



BROADSTAIRS & ST PETER'S TOWN COUNCIL

Wednesday, 22 July 2026

EVENTS, LEISURE & TOURISM COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th July 2026 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Pierremont Hall

Present: Cllrs: Mike Garner, Steve Roberts, Joanne Bright, Elvira Orhan & John Nichols.
Officers: Leanne Hadden – Events and Bookings Manager & Mia Tillett- Events Supervisor.

One member of public

198. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2026-27 CIVIC YEAR.

CHAIR ELECTED - Cllr Garner was re-elected to chairman. Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Bright seconded. All members agreed.

VICE CHAIR ELECTED – Cllr Bright elected as vice chairman. Cllr Nichols proposed & Cllr Garner seconded. All members agreed.

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.

199. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were received from Cllrs; Leys, Munns, Rusiecki and O'Connor. All members accepted by resolution of the committee.

200. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

201. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 17th February 2026 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

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

None were received.

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

A member of the public addressed the committee about two points of concern;

- I. Could the festoon lights along the promenade stay on until midnight instead of at 11pm.
- II. Issues with the sound levels of Pavilions Bands on the Sands events and the stress this causes residents above the venue.

204. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Members received a report by the Deputy Town Clerk, presented by the Events and Bookings Manager, on the repair costs to tree lights, street cables, lamp columns and replacement circuit breaker, exceeding £9500.00 + vat of repairs/replacements. Going over budget by £1150.00.

The report also offered additional estimated costs for replacement decorative lighting with an additional cost of £9400.00 + vat, on top of the repairs needed of £9500.00.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the following:

- i. **All members agreed to officer's recommendation to continue as last year with icicles for the across street decoration and to go forward with the repairs/replacements. Replacement eyebolts for alternative across street lighting not pursued.**
- ii. **Community Engagement Officer to explore ideas on community engagement to encourage Christmas window displays with local businesses and report back to council.**
- iii. **Discussion for Finance and General-Purpose budget meeting, on the future of decorative lighting in Broadstairs High Street for future years, and if other options can be explored with the possible increase of budget.**

205. 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. MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

The Events and Bookings Manager provided an update regarding a decline in bookings, primarily attributed to high rates. To stimulate sales, management proposed the introduction of targeted, all-inclusive packages. This strategy involves lowering the base hourly rate while bundling additional amenities, such as bar access, to drive higher conversion and justify the rate reduction. Members were asked if they agree to this strategy.

RESOLVED: All Members agreed.

ii. PROPOSED DICKEN'S FESTIVAL 90TH IDEAS

The Events and Bookings Manager presented proposals for Pierremont Hall's involvement in next year's 90th anniversary festival. These commercial, non-funded initiatives are designed to generate profit and include a Friday evening ball, a Saturday Cream Tea alongside the Dickens Parade (organised by the festival), and an antiques and collectibles fair featuring an extended cream tea offering. Members were asked if they agree to these ideas and would like the events team to continue exploring these offerings.

RESOLVED: All Members agreed. Cllr Bright added it would be an idea to offer the green for crochet games that the festival host. Cllr Bright will speak with the festival if they would like to explore using Pierremont Hall for this.

206. COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the following:

i. COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Members received an update from the Events and Bookings Manager on the results from the 2026 Community Festival and asked if the council wished to host the event in 2027 for a fourth year and when.

RESOLVED: All members agreed to host for a fourth year, in the May period.

ii. BANDSTAND

a. Parking Permits

Members received and considered a report supplied by the Events and Bookings Manager on parking permits issued by Broadstairs and St Peter's Town Council on behalf of Thanet Direct Council to bandstand performers. It was explained that this has been a long-standing legacy agreement between Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council and Thanet District Council. For several years, our bookings team has issued up to four permits per event for use at the Jetty car park. Following a recent internal review, there is no current record of this agreement on file. It was asked if these permits should still be issued.

Contact has been made to TDC councillors for support in this, but no answer given.

RESOLVED: All members agreed that the manager should keep pushing for an answer from TDC and report back at the next ELT.

b. Bank Holiday Weekends

Members received and considered a report supplied by the Events and Bookings Manager on the bandstand during bank holidays, questioning if the council should supply entertainment when Victoria Gardens is being booked by others.

RESOLVED: All members agreed that bookings should continue for bank holidays.

c. Payment window

Members received and considered a report supplied by the Events and Bookings Manager on the delays in payments to performers, due to the payment policy. It was recommended that in 2027 the performer contract change the payment window from 14 days to 30, to better manage expectations.

RESOLVED: All members agreed.

iii. A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM AT THE BANDSTAND

Members were asked if, in addition to the Summer Theatre, would they like to see more theatre at the bandstand next year and should this require an extension to the budget.

RESOLVED: All members agreed that this will be reviewed after the 31st July showing at the bandstand and brought to council for the budget review.

iv. CHRISTMAS MARKETING REPORT

The Events and Bookings Manager gave three options for stalls for the Christmas Market.

RESOLVED: All Members agreed to manager's recommendation of option 1.

v. FIREWORK NIGHT

a. Firework Night Risk Assessment

Members received an update from the Events and Bookings Manager on the new RA for firework that reflects Martyn's Law. The Events and Bookings Manager offered members the opportunity to undertake helpful training, if wanted.

RESOLVED: All Members agreed to changes to the Risk Assessment.

b. Firework Night Traffic Management Plan

Members received an update from the Events and Bookings Manager on the Traffic Management Plan for Firework Night. Issues from 2025 were raised to members where members of the public were issued with parking tickets due to the parking suspension order that was in place. It was explained that TDC enforce all road closures, that have parking bays within the area, to have a parking suspension order. It was explained that the road closure is needed as it supports the security measures required under Martyn's Law policy to protect the public. Events and Bookings Manager shared the events marketing plan to share the event across social media to encourage public transport and make them aware of closed roads and parking suspensions. Advice has been required from the town council to TDC as to how we can build awareness to the public on what a parking suspension is.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the following:

- i. **All members agreed to the Traffic Management Plan.**
- ii. **All members agree to marketing plan for the event.**

207. VISIT THANET WEBSITE

Members received and considered a report supplied by the Events and Bookings Manager on the request from TDC to fund their Visit Thanet website.

RESOLVED: Whilst members support the request in principle, they require further information and action from TDC:

- i. **Visit Thanet to explore funding through local businesses, either through funding or sponsorship. Members would like to see proof of Visit Thanet trying to engage with businesses.**
- ii. **Visit Thanet to approach to the Chamber of Commerce to support their reach to businesses.**
- iii. **Any data that supports the impact the partner sites has on Visit Thanet, then result data that supports that Visit Thanet impacts on tourism in Broadstairs be shared with the town council.**
- iv. **Visit Thanet to share how they plan on monitoring growth and report back to the town councils on their return on investment.**
- v. **All members agreed that if any businesses do support in the funding, any shortfalls if they accrue will be covered by the town council, to a maximum of £2750.00.**

208. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 23rd November 2026

Meeting closed at 20:27pm.

Signed _____ Date _____

