

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

Madginford Hall, Egremont Road, Bearsted on Tuesday 17th March 2026 at 7.15pm

Present:

Cllr Richard Ash MBE (Chair)
Cllr Val Springett (Vice)
Cllr David Hall
Cllr Kapil Kaushik

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 addressed the Committee sharing concerns over safety of school children crossing the A20 from Willington Street to reach Valley Park School. Cllr Hall suggested a pedestrian phase could support safer crossing. Cllr Springett noted the planned road improvements and agreed to raise the issue with KCC to see if a solution could be offered.

Cllr Turner spoke in his capacity as a Governor at Madginford Primary School. He asked if the committee could support or recommend any additional grant funding for the school's balance ability initiative to encourage future bike riders. The committee suggested the school approach KCC to see if their Active Travel Schemes had any funding options but also advised the school could make a further application to BPC next year.

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 Catt and Cllr Spooner.

3. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None.

4. Signing of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 20th January 2026 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Reports

- a) **Office:** The Deputy Clerk highlighted the KCC Road Safety and Active Travel Plan newsletter from 2024 in papers. This featured information relating to 20mph requests. This was noted by members. The Deputy Clerk also shared a draft committee update to be presented at the APM. Cllr Ash added further notes and pictures which will be included.
- b) **Chairman:** The Chairman advised the committee that along with Cllr Catt he would attend the Active Travel and Road Safety group seminar on 21st April. He shared news that the Sandy Mount improvements were due to be implemented in May. Also, that he understands the Manor Close and Landway double yellow lines were still pending. The office will contact KCC for an update. Committee budget was discussed and will be monitored more closely with the hope to fund some new initiatives next year.

6. Church Landway parking issues

The committee viewed some photos taken by Cllr Springett and agreed that a small stretch of double yellow lines on the A20 would improve safety and access for emergency vehicles to the Church Landway. The Tennis and Bowls club had been approached who agreed to support this as a BPC HIP item.

7. Thurnham Lane – Informal consultation on no waiting restrictions and parking bay

Members reviewed responses to the engagement exercise noting a majority were in favour of the proposals. It was agreed the item should be added to the HIP and further consultation following KCC guidance would be completed.

8. HIP update

Members reviewed the new list of highway improvement items. Cllr Turner joined the discussion as a visiting member. Cllr Hall and Cllr Kaushik thanked Cllr Ash and Cllr Springett for their work researching and preparing the document.

Some discussion was had around the 20mph initiative. Cllr Turner asked if other traffic calming issues could be considered and wanted to confirm a wider area was not being considered. He also raised the need for accurate data ahead of any consultation and requested that questions are split so residents could comment on each stretch of road proposed.

The priority order was revised and the committee proposed to adopt the new HIP document with all in favour. This will be circulated to all Councillors for comment and ratified at the April meeting of the Full Council. Once approved a KCC site meeting will be scheduled, and the document will be published on the BPC website.

9. SID Installation

Cllr Springett confirmed the training process once the post had been installed. Office to chase KCC.

10. General Correspondence

- a) **Bearsted Green – parking issues:** The committee agreed the resident should consider signage on private fence. Cllr Springett to observe road markings and report the refreshments that are needed.
- b) **Yeoman Way – Parking issues:** Cllr Springett to contact MBC parking services to see if the issue can be resolved with a disabled parking bay. It was agreed double yellow lines would not be an appropriate solution.
- c) **KCRP – update following email from Project Manager:** Discussion took place about current rail services and opportunities for improvements. It was agreed that Cllr Hall would draft a response. Cllr Ash noted the accessibility of Bearsted Station should be highlighted.

11. Future Agenda items

- Standing item updates
- SID update
- Feedback following Active Travel and Road Safety group seminar
- Opportunities for road safety signage on private land

12. Date of next meeting, Tuesday 19th May 2026

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 21.12 hrs.

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