve the quote for tree work in the village.
Members approved the quote from Aspen Tree Care**. Action: Clerk.**

13.7 Approve the quote to replace fencing at Irving's Corner.
Members approved the quote from Lothlorien Landscapes. **Action: Clerk.**

The public left the meeting for item 15.

15. To receive an update and agree next steps on both Community Asset Transfers (CATs), Alban Crescent and Oliver Crescent:
This item was considered in confidential session during which Cllr Bourne left the meeting.

15.1 To note the update from SDC.
Noted.

15.2 Agree FPC's payment of SDC's legal costs.
Members noted that, in accordance with SDC's policy, FPC would be responsible for SDC's legal costs.

15.3 To discuss and agree FPCs solicitor for the transfers.
The appointment of a solicitor remained outstanding.

15.4 Alban Crescent. To review and consider the draft Heads of Terms for the proposed transfer of Alban Crescent including:
15.4.1 Identify any questions or points requiring clarification with SDC;
None.

15.4.2 Agree whether FPC is minded to proceed, subject to satisfactory legal advice, due diligence and agreement of the final legal documentation.
Additional information for running costs is required**. Action: Clerk.**

15.5 Oliver Crescent To review and consider the draft Heads of Terms for the proposed transfer of Oliver Crescent and:

15.5.1 Identify any questions or points requiring clarification with SDC
None.

15.5.2 Agree whether FPC is minded to proceed, subject to satisfactory legal advice, due diligence and agreement of the final legal documentation
Additional information for running costs is required**. Action: Clerk.**

15.6 Approve a CAT working group for FPC, subject to the draft Terms of Reference being adopted.
Members approved a working group and adopted the Terms of Reference for the CATs. Cllr McGeough, Cllr Burns, Cllr McGarvey and Cllr Salmon joined the working group. Members agreed that Cllrs Baker and Bourne could be invited to join as they were absent for this agenda item.

Members requested that costs be shared regarding grass cutting, insurance and imminent tree work to get a better understanding of costs should the assets be transferred. **Action: Working Group.**

15.7 To discuss a quote from Civic.ly to assist with asset management for consideration.
Members noted the quote.

Urgent business that occurs and requires, attention before the next meeting that may be reported at the Chairman's discretion. (No decisions may take place as a result of this item).
None.

The meeting ended at 9:05pm.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 11 November 2026, 7pm.
Requests from Councillors for the next agenda due by 30 October 2026.

Items Paid

Farningham Parish Council
PAYMENTS LIST

Vouche	Date	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
58	03/09/2026	Pension contribution	Nest Pensions	X	171.99		171.99
79	09/09/2026	Telephone and Broadband charges	Talk Mobile	S	4.12	0.83	4.95
76	14/09/2026	Bank charges	Handelsbanken	X	9.10		9.10
65	17/09/2026	Tax/NI	HM Revenue and Customs	X	183.34		183.34
69	17/09/2026	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	6.00		6.00
71	17/09/2026	Payroll services	DM Payroll Services	S	102.00	20.40	122.40
69	17/09/2026	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	6.00		6.00
70	17/09/2026	Computer Support	Parish Online	S	202.00	40.40	242.40
72	17/09/2026	Hall Hire	Farningham Village Hall	X	51.00		51.00
74	17/09/2026	Family Fun Day	Play Place Transitions Ltd	X	380.00		380.00
75	17/09/2026	Amenity Area Maintenance	Lothlorien Landscapes	S	100.00	20.00	120.00
84	17/09/2026	Tax/NI	HM Revenue and Customs	X	183.34		183.34
83	17/09/2026	Cattle Screen flint work	Tim Germaney Heritage Bricklayer	X	1,125.00		1,125.00
80	17/09/2026	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	6.00		6.00
80	17/09/2026	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	6.00		6.00
81	17/09/2026	Printing	Aspect Press	S	210.00	42.00	252.00
80	17/09/2026	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	6.00		6.00
73	18/09/2026	Neighbourhood Plan	Tibbalds Planning & Urban Design Ltd	S	2,522.50	504.50	3,027.00
88	22/09/2026	Pension contribution	Nest Pensions	X	171.99		171.99
77	23/09/2026	Clerk's salary	Miss H Penney	X	1,173.62		1,173.62
78	24/09/2026	Electricity supply	npower	L	289.69	14.48	304.17
			Total		**6,909.69**	**642.61**	**7,552.30**

