

Agenda

Eastern Area Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 24 February 2026

Time 7.00 pm

Venue: The Alexander Centre, 15-17 Preston Street, Faversham ME13 8NZ

Membership:

Councillors Lloyd Bowen, Alex Eyre, Charles Gibson (Vice-Chair), Kieran Golding, Alastair Gould, Carole Jackson, Rich Lehmann, Claire Martin, Ben J Martin (Chair), Hannah Perkin, Julien Speed and Terry Thompson.

Quorum = 4

Pages

Information about this meeting

Members of the press and public can listen to this meeting live. Details of how to join the meeting will be added to the website by 23 February 2026.

Recording and Privacy Notice

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When joining a meeting online, your username will be visible to others in attendance. In joining the meeting you are consenting to us processing your username. You may use a pseudonym as your username but the use of an inappropriate name may lead to removal from the meeting.

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1. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

Visitors and members of the public who are unfamiliar with the building and procedures are advised that:

- (a) There is no scheduled test of the fire alarm during this meeting. If the alarm does sound, please leave the building quickly without collecting any of your possessions, using the doors signed as fire

escapes.

- (b) Assemble outside where directed. Await instructions before re-entering the building.
- (c) Anyone who requires assistance in evacuating the building, should make themselves known during this agenda item.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Minutes

To approve the [Minutes](#) of the meeting held on 4 September 2025 (Minute Nos. 260 – 273) as correct records.

Due to the large number of apologies received for the Eastern Area Committee meeting on 9 December 2025, the Committee was inquorate. The Chair, therefore, decided to cancel the meeting.

4. Declarations of Interest

Councillors should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their families or friends.

The Chair will ask Members if they have any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) or disclosable non-pecuniary interests (DNPIs) to declare in respect of items on the agenda. Members with a DPI in an item must leave the room for that item and may not participate in the debate or vote.

Aside from disclosable interests, where a fair-minded and informed observer would think there was a real possibility that a Member might be biased or predetermined on an item, the Member should declare this and leave the room while that item is considered.

Members who are in any doubt about interests, bias or predetermination should contact the monitoring officer for advice prior to the meeting.

5. Police update

6. Public Forum

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| 7. | Matters arising from previous meetings | 5 - 16 |
| 8. | Community Governance Review update (potential changes to arrangements for town and parish councils) | 17 - 18 |
| 9. | Local Government Reorganisation update (Government wants us to deliver your services differently) | 19 - 20 |
| 10. | National Landscapes (formerly AONB) boundary extensions | 21 - 22 |
| 11. | Environmental issues | |

- | | | |
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| 12. | Local Plan update | 23 - 24 |
| 13. | GP provision in Teynham | |
| 14. | Flooding in the Eastern Area | 25 - 28 |
| 15. | Swale Bus Partnership Forum update | |
| 16. | Reports/updates from Parish/Town Councils | |
| 17. | Local issues to be raised | |
| 18. | Matters referred to Service Committee Chairs for consideration | |

Issued on Monday, 16 February 2026

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**Chief Executive, Swale Borough Council,
Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT**