

## Minutes of the Communications Committee meeting of Bearsted Parish Council

Madginford Hall, Egremont Road, Bearsted on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 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. Elect a Committee Chairperson

Cllr English nominated Cllr Hall. With no further nominations Cllr Hall was elected as Chair with all members in favour.

#### 3. Elect a Committee Vice Chairperson

Cllr Hall nominated Cllr Catt. With no further nominations Cllr Catt was elected as Vice Chair with all members in favour.

#### 4. Apologies and Absences

None.

#### 5. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

Cllr Selby declared an interest item 8fiii Music on the Green and 8fiv Ascot Village Experience.

#### 6. Signing of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 7. Reports

- a) Office: None.
- b) Chairman: None.

#### 8. Events (LGA1972 s145 (1) (a))

- a) Fireworks: The Deputy Clerk shared an update confirming that Vanessa Flanagan would manage the event at a cost of £1500. Dynamic Fireworks were booked for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November at a cost of £5250. The committee agreed to ratify these costs with Full Council. The event manager met with the security company to review safety procedures. The Deputy Clerk continues to investigate ticket scanning alternatives but without Wi-Fi options are limited. Ticket numbers and prices were discussed, and it was agreed with all in favour not to raise prices but to cap sales at 2800 tickets. The Deputy Clerk to secure the warm-up DJ.
- b) Market on the Green: Cllr Hall noted the success of the June market.
- c) Christmas Tree light switch on: Cllr Catt confirmed the Rock Choir will perform on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November for The Green switch on. The Madginford shops lights would be lit on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Madginford School choir will attend both events. Additional entertainment was discussed for the Green. This will be reviewed at the September meeting. It was agreed fundraising would take place to support Holy Cross Church. The Deputy Clerk to liaise with the Vicar.

- d) Summer book hunt: The Deputy Clerk advised that arrangements had been made to support the Bearsted Woodland Trust summer nature trail taking place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July. Nature related books would be purchased by BPC as prizes for the children taking part. It was agreed with all members in favour to budget a further £50 making the total contribution £150.
- e) Other event suggestions: None.
- f) Externally organised events:
- i. Bearsted Fayre and Carnival: Office has contacted the local Police Officer requesting some presence during the day.
  - ii. Classic Cars on The Green: All paperwork received and in order.
  - iii. Music on The Green: Cllr Selby advised members that ticket sales are going well. Access to the Green would be needed from Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August. Toilets and fencing would be collected on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Collections for local courses and charities will take place during the event.
  - iv. Consort Events proposal – Ascot Village Experience: Member discussed the proposed event for Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 27, which would host a marquee, screening of Ascot and refreshment on The Green with total attendance at 900. Cllr Hall proposed the event is agreed in principle pending further details. This was agreed with 3 members in favour and 1 non-vote by Cllr Selby due to her declaration of interest.

#### **9. Media, printed and internal communications (LGA 1972 s142)**

- a) Newsletter items for summer addition: Not required. The next newsletter will be drafted in September.
- b) Social media: No updates.
- c) Noticeboard: No updates.
- d) Website: No updates.

#### **10. Land purchase public engagement**

The committee discussed the options to update the community if the land purchase at Madginford Hall progresses with KCC. It was proposed that a consultation was not required but a public notice / meeting inviting questions would be the right approach. Cllr English confirmed that BPC would be working within their mandate as elected Councillors. The Deputy Clerk will prepare some wording in preparation.

#### **11. Christmas lights installation**

Members reviewed the quotes. It was agreed with all in favour to recommend approval for the Christmas Tree decorating quote at £2032.50 from We Hang Christmas Lights and the street furniture motif installation quote at £2440.12 from Orva Electrical Ltd.

#### **12. Impact Provision Team**

No further update or proposal. Item to be removed from agenda.

#### **13. Future Agenda items**

Standing items.

#### **14. Date of next meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2026**

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 20.32hrs.

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