Receipts

Farningham Parish Council
RECEIPTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Bank	Description	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
15	Neighbourhood Plan	16/09/2026	FPC Current Account (HB)	Fundraising	X	58.99		58.99
16	Credits	17/09/2026	FPC Current Account (HB)	Return of funds	X	6.00		6.00
17	Precept from SDC	30/09/2026	FPC Current Account (HB)	Precept from SDC	X	35,554.00		35,554.00
18	Bank Interest	30/09/2026	FPC Deposit (HB)	Bank Interest	X	25.86		25.86
				Total		**35,644.85**		**35,644.85**

Items Payable

Farningham Parish Council
PAYMENTS (AWAITING AUTHORISATION) LIST

Voucher	Method	Date	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total	
92	Card	05/10/2026	Poppy Wreath	Royal British Legion	X	50.00		50.00	
86	BACs	14/10/2026	Christmas	Lite-Ltd	S	420.00	84.00	504.00	
90	BACs	14/10/2026	Printing	Aspect Press	S	206.00	41.20	247.20	
100	BACs	14/10/2026	Clerk's salary	Miss H Penney	X	398.10		398.10	Overtim
85	BACs	14/10/2026	Live Drive	Live Drive	X	76.90		76.90	
87	BACs	14/10/2026	Street Light Repair	Streetlights	S	105.00	21.00	126.00	
89	BACs	14/10/2026	Street Lighting contract	Streetlights	S	1,077.13	215.43	1,292.56	
91	BACs	14/10/2026	Street Light Repair	Streetlights	S	45.00	9.00	54.00	
								1,472.56	
95	BACs	14/10/2026	Tax/NI	HMRC	X	435.22		435.22	
99	BACs	14/10/2026	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	6.00		6.00	
99	BACs	14/10/2026	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	6.00		6.00	
								12.00	
96	DD	14/10/2026	Pension contribution	Nest Pensions	X	253.98		253.98	
97	DD	14/10/2026	Electricity supply	npower	L				
98	DD	14/10/2026	Phone and Broadband	Talk Mobile	S	4.12	0.83	4.95	
93	DD	14/10/2026	Bank charges	Handelsbanken	X				
94	SO	14/10/2026	Clerk's salary	Miss H Penney	X	1,173.62		1,173.62	
						4,257.07	**371.46**	**4,628.53**	

82	Paid	01/10/2026	Planning Consultant	Land Use Consultants Ltd	S	6,090.00	1,218.00	7,308.00	Already

Plus invoice from Tibbalds, £4,200 inc VAT, split with Crockenhill and Eynsford Parish Council's

Appendix A

Sevenoaks North & Darent Valley ED
Marc Logen | County Councillor | Reform UK
September 2026 Report

Sevenoaks Local Plan: my response to the final consultation
Sevenoaks District Council's draft Local Plan decides where more than 17,000 new homes will be built across the district over the next 15 years. The final public consultation, known as Regulation 19, closed on 17th September 2026. The Plan will now go to an independent Planning Inspector, who will decide whether it has been prepared lawfully and is sound.

The Plan reached this stage because the District Council's Cabinet approved it for consultation on 7th July 20 26, after it had been considered by the Development and Infrastructure Advisory Committee on 30th June. Many parishes and residents in this division have made clear their opposition to many of the proposals and to the scale of building proposed. Parish councils and residents may wish to ask their district councillors how they voted at those meetings, and why.

I do not believe the local infrastructure can cope. I have submitted a formal response to the consultation, and the main points are set out below in plain terms. You can read it in full on the Sevenoaks District Council website, listed under my surname.

