



## HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the meeting of Hailsham Town Council, held at the Fleur-de-Lys Council Chambers/Meeting Rooms, Market Square, Hailsham, on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 8.00 pm.

The Chairman welcomed councillors, the press and the public.

### 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 Assembly, or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities of the Town Council) at the invitation and discretion of the presiding Chairman.

None presented.

HTC/09/  
3x/421 **Present:** Councillors: J. Bentley-Astor (Vice-Chairman), B.F. Burchmore, R.E.C. Burnett, G. Canning, B. Cock, N.S. Coltman, Mrs. S. P. M. Cottingham, W.F. Crittenden, J.N. Ellwood, Mrs. M. A. Ellwood, J. Glover, I.G. Haffenden (Chairman), Mrs. S.E Henstock, Mrs. B. Holbrook, P. Holbrook, Mrs. C.E. Kempe, J. Puttick, G G. Rowe and Mrs M. Rowe.

422 **Apologies for Absence:** J. H. Garvican, Mrs. D. S. Haffenden, T. W. Haffenden and R. F. Kempe.

423 **Officers in Attendance:** Mrs. E.G. Jones (Town Clerk) and D. Saxby (Administrative Assistant).

424 **Declarations of Interest** - None presented.

### **Adoption of the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee Report (Minutes)**

425 **RESOLVED**, after consideration in accordance with Standing Order 18(e), to receive the report (minutes) of the meeting of the Finance Policy and Resources Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010, to approve and adopt the recommendations contained therein and the actions taken as reported therein.

### 426.1 **Precept 2010 - 2011**

Copies of Standing Committee estimates/budgets had been circulated with the agenda and are appended to these minutes as Appendix HTC/09/3x/426A, B and C.

426.2 Councillor J. N. Ellwood stated that it had been a difficult year financially with Hailsham Town Council facing an £80,000 shortfall in its budget. He was pleased to say that action had been taken including increasing burial fees and reducing the staff budget to alleviate the situation. There had been no cuts in services.

- 426.3 Councillor Blake proposed that as the proposed budget for 2010-2011 was so close to a nil percentage increase on last year that the difference be taken from the Council's reserve funds to finance a nil percentage increase.
- 426.4 **RESOLVED** to draw £895 from Council Reserves to enable a nil percentage increase in Hailsham Town Council's precept for 2010/2011amend
- 426.5 **RESOLVED** that Wealden District Council is requisitioned for a precept of £818,660.00 for the financial year 2010/2011.

#### **Councillors' Question/Information Forum**

427.1 **Planning Application WD/2009/2705/MEA**

Councillor Blake stated that he had just received the agenda for the Planning Consultation Panel for Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and noted that the planning application for Land East of Battle Road and Adjoining the Leisure Centre Car Park, was to be discussed. He proposed that as this is a major application a special meeting be constituted solely to discuss this application. The chairman of the Planning Consultation Panel, Councillor John Puttick, agreed with this proposal.

- 427.2 **RESOLVED** that planning application No. WD/2009/2705/MEA be discussed at an extra-ordinary meeting of the Planning Consultative Panel to be held at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010 and for it to be open to all Hailsham Town Councillors to attend and participate in the proceedings.

#### **Inclement Weather**

- 428 Members agreed to a suggestion by Councillor J. N. Ellwood for the Town Council to discuss a co-operation arrangement with East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council to enable the Town Council to have access to salt/grit for use in public areas and to facilitate joint working for clearance of snow on footways. Also, that Hailsham Town Council investigates an arrangement for the supply of grit/salt bins to residents or groups of residents. The cost of this to be met by the residents who request the bin.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.17 p.m.

CHAIRMAN