



HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of Hailsham Town Council, held at the Fleur-de-Lys Council Chamber/Meeting Rooms, Market Square, Hailsham, on Monday 19th May 2008 at 8.00 p.m.

Public Question Time

Prior to commencement of the formal business of the meeting a period of not more than 15 minutes had been assigned for the purpose of permitting Members of the Public present to address the Council, or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities of the Town Council) at the invitation and discretion of the presiding Chairman.

None were presented.

The Chairman informed the members of the sad news of the death of Councillor Dudley Rose. On behalf of members and staff he paid tribute to the work Councillor Rose had undertaken for the community during his many years as a parish and town councillor. He said his thoughts were with Councillor Rose's wife, Paula. He asked Councillor Coltman to say a prayer. Members and staff then stood for a minute's silence.

HTC/AM
08/100

Present: Councillors: J.E. Bentley-Astor, J. Blake, R.E.C. Burnett, B. Cock, N. S. Coltman, Mrs S. P. M. Cottingham, W.F. Crittenden, J.N. Ellwood, Mrs M.A. Ellwood, J.H. Garvican, J. Glover, Mrs. D.S. Haffenden, I.G. Haffenden, T. Haffenden, Mrs. S.E. Henstock, Mrs. B. Holbrook, P. Holbrook, Mrs. C. Kempe. R. F. Kempe, J. Puttick, G.G. Rowe and Mrs. M. Rowe.

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Officers in Attendance

Mrs. E. G. Jones (Town Clerk), M. Caira (Deputy Town Clerk), R. A. Diplock (Responsible Finance Officer), D. Saxby (Administrative Assistant) and Miss L. M. Walters (Public Information Officer).

102

Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors B. F. Burchmore and B. Cock.

103

Declarations of Interest

Councillor I. Haffenden declared a personal interest in Agenda item 11 – Diplocks Community Trust as he is Treasurer of the trust.

Election of Chairman/Town Mayor

104.1

Retiring Chairman's Address

Councillor J. N. Ellwood stated that it had been an honour to be Mayor and Chairman of the Council for the last two years. There was much that the members could be

proud of and a tremendous amount of work had been undertaken. He thanked members for their support and teamwork and staff for their hard work. He also thanked his wife, Councillor Mrs. Maddie Ellwood for all that she had put up with.

He was sure that the new Mayor would continue with the good work.

104.2 A single nomination was received for the Chairman of the Town Council in the ensuing year in the name of:

Councillor I. G. Haffenden.

104.3 **RESOLVED** that Councillor I. G. Haffenden be duly elected as Chairman/Town Mayor for 2008-2009.

Councillor I. Haffenden thanked members for their support and said that it was a great privilege to be Mayor for a second time. He thanked Councillor J.N. Ellwood for all his work whilst he had been Mayor and presented him with a gift. Councillor Mrs. D. Haffenden presented Councillor Mrs. M. Ellwood with a bouquet of flowers.

Councillor Haffenden signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Election of Vice Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor

105.1 Nominations were received for Vice-Chairman of the Town Council in the ensuing year, in the names of:

Councillor J. E. Bentley-Astor, and
Councillor P. Holbrook.

A ballot was conducted by a show of hands.

The result of the ballot was as follows:

Councillor J. E. Bentley-Astor 12 votes
Councillor P. Holbrook 7 votes.

RESOLVED that Councillor J. Bentley-Astor be duly elected as Vice Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor for 2008-2009.

105.4 Councillor Bentley-Astor addressed the meeting and stated he looked forward to a second year as Deputy Mayor and was keen to work as part of a team for the benefit of the community.

Appointment of Standing Committees

106 **RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Standing Order No.44, the following Standing Committees be appointed:-

- (a) Environment and Leisure Committee
- (b) Burials and Properties Committee
- (c) Finance, Policy and Resources Committee

Appointment of Consultative Panels

107.1 (a) Consultations Panel

RESOLVED that a Consultations Panel be appointed, with delegated authority to examine and comment on behalf of the Town Council on any consultation documents received by the Town Council, which do not fall within the remit of a Standing Committee or for which a response is required before the next scheduled meeting of the appropriate Standing Committee.

107.2 (b) Planning Consultative Panel

RESOLVED that in accordance with Standing Order No. 78, a Planning Consultative Panel be appointed and constituted under the existing terms of reference, with delegated authority to examine local planning applications, and comment by return to Wealden District Council on behalf of the Town Council.

Membership of Committees and Panels

108 **RESOLVED** to:

- (a) approve the number of seats available for allocation on each of the Standing Committees and Panels in accordance with Standing Order No. 44 (b), and
- (b) approve and adopt the schedule of membership of the following committees and panels as Appendix HTC/AM/08/108A to these minutes: Councillor P. Holbrook stated that the Liberal Democrat nominations for the Planning Consultative Panel would be forwarded to the Town Clerk in due course.