Has the Plan been prepared properly? (legal compliance)
● **Other options.** The Plan puts 2,600 homes at Pedham Place, inside the Kent Downs National Landscape (formerly known as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty), because it says the district's full hous ing target must be met. The Plan does not show that the Council tested a lower target, set below the Govern ment's standard formula and based on the limits the district faces, as thoroughly as its preferred option.
● **Conflicting numbers.** The Plan gives its housing target in two different ways. One version says 17,175 homes (1,145 a year). The other says 17,460 homes (1,164 a year). It is hard for anyone to comment properly when the target itself is unclear.
● **Protected wildlife sites.** Councils must check whether a plan could harm protected wildlife sites. This is called a Habitats Regulations Assessment. I have asked the Inspector to examine whether the combined effect of all the planned development on rivers and water has been assessed, and whether the ass essment relies on measures to reduce harm that are not yet certain.
●**The consultation itself.** The Plan is backed by more than 50 technical documents, and the public had about eight weeks to respond. I have asked the Inspector to consider whether that gave people afair chance to have their say.

Does the Plan stand up? (soundness)
● **The numbers do not add up.** The Plan identifies sites for 17,238 homes against a target of 17,460, which is 222 homes short. The Council's reason for releasing Green Belt land and building in the National Landscape is that the target must be met in full. The Plan does not meet it in full.
● **Grey belt.** National planning policy now treats some weaker Green Belt land, known as grey belt, as more suitable for building. The Plan says much of the district's Green Belt counts as grey belt. The district is 93% Green Belt, the third highest proportion in England. I think the areas the Council assessed were drawn too broadly to judge this fairly, and I have asked the Inspector to test the GreenBelt Assessment 2025.
● **Building in the National Landscape.** Pedham Place is the largest single site in the Plan: 2,600 homes on 141.2 hectares (about 349 acres). Major development in a National Landscape should be refused unless there are exceptional circumstances and it is shown to be in the public interest. This isknown as the major development test, and I do not think Pedham Place passes it. I have pointed to the Tunbridge

Wells and West Oxfordshire local plan examinations, where Inspectors removed similar sites.

● **Otford and Kemsing.** The Plan says that in villages within the National Landscape, it will only consider land that has already been built on or sites within the village. It then allocates four greenfield sites at Otford and Kemsing, totalling 414 homes: ST4-24 (203 homes), ST4-41 (167), ST4-33 (30) and ST4-30 (14). The three Kemsing sites account for 211 of these.

● **Broke Hill Golf Course.** The Plan allocates 714 homes at Broke Hill Golf Course (ST5-1). The Council accepts that the site is not grey belt, because it plays a strong part in stopping London's built-up area spreading outwards, one of the main purposes of the Green Belt. The site is included only provisionally, and the Council says it has not yet formed a view on the outline planning application currently being considered. I do not think a provisional site belongs in the final version of the Plan.

● **Where the homes would go.** Only 1,459 of the allocated homes are within existing built-up areas (Policy ST2). A further 452 are on previously developed land in the Green Belt (Policy ST3), 7,236 are on greenfield grey belt land (Policy ST4) and 3,341 are on other greenfield land (Policy ST5). That means fewer than 12% of the new homes are planned within existing builtup areas. I have asked the Inspect or to test whether more homes could be built on town sites.

● **Flood risk north of Sevenoaks (ST4-7).**

About a quarter of this 107.59 hectare site (about 266 acres) north of Sevenoaks is in Flood Zone 3, the highest flood risk category. The River Darent runs through it and it borders the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve, a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The site also contains mineral deposits that are protected from being built over. The Plan still allocates 1,500 homes there.

Water supply and the River Darent

The Environment Agency has classed the whole district as seriously water stressed, meaning demand for water is high compared with what is available. The district includes chalk streams, among them parts of the River Darent, which are harmed when too much water is taken from the ground.

Under Policy W3, it is left to each developer to show, when they apply for planning permission, that their scheme will not cause harm. I do not think that is a credible plan. The Council should show now, for the Plan as a whole, that there is enough water supply and sewage capacity for all the planned homes without further harm to the Darent. I have asked the Inspector to test the Council's Water Cycle Study and to consider requiring water neutrality, meaning new development must not increase total water use in the area

Working with neighbouring councils and other bodies

Councils have a legal duty to cooperate with neighbouring authorities when planning for housing. The Plan expects no help from neighbouring councils in meeting the district's housing target. It says requests were made in 2025 and 2026 and were refused. The district's previous Local Plan was found unsound in March 2020 on these grounds.

