

NEWENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

<https://newenden-pc.gov.uk>

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I hereby give notice that the ANNUAL (statutory) MEETING of NEWENDEN PARISH COUNCIL will take place on TUESDAY 12 MAY 2026 at 7pm in St Peter's church when the business detailed in this agenda will be considered.

Dated this day – 5th May 2026

Lauren Dobson – Parish Clerk

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- 1. Election of a chairman for the ensuing year** and to receive his/her declaration of acceptance of office.
 - 2. Election of a vice-chairman for the ensuing year** and to receive his/her declaration of acceptance of office.
 - 3. Apologies for absence.**
 - 4. Declarations of interest whether personal or personal/pecuniary regarding matters on the agenda.** Members are reminded that they should review their current declared interests displayed on Ashford Borough Council's website and let the Clerk know if there are any changes to what has been declared (Localism Act 2011).
 - 5. Councillor vacancy.**
 - 6. Allocation of responsibilities** between councillors and appointment of any other Committee that the Council agrees should be constituted for the coming year.
 - a) Planning
 - b) Highways / drains
 - c) Playground
 - d) Finance / bank transactions
 - e) Employment sub-committee
 - f) Safeguarding officer
 - g) Environment
 - h) Resilience lead
 - 7. Membership of External Bodies**
 - a) To approve subscription to National Association of Local councils and Kent Association of Local Councils (£194.42) - retrospective
 - b) To choose a representative to attend area KALC meetings as required by inviting nominations from councillors / voting on a representative.
 - 8. Annual review and re-adoption of:**
 - a) Standing Orders
 - b) Financial Regulations
 - c) Code of Conduct
 - d) Asset Register
 - 9. To review and agree the schedule for meeting dates / policy reviews in the forthcoming council year.**

Commencement of ordinary PC meeting

10. Public Questions – the meeting will be paused to allow members of the public to address or ask questions to the Parish Council in respect of any item on this agenda (maximum 10 mins). There will be further opportunity for discussion at the Annual Village Meeting to follow.

11. To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting on 10th March 2026

12. Matters arising from the minutes/ action points from 10th March 2026 (*not covered elsewhere on agenda*)

- Selmes Trust car park
- Laptop purchase

13. Verbal reports from Council members

- i. **Highways**
 - a. Cutting of the hedge on the Rye Road
 - b. Lossenham lane – Consultation on double yellow lines
- ii. **Drains**
- iii. **Resilience plan**
- iv. **Playground**
 - a. To consider quote from Playdale to supply and install a baby swing and resolve whether to proceed.

14. Annual Return: Accounting and Governance Statement - To receive and approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the financial year ending 31 March 2026.

- a) Section 1 of the AGAR – Review and approve.
- b) Section 2 of the AGAR – Review and approve.
- c) Notice of elector's rights – To set commencement date for exercise of Public Rights.
- d) Internal auditors report – to receive and note any comments.

15. Finance and Governance

- i. Authorisation of accounts – to approve payments and note receipts since 1st March 2026 (a schedule of receipts & payments for the period will be presented at the meeting).
- ii. To review opening balance / allocation of reserves for 2026-27 financial year.
- iii. To consider response to Ashford Borough Council following its refusal to increase annual grass cutting grant from £2k.
- iv. Website and email – to discuss recent issues and resolve next steps.

16. Planning – to consider any planning applications received from Ashford Borough Council and any other planning matters.

17. Matters for consideration as an agenda item for the next meeting.

18. Date of next meeting

The parish council meeting will be followed by the annual village meeting at 8pm