



HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL- ARTICLE FOR PARISH NEWS FOR FEBRUARY 2026 EDITION

PARISH PRECEPT 2026-27

At our December meeting, the Parish Council approved their precept request for the coming financial year, which has now been formally acknowledged by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC).

The Finance Committee carefully reviewed the budget, looking closely at every item of expenditure to ensure that funds are used wisely and effectively. In doing so, they continue to make every effort to keep the precept as low as possible, balancing the need to maintain essential services and support local projects with the desire to minimize the impact on residents' household bills.

Following this detailed consideration, the Council agreed to request a precept of £136,610. This represents a 6.2% increase, which factors in modest growth in the council tax base. The Council are committed to responsible financial management, ensuring that the parish remains well-served while maintaining careful control over public funds.

PRESENTATION FROM FERNHAM HOMES

At our meeting on 12th January, the Parish Council welcomed representatives from Fernham Homes to present their plans for the new residential development on Brenchley Road.

This development already has outline planning approval (ref: TW/ 22/00296/OUT), and the reserved matters (ref: TW/ 25/02758/REM) are currently under consideration by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. During the session, Fernham Homes outlined the key aspects of the scheme, including site layout, housing types, and community considerations. Members of the public were given the opportunity to ask questions and share their views on the proposal, allowing for an open discussion about the proposals and how they will be implemented.

For those interested in learning more about Fernham Homes and their current and past projects, additional information is available on their official website.

2026 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

The Parish Council noticeboard and website has now been updated with the new Council meeting dates for 2026. The agendas for each meeting will be published on the Parish Council website and are displayed on both noticeboards.

We encourage members of the public to attend these meetings freely so that they can raise important issues affecting the Parish.

If you would like to speak at a meeting during our public session or raise an issue at a future meeting, please contact the Parish Clerk (clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk).

NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH STRATEGY 2026-2030

The Neighbourhood Watch Network has launched its new 2026–2030 Strategy, setting out a positive and forward-looking plan to support safer, stronger communities over the next five years. The strategy highlights practical steps to help existing schemes thrive while encouraging the creation of new groups.

At present, Horsmonden do not have an active Neighbourhood Watch group. If any residents would be interested in volunteering and helping to establish a local scheme, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

PARISH SALT BINS

If you have a salt bin located near your home and you notice that it is empty please contact us at the Parish Office on 01892 724989 and we will arrange for KCC to fill it up. Alternatively, you can let us know by email at deputyclerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk.

STREET LIGHTS

The Parish owns more than 40 street lights around the village which require regular checks and repair. Please contact us if you notice a street light that is not working and we will report it to our maintenance engineers for investigation.

ROAD WORKS

There have been quite a number of road closures recently. It is great that works are being carried out but we get very little notice to allow us to advertise them. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages and we will share the information as quickly as we can.

REPORTING A PROBLEM ON A ROAD, PAVEMENT OR A FOOTPATH

If you notice any issues such as potholes,

drainage problems or overgrown vegetation you can report directly to Kent County Council here:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

If you notice any problems on a public right of way such as broken stiles, fallen trees or dangerous path surfaces you can report directly to Kent County Council here:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of-way>

STAY INFORMED ABOUT LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS FROM HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL

To receive our updates, simply register your email address and confirm your agreement with our Privacy Notice by scanning the QR code below:



SOME USEFUL CONTACT

NUMBERS:

NHS: 111

Kent Highways Service: 03000 418181

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council: 01892 526121

Environment Agency 24-hour Flood line:

08459 881188

Emergencies only: 999

Non-emergency Police Line: 101

UK Power Networks – Power cut: 0800 31 63 105 on a landline or 0333 32 32 105 (if calling from a mobile)