

Compost and Green Grants: Notes on Parish Partnership Panel February 5th 2026

The two most useful revelations came right at the end so I put these first:

Anyone who wants a really large amount of compost, which might be to hand out to allotments or for big greening projects or meadow restoration its £85 for an 11 tonne lorry load. Apply to Roger Dalton or Louise.

Grants of up to £5,000 are now available to cover up to 50 per cent of the costs of reducing the carbon footprint of commercial premises (including equipment and machinery). This grant is open to Tonbridge and Malling borough businesses that operate from commercial premises. <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/business/apply-green-business-grant>

15 people attended the PPP online including myself

Inspector Zara McAiney. Chief Inspector T&M:

110 reported incidents of Anti Social Behaviour relating to motor vehicles.

Snodland top followed by East Peckham

As regards drunken behaviour, TMBC is at the bottom.

Asked if the CCTV at Holborough would be put back, she said that the installation yielded nothing so will not be put back.

Comment from floor. Current CCTVs around the borough do not read number plates in the dark. They are looking for new products that will. The first new one will be trialled in Snodland.

Question about e Scooters:

Most problems are in town centres. Will come back

Paul Hickmott asked that the ducks be protected from catapults

Local Government Reorganisation. Matt and Damian.

The Consultation starts today and ends on March 26th. We will know on July 26th what the new unitary district layout will be. TMBC's option is 3A which is the same as the police districts. The 4 unitary option would require splitting Aylesford and Leybourne.

There will be a consultation on the Government website or write to.

LGRconsultationresponse@communities.gov.uk

Harry Rayner said the lowest costs were associated with the single authority. Attempts to reduce costs at KCC have not succeeded. They are still £65million short.

It will be up to the minister to decide how the debts incurred by old councils will be distributed among the new ones.

Are the devolution promises going to be kept during this parliament? He thought this unlikely.

Sarah Hudson. Only Reform want a single authority. They have not done well so far.

Sarah Barker. Will be reminding parish councils to reply to the survey. ANYONE can respond either council or individual.

Local Plan.

Mike Taylor. Reg 18 consultation. We have had over 2,000 responses. These will be posted.

TMBC has secured a £50,000 grant from central government to improve their IT. Digital Planning Improvement Fund.

Harry Rayner asked what will happen to the Local Plan in view of the LGR?

Matt said it is then in the hands of the Planning Inspectorate.

The new LGR authority that we will be part of will be required to come up with an overall Local Plan. There will no incentive to redo the Local Plan from the beginning.

Climate Change. Louise Stewart. Report at

<https://democracy.tmbc.gov.uk/documents/s93577/ClimateChangeUpdate.pdf>

Mike Betts. The homes hostel development on the former car park at Bluebell Hill has been approved and will be carbon netural

I asked about safe access to and from the site by foot or cycle. I was told there is a footpath access to ASDA but it was admitted that the arrangement was not very satisfactory.

Tom Shelley Feb 7th 2026.