



BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday 30 June 2025 at 7pm in Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs.

Present: Cllrs J Bayford, J Bright, K Bright, M Garner, J Hobson, C Leys. P Moore, A Munns, J Nichols, S Roberts & G Rusiecki.

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

Before the meeting commenced, the Chairman, Cllr M Garner welcomed everyone and drew their attention to the openness and transparency legislation confirmed in several notices around the room.

648. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason from Cllrs Kemp, Pressland and Farooki were received and accepted. Cllr Orhan was absent (*apologies due to work commitments were received via email during the meeting*)

649. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

650. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 19 May 2025 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

651. MATTERS ARISING

Min 628: Cllr K Bright reported that he would not be serving on any committees this year.

652. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S.

i) Cllr Finch, KCC Member for Broadstairs gave an update on his activities since the election and confirmed how much he was looking forward to working with the Town Council and other agencies for the good of the people of Broadstairs and St Peter's.

ii) Cllr K Bright had submitted a question for the Chairman of the Council in advance of the meeting as follows:-

Councillors will have been dismayed by the scenes of disorder that we saw on the weekend of 19-22 June. It's right that questions are asked of the police and the level of support that they had throughout the day. I am however

concerned that the Chair and Clerk of the council attended a private meeting with the police and with TDC officers. Given that the majority of the disorder occurred in Viking Ward, I would have expected to have been invited to attend this meeting - as would I'm sure my fellow ward councillors and those representing Bradstow ward.

Can the Chair please confirm in what capacity he was in attendance, why he chose not to extend the invitation to ward councillors given the seriousness of the issue, and give his assurance that the full minutes of this meeting will be shared with councillors before any public communication is made?

Cllr Garner responded as follows:-

I attended the Task Force meeting organised by Kent Police in my capacity as Mayor of the Town at the invitation of the police.

I didn't organise the meeting so wasn't in control of the invitations.

It was requested at the start of the meeting by the police that the discussion at the meeting was not shared. All communication from the meeting was to be managed by the police. The communication was issued last Friday by KCC Police.

I put an item on the agenda of this meeting to enable us to discuss the events of last weekend because I think it's important that we share as much information as possible and work together to make sure we do our best to prevent the scenes we saw last weekend happening again.

I will add that the last time we saw similar scenes of violence on the beaches was 5 years ago soon after the Covid lockdown. At that time, we pushed for a multi-agency task force to take action and also took our own action to hire probe security to help on the beach, a decision which I think has paid dividends over the last few years. I'm sure we'll all agree that Gareth and his team worked very hard alongside the police to make sure last weekend wasn't even worse and they are now part of the multi-agency team that will be working to make sure these disturbances aren't repeated.

653. RECENT ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN BROADSTAIRS

i) Members received an update from the Town Mayor and from a representative of Probe Security on what actions have been taken in response to the events of the previous weekend. Members were reassured that Kent Police are continuing to do all they can to keep the public safe and dissuade people intent on causing trouble from entering the town. Cllr Garner wished to record a vote of thanks to the Probe team for all they do to serve the town.

ii) Members considered holding a public meeting at Pierremont Hall to help address residents' concerns. It was noted that Polly Billington MP is also planning a meeting. The Town Clerk had offered Pierremont Hall as a venue, but another location has been chosen on safety grounds. The event will be ticketed.

RESOLVED: That although this may not be an open meeting for safety reasons, members agreed it would not be a good use of police time for the Town Council to arrange a parallel meeting at this stage.

654. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 June 2025.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

**Cllr Paul Moore left the meeting for work reasons*

655. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Members were due to receive the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9 June 2025. However, the Town Clerk reported that the meeting had not been held due to an insufficient number of councillors in attendance.

656. EVENTS, LEISURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2025.

RESOLVED: min 152 – that all grant applications in excess of £5000 are taken to Council for consideration.

657. ALLOTMENTS AND LAND COMMITTEE

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24 June.

RESOLVED: members agreed to note.

658. COMMUNICATIONS

i) The Town Mayor gave a report on his activities on behalf of the Council over the last month. Please see attached.

ii) The Town Clerk read a report summarising her experiences so far with the Local Government Restructuring project. She also noted that this council had reached the midway point of its term of office and asked members to complete a confidential questionnaire reflecting on what they had achieved in the first two years and whether they had accomplished what they had set out to do when they stood for election. It is hoped this reflective process will highlight any areas staff can offer better support to members to ensure everyone has the best possible councillor experience.

659. FINANCE

i) Members received a report concerning payments for the period 20 May 2025 to 25 June 2025 (see attached).

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved.

ii) Members received a report concerning receipts for the period 20 May 2025 to 25 June 2025 (see attached).

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

iii) Members received a summary of staff salaries totalling £37,590.68 for the month of June.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

iv) Members received information about works or services authorised between meetings under financial regulation 4.1 as follows:-

- £1699 plus vat to Hitched, a wedding venue marketing website.
- A new monthly direct debit has been set up with YU energy for the supply of power to the bandstand.

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved.

v) Members received and approved a report concerning payments for the period 25 June 2025 when the agenda was sent out until 30 June 2025. (please see attached)

RESOLVED: That the payments be approved.

vi) Members considered adding Cllr Rusiecki as a signatory to the current accounts to improve the efficiency of the Council's payment process.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Rusiecki be appointed bank signatory on the Natwest and Unity Bank accounts.

660. INTERNAL AUDIT

Members received the audit plan with comments and findings for the year ended 31 March 2025 which had been undertaken by the Independent Internal Auditor and noted that there were no matters for concern and no actions identified.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

661. TMD BUILDING CONSULTANTS CONTRACT

i) Members received the final draft of the contract appointing TMD as the building consultants for the phase III project.

RESOLVED: That the contract is fit for purpose and can be signed.

ii) Members considered which two councillors will sign the document in line with Financial Regulations.

RESOLVED: That Cllrs Garner and Munns will sign on behalf of the Town Council.

662. ACTION PLAN 2023-27

Members reviewed that document which has been updated by staff.

RESOLVED: That the chairman of each committee be asked to review those projects under their remit and make amendments as necessary.

Cllr Garner wished to record a vote of thanks to council staff for achieving so much of the plan's aims already.

663. CO-OPTION POLICY

Members received and reviewed the document which the Town Clerk had amended and updated.

RESOLVED: That the document be approved.

664. YOUTH FORUM

Members received the draft minutes of the meeting held on 30 April 2025

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

665. DEMENTIA AWARENESS

Members received the notes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2025.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The following item was discussed after a resolution to exclude the public under standing order 3d due to the confidential nature of the business.

666. COMMERCIAL LANDLORD ISSUES

The Town Clerk confirmed that the service charge certification had been received from Spurling Cannon and passed onto the tenants along with their 2025-26 service charges.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

667. LEGAL ISSUES

i) Members received an update from TDC concerning the independent valuation of Retort House. The joint expert TDC had originally proposed and who had been agreed at a meeting of the legal group is unable to take up the appointment but has recommended a colleague.

RESOLVED: That the proposed William Knox be approved as valuer for the site at a cost – to be split equally between TDC and BSPTC – of £4000.

ii) Members received an update from the lawyer on the expired tenancy at Retort House.

RESOLVED: That the matter needs careful consideration and will be discussed at a meeting of the legal group to be called as soon as possible.

Members of the public, had any been in attendance, would have been permitted to re-enter the meeting.

668. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 28 July 2025 at 7pm in Pierremont Hall

Meeting closed at 8.17 pm

Signed _____

Date _____