

## **BURIALS & PROPERTIES COMMITTEE**

REPORT (Minutes) of the meeting of the Burials & Properties Committee held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Square, Hailsham on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

Prior to commencement of formal business, a period of not more than 15 minutes was assigned for the purpose of permitting members of the public to address the Committee or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities under direction of this committee) at the discretion of the presiding Chairman.

BP/010/2/ **Present:** Councillors W. A. Bentley, B. F. Burchmore, Mrs. S. E. Henstock, P.  
90 Holbrook (Chairman), and Mrs. C. Kempe (Vice Chairman).

91 **Apologies for Absence** were received and accepted from Councillors R.E.C. Burnett, B. Cock and R. F. Kempe.

92 **Officers in Attendance** D. Saxby (Committee Clerk).

93 **Declarations of Interest.** Councillor W. Bentley declared a personal interest in agenda item 6 (Street Lighting) as East Sussex County Council has responsibility for some of the street lighting in Hailsham and he is an East Sussex County Councillor.

### **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

94 **RESOLVED** to note that the Report (minutes) of the meeting of the Burial and Properties Committee (Ref: BP/10/1/12-23) held on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2010 was confirmed as being a correct record and adopted by the Town Council, at a meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010, and to consider any matters arising therefrom.

### **Matters Arising**

#### 95.1 **Union Corner Hall**

The Committee Clerk advised that a letter had been received from Mrs. Jan Smith, Secretary of the Union Corner Hall Management Committee requesting that year four of the four year maintenance plan be brought forward to year three. Year three is currently repairs to the outside brickwork. The Works Supervisor has assessed the outside brickwork had stated that this work can be carried out at a later date. Year four is currently new flooring to the main hall and small room.

95.2 **RESOLVED** to recommend that the revision to the four year maintenance plan be delegated to the Committee Chairman and Town Clerk following provision of details of the costs.

#### 96 **Committee Expenditure**

**RESOLVED** to note and adopt the Committee's statement of Income & Expenditure for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010 as circulated with the

agenda and attached as Appendix BP/10/2/96A to these minutes.

97 **Estimates Sub-Committee**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Councillors B. F. Burchmore, P. Holbrook and Mrs. C. Kempe as members constituting the 2011/2012 Estimates Advisory Sub-Committee, to prepare recommendations for report to the next Burials and Properties Committee meeting.

**Street Lighting**

98 **Day Burning Columns**

The Committee Clerk reported that Trevor Leggo of SALC had written to EDF Energy on behalf of local town and parish councils that as they had not requested or sanctioned the work on now 24 hour lit columns stating they should not meet the cost of the necessary remedial work.

Councillor Bentley asked for an investigation into the possibility of turning off affected lights where it is considered safe to do so.

A meeting hosted by SALC of representatives of affected towns and parishes were to meet on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

**Street Lighting Arrangements for New Housing Developments**

99.1 The Committee Clerk reported an email received from East Sussex County Council that in respect of the new battle Road development, the developer originally wanted to put light in, but Wealden District Council were keen to have specialist columns and lanterns which attracted a commuted sum as they are more expensive for East Sussex County Council to maintain. The developer did not want to pay for this; therefore, the current proposal is for no lighting on this development.

99.2 **RESOLVED** to recommend writing to the Head of Planning at Wealden District Council asking for a meeting with the relevant Planning officers.

**Hailsham Cemetery**

100 **Cemetery Wardens' Report**

Councillor Mrs. Kempe stated that she and Councillor R. Kempe had visited the Cemetery and they were favourably impressed by the general condition it was in.

She did have some concerns in respect of the public toilets; the gentlemen's was in a poor state and the waste bin in the ladies was full. The Committee Clerk responded that as the Cemetery Superintendent was on leave he would request that another member of the outdoor staff to remedy the situation.

Councillor Bentley proposed that a cleaning inspection sheet be displayed in the toilets.

### **Maintenance Work**

- 101.1 Members were informed of two quotes received for the replacement of all the windows in the store room and office at the Cemetery from Daisy Windows of Hailsham and Homecare Exteriors. Whilst Daisy Windows was the cheaper quote both firms were offering deals on the replacement of the guttering, soffits and fascias if undertaken at the same time, within the allocated budget.
- 101.2 The Chairman cautioned about the possible presence of asbestos in the current building.
- 101.3 **RESOLVED** to recommend that the awarding of the contract to undertake the replacement of the windows of the store room and office at Hailsham Cemetery and other remedial work be delegated to the Committee Chairman and Town Clerk; and the Committee Chairman undertakes a site visit with the Works Supervisor.

### **Pre-purchase of Graves**

- 102.1 Copies of the Committee Clerk's report had been circulated with the agenda and is attached as Appendix BP/10/2/102A to these minutes.

Discussion ensued.

- 102.2 **RESOLVED** to recommend that as there had been a very low expression of interest by members of the public, Hailsham Town Council would not allow the pre-purchase of graves other than at the time of death of a relative and that a Public Notice is placed in the local papers to this effect.

### **Christmas Festivities**

- 103 **RESOLVED** to recommend that:

- a) the switching-on of the Christmas tree take place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2010, and
- b) the carnival Queen be asked to perform the switching-on ceremony.

### **Maurice Thornton Pavilion**

- 104.1 The Committee Clerk reported that he had met the Chairman of the Town Farm Residents' Association at the Maurice Thornton Pavilion earlier in the day. The kitchen equipment had been installed and an electrician was working there.
- 104.2 There was a hole in the roof which could be repaired in-house and this would be a priority.
- 104.3 The grand opening of the new youth facility would be in two weeks.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

CHAIRMAN