

Bearsted Parish Council Meeting – 13th May 2025

Borough Councillor's Report – Cllr Val Springett

Whilst acting as a substitute member on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee I successfully challenged the deliberate understaffing of our planning enforcement team by the current administration. They have a vacant post which they are not attempting to fill, and they were trying to get report past the committee! I have concerns that not only are some existing enforcement cases are not being adequately pursued, but that this will lead to a backlog. It was agreed to ask the cabinet to look again at this and recruit to fill the vacant post.

Planning enforcement is a vital team which needs to be seen to be acting promptly and effectively on planning enforcement issues, as complacency leads to a disregard of the rules as people think they can 'get away' with a breach of the rules or failure to comply with planning conditions applied when permission for a development is granted.

Hopefully now the KCC elections are out of the way, business at MBC can return to normal as several meetings were postponed until the elections had taken place. The outcome at KCC was quite dramatic as you will have seen from the press reports. We now have a Reform controlled administration and time will tell if they are able to achieve the changes they promised. They did promise to deal with potholes, and so I suggest residents contact our new county councillor to get potholes and other long-standing highways issues looked at once his contact details are known.

I understand that the proposal from KCC Highways to reduce the speed limit on the A20 to 40mph from junction 8 all the way to Majors Lake will be taken forward this year. A public consultation process will be undertaken ahead of work starting.

There have been few planning applications recently, and none of particular concern.

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Cheque	Gross	Heading	Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
	£6.26	220/2	04/04/25	Castle Water - March water usage - Pond	
	£370.80		04/04/25	Safeplay PS Ltd - Monthly play area checks - March	
	£185.40	210/2		Monthly play area inspections	
	£185.40	285/1/2		Monthly play area inspections	
	£19.97	115/4	07/04/25	Lloyds Card - Adobe - Apr Adobe charge	
	£65.00	115/14	07/04/25	Madginford Hall - Small hall hire March	
	£177.00	235/2/3	09/04/25	Lloyds Card - LB Waste Management - Skip hire - Church Lane allotments	
	£177.00	235/2/3	09/04/25	Lloyds Card - LB Waste Management - Skip hire - Church Lane allotments part 2	
	£36.00	120/2	17/04/25	SLCC - Managing closed churchyards Apr 25	
	£240.00	130/4	17/04/25	SLCC - SLCC membership fee JU	
	£20.00	235/1/1	22/04/25	██████████ Returned allotment key 54E	
	£97.50	115/2	23/04/25	British Telecom - BT charges Apr	
	£24.26	115/4	23/04/25	Lloyds Card - Adobe - Apr Adobe charge	
	£10.63	730/2	23/04/25	Lloyds Bank - Campiagn Monitor - email	
	£343.00	350/1	24/04/25	Kent County Council - May-June design fees for signs/slow on Roundwell	
	£42.00	115/12	25/04/25	██████████ Cleaning of office	
	£6.54	255/3	26/04/25	Three - Three monthly SIM charges - new contract	
	£263.08	100/8	30/04/25	██████████ - Finance support April	
	£370.80		30/04/25	Safeplay PS Ltd - Monthly play area checks - April	
	£185.40	210/2		Monthly play area inspections	
	£185.40	285/1/2		Monthly play area inspections	
	£673.32	210/2	30/04/25	Safeplay PS Ltd - Repairs to play eqt on The Green	
Ians Windows 17.04	£10.00	115/12	01/05/25	Ian's Window Cleaning - Cleaning windows 01.05.25	£10.00
	£3.00	115/17	02/05/25	Lloyds Bank - Apr card fee	
	£6.37	235/2/1	02/05/25	Castle Water - Allotments C Lane 01.04.25 - 30.04.25	

Signature

Signature

Date

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Cheque	Gross	Heading	Invoice date	Details	Cheque Total
	£144.00	210/3	05/05/25	LRH Property Maintenance - Put up posts near the pond on the Green	
	£155.00	250/1	05/05/25	LRH Property Maintenance - Put up notice board next to shops	
	£1,064.04		23/05/25	HMRC - PAYE and NI May (office staff)	
	£514.80	100/1		PAYE May	
	£549.24	100/6		NI May	
	£232.50	100/5	23/05/25	NEST Pension - May pension deductions	
		██████ 100/3	23/05/25	Amy Bush - May pay	
		██████ 100/3	23/05/25	Joanne Upton - May payroll	
Sub Total	£7,432.02				
Total	£7,432.02				

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Date _____

Bearsted Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - payments approval list Start of year 01/04/24

No	Payment Reference	Gross	To pay	Heading	Invoice date	Invoice no.	Details	Payment Reference Total
5248		£60.00	£60.00	120/1	26/03/25	11406483293	KALC - Nuts and bolts training day	
5249		£504.00	£504.00	180	29/03/25	CCOTG March	Classic Cars on the Green - Frant request for CCOTG 2025	
Sub Total		£564.00	£564.00					
Total		£564.00	£564.00					

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BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Bank	Acc. Type	Term	Ends	Interest Paid	Interest Rate	Balance - 30/4/25
Unity	Current	n/a	n/a			£152,432.93
Unity - Instant Access	Instant Access Saver	n/a	n/a	Quarterly	2.50%	£50,674.66
Unity - Fixed Rate	Fixed Rater Saver	24 month	02/07/2026	Annually in July	5.00%	£85,000.00
Cambridge & Counties	Fixed Rater Saver	60 months	31/10/2029	Annually in Oct	4.40%	£50,000.00
Hampshire	Fixed Rater Saver	12 months	19/09/2025	Annually in September	4.55%	£80,000.00
Redwood Bank	Fixed Rater Saver	12 months	19/07/2025	Monthly	5.08%	£129,857.05

As reviewed and agreed at
Finance meeting on the 8th
May 2025

interest 2.25 from 6/5/25

VAT Summary

Balance Sheet opening figures

Opening Vat Recoverable	£21,027.70
Opening Vat Payable	£0.00

VAT Return Details

Start Date	End Date	Sales Vat	EC Vat	Total Vat due	Purchases Vat	Net VAT	Sales	Purchases
01/04/24	30/09/24	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£6,448.63	£6,448.63	£196,709.11	£95,523.00
01/10/24	31/12/24	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£3,455.16	£3,455.16	£34,555.57	£46,181.40
01/01/25	31/03/25	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,034.60	£5,034.60	£6,524.98	£42,685.81
Totals		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£14,938.39	£14,938.39	£237,789.66	£184,390.21

Total of VAT Returns including opening figures £35,966.09

Details of transactions against VAT REFUND (Income) Headings

1040 VAT Refund

Received	Invoiced	Tn. no	Reference	Details	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
25/04/24	31/03/24	1769	HMRC VTR	HMRC - VAT refund 01/04/23 - 31/03/24	21,027.70	0.00	21,027.70
11/10/24	30/09/24	1976	HMRC VTR	HMRC - VAT refund 01/04/24 - 30/09/24	6,448.63	0.00	6,448.63
24/01/25	31/12/24	1988	VAT refund	HMRC - VAT refund 01/10/24 - 31/12/24	3,455.16	0.00	3,455.16
	31/03/25	2002		HMRC - VAT refund 01/01/25 - 31/03/25	5,034.60	0.00	5,034.60
1040 VAT Refund Total					35,966.09	0.00	35,966.09

Total of VAT transactions (refunds and payments) 35,966.09

Total of refunds/ payments matches the total of the VAT returns.