The Tilmanstone Brief

Monthly Update – Village events – Published by Tilmanstone Parish Council Feb 2026 - Issue 123

PARISH COUNCIL - The next Parish Council meeting is on **Monday, 16th February 2026 at 7pm**. All are welcome. If there are matters you would like the Council to discuss, please contact us by email or in writing at least a week before the meeting.

Children's Playing Field:

Pothole – Highways have been informed of the pothole opposite the overhanging tree at the back of the Playing Field. The highway has been marked with a semi-circle where it is to be repaired. The damage beyond that is from the bank being eroded by vehicles forced onto that side Tilmanstone Parish Council (TPC) have already taken steps to reduce the overhanging elder and also examine the old hedge which has now encroached over the verge further narrowing the lane.

The upper half of the hedge is full of briars, so it has been decided to remove that part, dig out the invasive roots, re-expose the road surface and re-plant with a new wildlife hedge.

TPC is putting the hedge removal out to tender. Please contact the clerk if interested. TPC would like to thank Councillors Wyatt and Ovenden for their volunteer work on the hedge and tree.

Slide Surround - Another quote has been received for the wooden surround. The job will be awarded in February. The work is estimated to take 2 days and will be completed before the Easter holidays.

CPRE, PPC, Village Hall and Whitfield:

- TPC have agreed to membership of CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) which will facilitate useful legal and general access on issues regarding local pollution, housing, energy sites and even advice on re-wilding.
- Village Hall Committee – Councillor Totham has been elected as the Council representative.
- PCC (Parochial Parish Council) – Councillor Bate has been elected.
- Whitfield Urban Expansion – Councillor Watts has accepted the invitation to sit in on the quarterly planning committee. This development is planned to end at Coffin Hill thereby breaching Tilmanstone's boundary. Issues for Tilmanstone will include, among others, access and safety on Coffin Hill and the changing dynamics of the village with a possible mini housing estate within its boundaries.

Planning Enforcement: All local councils in DDC have requested monthly updates from DDC Enforcement in line with that already provided to Whitfield Council. For example: clarification on foul water disposal at Falcon's View Meadow site.

Plough and Harrow: Planning Reference Number is: 26/00043

TPC reserve judgement on the application for a winter holiday let on 3 points:

- Lack of bathing facilities
- Clarification on licensing laws
- Clarification on placing of fire exits.

Logging in Northbourne: The timber being logged on either side of the footbridge is outside of 9-acre wood. Trees are planted in squares and logged every 10-20 years. The squares are planted alongside the original entrance driveway from Tilmanstone to Northbourne House, which is cleared each time for access. In the past, villagers, especially children, have been encouraged to help re-plant saplings. The clerk has written to Lord Northbourne enquiring whether this is still the case, especially opposite the homes on the Dover Road as the lack of tree cover has greatly increased the road noise from the A256.

Betteshanger Park: Several villagers have expressed concern over the closing of footpaths into the Park. Councillor Manion from DDC is holding meetings with concerned bodies as to what can be done. Please contact him for further information on 07968 972746 or cllr-stephen.manion@dover.gov.uk. Betteshanger Park is not within the boundaries of Tilmanstone nor does it have any impact on it, thus it is not within the remit of TPC.

Council Precept: The Parish Councillors have agreed on a precept of £10,128.70, an increase of 4.98% on last year. If anyone wishes to know how the money is allocated, the accounts are available to see on request to the clerk.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Barbara Totham, Cllr Nigel Watts (Chair), Cllr Rachel Bate, Cllr Mog Ovenden and Cllr Richard Wyatt
Tilmanstone Parish Clerk – Mrs H Biggs-Halles – 07463 092092 or email clerk@tilmanstonepc.org.uk
or write to Downlands, The Street, Staple CT3 1LL

VILLAGE HALL

Mondays – 10.00am - Pilates (chair)
Mondays – 11.00am – Pilates (mat)
Wednesdays – 10.00am – Pilates (mat)
Offering a **free introductory session** to anyone who would like to try Pilates.
Contact Michelle Monk on 07857 661483 for information on Pilates classes.

The Hall can currently be booked for £10.00 per hour or £8.00 per hour for regular bookings.
If you would like to be kept informed on future events, please text Sal on 07981 747298 and she can add you to the WhatsApp group.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH - Services February
Sunday 1st at 8.00am BCP Rev. Andrew Brown. All Welcome.
Sunday 15th at 10am. Holy Communion Service with Rev. Andrew Brown.

The next **monthly Coffee Morning** in the Church at 10-11.30am will be held on **Tuesday, 24th February**.
Church Warden – Julie Chandler – 01304 617489 – email housechurch10@gmail.com
For weddings, baptisms, funerals or more information on the above events, please contact Annette Silk – 01304 617833 or 07967 727551.

Waste Collections

Black Bin / Food Waste - Tuesday 3rd & 17th February
Blue Bin / Recycling /Food Waste - Tuesday 10th & 24th February
Garden Waste - Wednesday 4th and 18th February
It is advised that bins need to be out by 7:00am on the day of collection.