

Proposal for Polegate Town Council Beacon Lighting Event VE 80 Day - 8th May 2025

The 8th May 2025 will see the 80th Anniversary of VE Day which marked the end of the war in Europe and WWII as a whole. Local councils are encouraged to light Beacons or Lamp Lights of Peace at 9.30pm and to hold events to mark this special occasion. The office has already purchased the VE day flag as the minimum requirement (option 1). Committee to decide whether to request funding for the further options which will require funding not within budget.

<https://www.veday80.org.uk/>

There are five options for Council to consider to mark the occasion:

Option 1

Thursday 8th May - Raising of the commemorative VE Day flag at the Town Council offices, with no further events.

9:00am – raising of VE Day flag at Town Council Offices

Cost (net)	
Flag	£72.49

Option 2

Thursday 8th May - Raising of the commemorative VE Day flag at the Town Council offices and lighting of a temporary beacon at Brightling Recreation Ground. Either the Mayor or local dignitary to light the beacon and read the national VE Day Tribute.

9:00am – raising of VE Day flag at Town Council Offices

9:00pm – gathering of Councillors, dignitaries, staff and public at Brightling Recreation Ground

9:30pm – lighting of Beacon & reading of Tribute by Mayor (or another appropriate dignitary)

10:00pm – finish

Estimated Costs (net)	
Flag	£72.49
Beacon (VE 80 Gas-Fuelled - 21CC Group)	£549.00
Gas Cylinders for Beacon (13kg - Withers)	£100.00
Anchors for Beacon	£50.00
Fire Extinguisher (2kg powder - BOC)	£22.65
Lighting	£50.00
Staff costs	£150.00
TOTAL	£994.14

Option 3

Thursday 8th May - Raising of the commemorative VE Day flag at the Town Council offices and lighting of a temporary beacon at Brightling Recreation Ground. Gathering before the beacon lighting ceremony to include music, refreshments and decorations.

9:00am – raising of VE Day flag at Town Council Offices

7:00pm – gathering of Councillors, staff and public at Brightling Recreation Ground for celebration – music, refreshments, bunting

9:30pm – lighting of Beacon & reading of Tribute by Mayor (or another appropriate dignitary)

10:30pm – finish

Estimated Costs (net)	
Toilets	£197.50
Refreshments (food truck)	£0.00
Other refreshments (hot/cold drinks, cakes)	£100.00
Lighting	£200.00
Decoration (bunting, tablecloths)	£100.00
Licensing (Temporary Events Notice)	£21.00
Staff costs	£450.00
TOTAL	£1,068.50
Plus total cost of flag raising & beacon lighting	£994.14
GRAND TOTAL	£2,062.64

Option 4

Thursday 8th May - Raising of the commemorative VE Day flag at the Town Council offices and lighting of a temporary beacon at Brightling Recreation Ground.

Saturday 10th May - Community event at Brightling Recreation Ground to include live music – live band or Hailsham FM options – stalls, decorations, food vendors.

Thursday 8th May:

9:00am – raising of VE Day flag at Town Council Offices

9:00pm – gathering of Councillors, dignitaries, staff and public at Brightling Recreation Ground

9:30pm – lighting of Beacon & reading of Tribute by Mayor (or another appropriate dignitary)

10:00pm – finish

Saturday 10th May:

11:00am – 3:00pm – community day

Estimated Costs (net)	
Toilets including weekend delivery/collection	£300.00
First aid cover	£200.00
Decoration (bunting, tablecloths)	£200.00
Refreshments (food truck)	£0.00
Other refreshments (hot/cold drinks, cakes)	£200.00
Music/entertainment	£200.00
Licensing (Temporary Events Notice)	£21.00
Staff costs	£800.00
TOTAL	£1,221.00
Plus total cost of flag raising & beacon lighting	£994.14
GRAND TOTAL	£2,215.14

Option 5

Thursday 8th May - Raising of the commemorative VE Day flag at the Town Council offices and lighting of a temporary beacon at Brightling Recreation Ground.

Tea party for retired residents (similar format to Mayors Christmas Tea Party)

Estimated Costs (net)	
Hall hire	£100.00
Food/refreshments	£400.00
Decoration (bunting, tablecloths)	£150.00
Music/entertainment	£200.00
Staff costs	£600.00
TOTAL	£1,150.00
Plus total cost of flag raising & beacon lighting	£994.14
GRAND TOTAL	£2,144.14