- (a) Environment and Leisure
- (b) Burial and Properties
- (c) Planning Consultative Panel
- (d) Consultations Panel

Appointment of Chairmen of Standing Committees, Consultations Panel and Planning Consultative Panel

109.1 Nomination and appointment of Chairman (and Vice-Chairman) for each of the foregoing, were resolved as follows:

Environment and Leisure

109.2.1 A single nomination for Chairman was received for Councillor B. F. Burchmore.

109.2.2 A single nomination for Vice Chairman was received for Councillor G. G. Rowe.

Burials and Properties Committee

109.3.1 A single nomination for Chairman was received for Councillor J Glover.

109.3.2 A single nomination for Vice Chairman was received for Councillor Mrs C. Kempe.

Planning Consultative Panel

109.4.1 A single nomination for Chairman was received for Councillor J. Puttick.

109.4.2 A single nomination for Vice Chairman was received for Councillor W. F. Crittenden.

Finance Policy and Resources Committee

- 110.1 On confirmation of Committee Chairmen's Ex-officio status, membership of the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee was considered.
- 110.2 **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the schedule of membership of the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee, as Appendix HTC/AGM/08/108A to these minutes.
- 110.3.1 Members of the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee appointed a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, as follows.
- 110.3.2 A single nomination for Chairman was received for Councillor J. N. Ellwood.
- 110.3.3 A single nomination for Vice Chairman was received for Councillor J. E. Bentley-Astor.

Festivities Sub-Committee – Appointment of Members

- 111 **RESOLVED** to approve the number of seats available for allocation of seats for the Festivities Sub-Committee in accordance with Standing Order No. 44 (b), and approve and adopt the schedule of membership of the Festivities Sub-Committee as Appendix HTC/AM/08//108A to these minutes and that the Chairman of the Sub-Committee be elected at the first meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Local Community Organisations

- 112 **RESOLVED** that members be appointed to serve as representatives of the Town Council on Committees of local voluntary organisations (as invited) as listed in Appendix HTC/AM/08/112A to these minutes.

Confirmation of Minutes

- 113 **RESOLVED** that the Minutes and Reports of the meeting of the Hailsham Town Council (Ref: HTC/07/4/500-522) held on 10th March 2008, as printed and circulated, be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

- 114 None presented.
- 115 **RESOLVED** that the Minutes and Reports of the extra-ordinary meeting of the Hailsham Town Council (Ref: HTC/07x/4/523-534) held on 4th April 2008, as printed and circulated, be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

- 116 Councillor J. N. Ellwood reported that a meeting between Redrow Homes and Grovelands School was due to take place later this week.

Meeting Dates and Venues 2008 – 2010

- 117 **RESOLVED** to adopt the schedule of meetings as Appendix HTC/AGM/08/117A to these minutes.

Appointment of Bankers and Signatories

- 118 **RESOLVED** to agree the continued appointment of Barclays Bank PLC as Council's bankers.

Internal Auditor

- 119 **RESOLVED** to the continued appointment of Mr. John Roberts as Council's internal auditor.

Diplocks Community Trust

- 120.1 As the Chairman had declared a personal interest in this Agenda item he relinquished the chair. The Vice-chairman, Councillor J. E. Bentley-Astor took the chair and read a letter received from the Diplocks Community Trust advising that Wealden District Council had awarded a grant of £15,000 towards the Diplocks Community Centre project in 2008-09 and a further £10,000 in 2009-10. The letter asked for confirmation that the Town Council would make a grant of £25,000 as had previously been approved in principle in November 2001.

- 120.2 **RESOLVED** to write to Diplocks Community Trust advising that £25,000 will be made available over the next two financial years subject to the Trust receiving all the promised match funding required to receive the lottery grant; and that the Finance Policy and Resources Committee determine how the money is allocated.

- 120.3 Councillor I. Haffenden returned to the chair.

CCTV Camera – South Road, Hailsham

- 121.1 A letter from Sussex Police requesting permission to site the CCTV camera pole and associated control box at the Ersham Triangle recreation ground, as required as a condition of the planning consent for the Ropemaker Park development in South Road, had been circulated with the Agenda

- 121.2 **RESOLVED** that permission be granted for the installation of a CCTV camera at the location requested in the Ersham Road Triangle.

Councillor's Questions/Information Forum

- 122.1 Councillor Bentley-Astor informed members that Hailsham's entry into the South and South East in Bloom competition would be judged on 4th July 2008.

- 122.2 Councillor G. G. Rowe reported that the Town Crier, Mr. M. Pope had decided that he no longer wished to take-up this role.

Councillor J. N. Ellwood proposed writing to the other candidate in the audition to ascertain if he would still like to be the Hailsham Town Crier.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Rowe for all his efforts in organising the Town Crier's robes.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.07pm.

CHAIRMAN