



Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

Events, Leisure & Tourism Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17 February 2026 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Pierremont Hall

Present: Cllrs: Mike Garner (Chair), Charlie Leys (*arrived 19:40*), Steve Roberts, Alan Munns, Joanne Bright.

Officers: Leanne Hadden – Events and Bookings Manager, Mia Tillett- Events Supervisor & Julie Belsey - Deputy Town Clerk

One member of public

187. CHAIRS WELCOME - OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

Cllr Garner reminded those present of the following: The right to record, film or broadcast any meetings of the Council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

188. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were received from Cllrs Colin Kemp and (Vice chair) George Rusiecki and accepted by resolution of the committee.

John Nichols not in attendance.

189. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

190. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 10th November 2025 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

191. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA

None were received.

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

A member of the public addressed the committee on ideas relating to the Christmas Lights in Broadstairs High Street. Suggestions were given to the committee; fund raising and engagement with local business for window display competition.



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193. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Deputy Town Clerk informed those present of the costs for additional lights across the street and additional lamp columns and potential costs of changing the lamp column motifs, including the need for wayleaves from the building owners, costs for installation in the first year, ongoing costs each year and all permits and associated costs required.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the following:

- i) Deputy Town Clerk to report back to Council on possible alternative options for the across street lighting bearing in mind that there will be a maximum weight and this may change following the pull testing on the current cables.
- ii) Community Engagement Officer to explore ideas on community engagement to encourage Christmas window displays with local businesses and report back to council.

Member of public left the meeting.

194. COMMERCIAL EVENTS UPDATE

Members received and considered a report supplied by the Events and Bookings Manager & the Events Supervisor

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the following:

i) KENT WEDDING AWARDS

Members received an update from the Events and Bookings Manager & the Events Supervisor on the Kent Wedding Awards. Members were asked if they would like the Events team to apply for a third year.

RESOLVED: All Members agreed to apply for a third year and explore different award categories with Kent Wedding Awards. Members all agreed that this help market Pierremont Hall.

All members agreed to the direction to which the commercial events are going for 2026 so far.

195. COMMUNITY EVENTS

Members received and considered a report on past 2025 events not presented at the last committee meeting (10th November 2025) supplied by the Events Supervisor.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

Members received and considered a report on community events in 2026 supplied by the Events Manager.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the following:



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i) COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Members received an update from the Events and Bookings Manager on the commercial stalls for the Community Festival. Due to cost of the stalls and bad weather from last year's event, it was suggested by the Events and Bookings Manager that gazebos would be a better structure for commercial business. Due to the council not owning their own gazebos to offer to businesses, at a hire cost, the suggestion was given that the event was to operate as a pitch fee instead for a stall hire.

RESOLVED: All members agreed to commercial businesses bringing their own gazebos at a pitch cost of £40.00, and to receive a 50% off for those with a CT10 post code.

ii) SUMMER THEATRE

Members also received a link to the Summer Theatre contract with Applause Rural Touring with breakdown of cost and dates agreed.

RESOLVED: All members approved the dates and costs totalling £4902 and agreed that the contract can now be signed.

iii) CHRISTMAS MARKET

Members received an update from the Events and Bookings Manager on the stalls for the Christmas Market. Following bad weather last year, the Events and Bookings Manager is exploring alternative stall options to offer commercial businesses.

Join to time restraints, it was asked if members granted the Events and Bookings Manager final approval on attendance fees for commercial businesses.

19:40 Cllr C Leys entered the meeting

RESOLVED: All members agreed that the Events and Bookings Manager will continue to research alternative solutions for better stalls for the Christmas Market and is granted approval on final fee prices to commercial business in line with the set events budget.

Cllr Allan Munns suggested researching costs for the council in the future to purchase their own gazebos to hire to market holders.

iv) UNDER 18'S

Members received an update from the Events and Bookings Manager & the Events Supervisor on the Under 18's Events planned in 2026.

Events and Bookings Manager updated the council on the 14th February event, Valentines Day Film Night which could not be in the previous agenda due to happening days before this meeting. The updated was that five young people attended the event. It was reported that the events team are struggling to reach the demographic when marketing to Under 18's.



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Events and Bookings Manager & the Events Supervisor updated the council on the Youth Forum generated event, The Winter Ball, which was cancelled after the agenda was published, due to lack of ticket sales. Reasons given to the council by the Events and Bookings Manager as to why this may have occurred, were as followed; miss communication as to who the event was for (public or just towards Charles Dickens students) and lack of interest from students involved in organising the event. It was suggested by the Events and Bookings Manager that before the Events Department get involved with the next school, a meeting with Charles Dickens is needed to receive as much feedback as possible. As well as a meeting with the School Engagement Officer to understand what is expected from these school generated events.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

Cllr Joanne Bright to arrange a meeting with Events and Bookings Manager and Town Clerk.

196. GRANTS

- i) Members received a summary of grants awarded this financial year.
RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.
- ii) Members received a request for funding from The GAP project.
RESOLVED: That a grant of £4097 be awarded to fund the children and families work programme.
- iii) Members received a request for funding from the Sarah Thorne Theatre
RESOLVED: That a grant of £4500 be awarded to sponsor less commercial productions on condition that the Town Council is acknowledged in all publicity.

197. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: NOT RESOLVED. Dates will be updated on the 20th April for 2026-2027 Calendar of Meetings.

Meeting closed at 20:07pm.

Signed _____ Date _____



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