



HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Extra-ordinary Meeting of Hailsham Town Council, held at the Fleur-de-Lys Council Chambers/Meeting Rooms, Market Square, Hailsham, on Monday 1st November 2010 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 Assembly, or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities of the Town Council) at the invitation and discretion of the presiding Chairman.

Mr. P. Simmonds and Mr. K. Townsend from the Hailsham and District Twinning Association spoke in respect of the 10th anniversary twinning with Gournay-en-Bray celebrations that had taken place on the previous weekend. They stated that the event had been very successful and thanked Hailsham Town Council for its contribution.

HTC/10/
2x/332 **Present:** Councillors Mrs. S. J. Bentley, W. A. Bentley, J.E. Bentley-Astor, J. L. Blake, B. F. Burchmore (Vice-Chairman), N. S. Coltman, Mrs. S.P.M. Cottingham, W. F. Crittenden, I.G. Haffenden, Mrs. S.E. Henstock, Mrs. B. Holbrook, P. Holbrook, J. Hulbert, Mrs. C. Kempe, R. F. Kempe (Chairman), B. Marlowe, J. Puttick, Mrs. M. Rowe and G.G. Rowe.

333 **Officers in Attendance:** Mrs. E.G. Jones (Town Clerk), M. Caira (Deputy Town Clerk) and D. Saxby (Administrative Assistant).

Apologies for Absence:

334 Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors R.E.C. Burnett, B. Cock, J. H. Garvican, Mrs. D. S. Haffenden, and T. W. Haffenden.

Declarations of Interest

335.1 Councillor N. S. Coltman stated that in the absence of the Council having obtained written advice from the legal officer at Wealden District he declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the meeting at 8.10pm.

335.2 Councillor I. G. Haffenden stated that as a Wealden District Councillor he had a personal and prejudicial interest.

335.3 Councillor Mrs. S, J. Bentley stated that the legal officer at Wealden District Council had verbally advised her not to participate in the meeting and she, therefore left the meeting at 8.11pm.

335.4 Councillor B. Marlowe declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the meeting at 8.12pm.

335.5 Councillor W. A. Bentley stated that he had received advice not to participate in the meeting and he, therefore left the meeting at 8.13pm.

- 335.6 Councillor. J. E. Bentley-Astor stated that, in light of comments made, he too would declare a personal and prejudicial interest. He left the meeting at 8.13pm.
- 335.7 Councillors J. L. Blake, W. F. Crittenden and G. G. Rowe declared personal interests.
- 335.8 Councillor J. Puttick stated that that the meeting should be adjourned until legal advice had been obtained.

Future of the Hailsham Community Hall

- 336.1 A report from the Council Chairman had been sent to all members prior to the meeting and is appended as Appendix HTC/10/2x/ 336.

The Chairman stated that the purpose of the report was to seek an indication of the views of members on alternative means of securing the future of the Community Hall should the proposal from Wealden District Council not be achieved.

Discussion ensued.

- 336.2 **RESOLVED** to defer a decision on the future of the Hailsham Community Hall pending the decision by Trustees on the Wealden District Council proposal and the required consent from the Charity Commission. If this offer was not acceptable, legal advice and full financial costings should be obtained before discussing any alternative proposal from Hailsham Town Council.

Councillors Questions/Information Forum

- 337 None presented.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.48 p.m.

CHAIRMAN