I could not reach a firm view without seeing the written agreements between the Council and those bodies, known as Statements of Common Ground, so I answered unsure rather than no. I have asked the Inspector to check whether the Council did more than make a request and accept a refusal, and whether it looked at planning jointly with neighbouring councils, given the proposed reorganisation of local government in Kent.

I also raised minerals. Land containing useful mineral deposits, such as sand and gravel, can be protected so that building does not cover it over. This is called minerals safeguarding. The Plan mentions it only once, for site ST4-7, and I found no assessment of minerals for the other allocated sites. Kent County Council is responsible for planning for minerals and waste. I have asked the Inspector to establish whether the County Council was consulted and whether a Statement of Common Ground exists.

Changes I have asked for

● Remove Pedham Place (ST52) from the Plan, with any shortfall in homes dealt with through an early

review of the Plan.

● Remove Broke Hill Golf Course (ST5-1).

●Set a lower housing target, below the Government's standard formula and justified by the district's constraints, with an early review.

● Withdraw the Green Belt Assessment 2025 and redo it in more detail, then look again at the greenfield grey belt sites under Policy ST4.

● Remove the four greenfield sites at Otford and Kemsing (ST4-24, ST4-30, ST4-33 and ST4-41), or require the Council to show how each one fits its own rules for National Landscape villages and qualifies as grey belt.

● Use one housing target figure throughout the Plan, and confirm which figure was used to assess the Plan's effects and to choose sites.

● Require infrastructure to come first, with homes released in phases as it is delivered and clear trigger points written into Policy ST1.

● Require water neutrality for the Darent catchment, with evidence at plan level that all the allocated sites can be supplied with water without further harm to the river.

● Reduce the number of homes at ST4-7 to reflect the land that can actually be built on once flood risk, the wildlife site buffer, the river corridor and minerals protection are taken into account.

Questions & How to Get in Touch?

I represent many communities and produce this monthly update for all parishes/associations in my division. If you have issues where council involvement could help please get in touch. The more I know about what is happening on the ground, the more effectively I can act.

I also receive many requests for help directly from local residents. Where the matter is relevant to the parish, I will keep the clerk informed.

I plan to attend each parish in person at least once per quarter. If you would like me at a specific meeting, email me directly.

Marc Logen
County Councillor, Sevenoaks North & Darent Valley ED
Reform UK

Appendix B

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend tonight. Below is a short summary of what I would have said:

You are probably all aware that the New Bin Collection system commenced this week. All bins should have been delivered to the majority of us who will use them. The few who will still be using sacks should already know. If you have any problems in this regard, please contact me or Sevenoaks District Council (SDC). A reminder that Food waste will be collected weekly and Recycling and Waste will be collected on alternate weeks.

Last week I attended the Development and Infrastructure Advisory Committee Meeting. Primarily this was to be given an update on the Regulation 19 situation.

There were approximately 3000 responses of which over 80% believed that the Plan was not sound. What was particularly noticeable was the lack of support. Of the 16 Statutory and Key Consultees only 4 considered the Plan sound (Environment Agency, Historic England, Network Rail NHS Kent and Medway), 3 considered it unsound (Natural England, Kent Downs National Landscape Team and Kent Wildlife Trust) and the rest either did not answer or were unsure. Interesting was that National Highways said there was a need " for further technical analysis" - how much longer was needed??

Of the 7 Neighbouring Authorities that were consulted only 1 (Tunbridge Wells) believed that the plan was sound. The other 6 either did not reply or were "unsure". A ringing endorsement indeed.

The next stage will be a full analysis of Regulation 19 will be discussed and voted on at a Full Council Meeting on 1st December this year. Sadly, I fear that SDC will buckle to Government pressure and vote this through.

Laurence Ball (Cllr)