



Minutes of the Communications Committee meeting of Bearsted Parish Council

Madginford Hall, Egremont Road, Bearsted on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 at 7.15pm

Present:

Cllr David Hall (Chair)
Cllr Pat Catt (Vice)
Cllr Richard Ash MBE
Cllr Marie Selby

Also, in attendance was the Deputy Clerk Amy Bush.

Reports from members of the public

There were no reports from members of the public.

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 for Cllr Turner, Cllr English and Cllr Kaushik.

3. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None.

4. Signing of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 9th December 2025 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Reports

- a) Office: Advised the Committee of a request from the Hazlitt theatre to show Peter Rabbit at The Green on 21st August 2026. The committee voted all in favour to support this event if the correct licences were in place and the date did not clash with anything else.
- b) Chairman: None.

6. Events (LGA1972 s145 (1) (a))

- a) Fireworks: The Committee voted all in favour to the proposed event date of Friday 6th November 2026. Cllr Hall had been advised that the Bearsted Woodland Trust committee had given approval.
- b) Market on the Green: Cllr Hall noted the cancellation of the February market due to wet weather.
- c) Christmas Tree light switch on: No update.
- d) Summer book hunt: No update.
- e) Other event suggestions: None.
- f) Externally organised events:
 - i. Bearsted Fayre: No update.
 - ii. Classic Cars on The Green: No update.
 - iii. Consort Events Music on The Green: The committee received an update from the organiser. Including stage production plans and ticket release timetable.
 - iv. Consort Events – other possible events: Cllr Selby asked the Committee to consider a proposal from Consort Events to hold an open-air cinema at The Green. The committee voted 3 in favour with 1 no vote from Cllr Selby to approve this event in principle pending date and event plan.

Cllr Hall proposed to bring item 8 ahead of item 7 on the agenda. This was agreed with all in favour.

Item 8 brought forward. Bearsted Green Premises Licence

The committee discussed the current licence restrictions and terms required to obtain a full licence. It was proposed that BPC continue with their current licence for 2026 and will review if more flexibility is needed for 2027. The was agreed with 3 in favour and 1 no vote from Cllr Selby.

Cllr Selby left the meeting due to family commitments at 19.50.

7. Media, printed and internal communications (LGA 1972 s142)

- a) Newsletter items for Spring addition: No update.
- b) Social media: No update.
- c) Noticeboard: To ensure this noticeboard is updated as regularly as possible.
- d) Website: The Deputy Clerk advised that the Community Halls section of the website would be updated and would support Madginford Hall with detailed information. This option will also be offered to the WI and The Memorial Hall.

8. Bearsted Green Premises Licence

Item was discussed ahead of item 7

9. Wedding request

The committee discussed the request for a wedding reception on The Green. It was with regret that due to licencing restrictions permission would not be granted. This was agreed with all in favour.

10. Community Resilience Plan

The need for a plan was discussed following the recent water shortages. It was agreed that BPC would liaise and support the relevant authorities in the event of an emergency but felt a resilience plan was not necessary.

11. APM Format

The Deputy Clerk updated the committee about changes to the catering contractor and would share any updates when received. At present no review of the budget was needed. A draft APM presentation and agenda will be shared in the next week. Invitations to organisations to present during the evening had been sent.

12. Mynn Awards

The committee reviewed the current nominations and selected those who would receive recognition for their work in the community. The winners were agreed with all members in favour. It was proposed the nominees would be notified in advance of the APM presentation with an invitation to attend and receive their award. This was agreed with all in favour.

13. Impact Provision Team

No updates. Cllr Turner and Cllr Selby will continue exploring possible venues to host the community sporting events.

14. Future Agenda items

Consort event updates.
Impact provision team update.
Review APM.
Above standing items.

15. Date of next meeting, Tuesday 7th April 2026

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 20.35 hrs.

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