



Minutes of the Traffic and Transport Committee meeting of Bearsted Parish Council

Madginford Hall, Egremont Road, Bearsted on Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 7.15pm

Present:

Cllr Richard Ash MBE (Chair)

Cllr Val Springett (Vice)

Cllr Pat Catt

Cllr Denis Spooner

Also, in attendance was the Deputy Clerk Amy Bush, one member of the public and Cllr Sean Turner.

Reports from members of the public

A member of the public shared concerns about parking and emergency vehicle access around the Merton Road area, specifically Grenadier Close. Photos were shown of illegal parking close to the junction and inconsiderate pavement parking. The resident suggested double yellow lines would alleviate the issue and requested the support of BPC.

Cllr Turner addressed the committee as a resident voicing his concerns around 20mph options discussed by the committee referring to recent and 2022 minutes. He requested wide consultation for all residents. The Chairman asked for the information to be circulated and commented that if members had been privy to the statement prior to the meeting, a response could have been prepared. Cllr Springett confirmed 20mph across the whole village would not be considered by the current committee and previously did not appear on any HIP document. The current discussions were for a small area around the Green only. If this is taken further the committee will be guided on consultation requirements by KCC.

1. Declarations of intention to record

The Deputy Clerk declared the meeting would be recorded for minuting purposes.

2. Apologies and Absences

Apologies were received and duly noted from Cllr Kaushik and Cllr Hall.

3. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None.

4. Signing of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 18th November 2025 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Reports

- Office:** The Deputy Clerk shared some information from the recent Roseacre Junior School newsletter advising people not to use Fauchons Lane as a cut through when Ware Street is closed. The committee agreed BPC should share this information ahead of future closures. The office received a late correspondence from a resident at Ragstone Road regarding new legislation to enforce no pavement parking. The committee are aware and will await official legislation and updates from KCC. The Deputy Clerk concluded with a request to reschedule the July T&T meeting due to family commitments. Members agreed pending an alternative date.
- Chairman:** The Chairman advised the committee that the next road closure for the Bearsted Road improvements would run 2nd-20th February. Notcutts to KIMs roundabout will be shut between 8pm-5am.

6. General Correspondence

- The Almonds – School parking:** The committee reviewed the photos. Cllr Springett will continue to request that MBC parking enforcement patrol the area and will also enquire about BPC funding some patrols.

b) **Merton Road – Parking issues:** The Committee agreed to visit Merton Road and Grenadier Close to observe the parking issues. They will report back on whether further action should be prioritised to a HIP item.

7. HIP update

Cllr Ash and Cllr Springett gave an update on the HIP items.

1. **The Landway:** Single yellow lines opposite Roseacre school entrance. Installation planned end of February.
2. **Roundwell:** To be added to the next HIP as a priority. To work with Thurnham PC on proposal for speed reduction to 30mph from A20 junction.
3. **Ashford Road 50m east of Esso:** This is still with the KCC design team to look at more cost effective design.
4. **Manor Close:** Yellow line installation planned end of February.
5. **Sandy Mount:** Awaiting update from KCC following closure of consultation.
6. **Church Lane:** Unofficial signage had been put in place in 3 locations advising motorists about pedestrians in the road. Nothing more can be done at this stage.
7. **Ashford Road East:** Pedestrian refuge in Otham Lane area. On hold with no further action at present.

8. KCC Highways meeting

Meeting cancelled. Rescheduled for 29th January.

9. Roundwell speed limit restriction

In collaboration with Thurnham PC this will be added to the new 2026 HIP document. Deputy Clerk to confirm when this is due with KCC.

10. Thurnham Lane – Informal consultation on no waiting restrictions

Informal consultation prepared by BPC and will be delivered to properties close to the area. Formal consultation will take place if enough support is recorded.

11. SID installation

Cllr Springett advised that all equipment is ready to be installed however due to more involvement in the Bearsted set up our area will be the last one to be fitted. The Speed Watch volunteers have agreed to support with the maintenance.

12. Operation Brock update

Cllr Ash updated members following a meeting with MP Helen Whately at Lenham Community Hall. Rural roads and speed limits were a big topic. No noteworthy updates around Operation Brock.

13. Report on local road faults

Members noted Cllr Spooners report on road issues on the north side of the village. These mostly included the need for white and yellow lining refreshment. Cllr Springett suggested these should be reported closer to April. Cllr Catt agreed to check outstanding south side issues so these can be reported at the same time. Cllr Ash suggested future reports would benefit from photos, more detail and should only include faults. The committee to monitor progress once reported.

14. Future Agenda items

Standing item updates
Grenadier Close feedback
Draft 2026 HIP priorities

15. Date of next meeting, Tuesday 17th March 2026

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 20:18 hrs.

Signed..... Date.....