



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 5th July 2010 at 8.00 p.m.

The Chairman welcomed councillors, members of the public and the press. He made members aware that this would be the last meeting attended by Mr. Andrew Raeburn of the Hailsham Gazette. Mr. Raeburn was thanked for his positive reporting of events in Hailsham and wished him well for the future

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/10/
1/200 **Present:** Councillors Mrs. S.J. Bentley, W.A. Bentley, J.L. Blake, B.F. Burchmore (Vice-Chairman), R.E.C. Burnett, B.J. Cock, N.S. Coltman, Mrs. S.P.M. Cottingham, W.F. Crittenden, Mrs. D.S. Haffenden I.G. Haffenden, Mrs. B. Holbrook, P. Holbrook, Mrs. C.E. Kempe, R.F. Kempe (Chairman), B. Marlowe, J. Puttick, G.G. Rowe and Mrs. M. Rowe.

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

202 **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors J. E. Bentley-Astor and Mrs S. E. Henstock.

203 The Town Clerk advised the Council that she had received a written resignation (email) Councillor G. Canning, resigning from his position as a town councillor.

204 **Declarations of Interest** - None received.

Police Report

205 Copies of the Police Report had been circulated with the agenda.

Councillor Blake asked when the street meeting in Upper Horsebridge was to take place. The Town Clerk responded that she did not know but would make enquiries and let Councillor Blake and other ward members know the date.

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

206 **RESOLVED** that the Minutes and Reports of the Annual Meeting of the Hailsham

Town Council (Ref: HTC/AM/10/100-121) held on 17th May 2010, as printed and circulated, may be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

207 **Matters Arising** - None presented.

Adoption of Standing Committee Reports (Minutes)

208.1 **RESOLVED**, after consideration in accordance with Standing Order 11(e), to receive the following reports of Committees, and subject to the amendments below after consideration of the reserved paragraphs (minutes), to approve and adopt the recommendations contained therein and the actions taken as reported therein.

208.2 A. **Environment and Leisure Committee** - 7th June 2010 (ref: EL/10/1/01-11)

208.3 B. **Burials and Properties Committee** - 14th June 2010 (ref: BP/10/1/12-23)

208.4 C. **Finance, Policy and Resources Committee** - 21st June 2010 (ref: FPR/10/1/24-75)

209 **RESOLVED** to proceed through the “reserved” paragraphs consecutively (or as decided) and to resolve action before proceeding through to the next reserved item.

B. Burial and Properties Committee

210.1 Minute 18 – Street Lighting

Councillor Blake stated that he was concerned to learn that plans for three new housing developments in Hailsham did not include provision for street lighting. He was further concerned that East Sussex County Council had stated that in these circumstances they would not adopt the roads.

Councillor W. A. Bentley stated that he had spoken to the Director of Transport and Environment who had said that the provision of street lighting was not a pre-requisite for East Sussex County Council adopting roads.

- No change to the minute recommendation.

210.2 **RESOLVED** to write to East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council asking for clarification on the provision of street lighting and whether this would adversely affect future road adoptions.

211.1 Minute 21.3 – Christmas Festivities

Councillor P. Holbrook stated that the Burial and Properties Committee had further resolved to when asking for quotes for the provision of a Christmas tree for Vicarage Field to ask if a local company would sponsor it for a discounted price.

Amend minute to read:

211.2 **RESOLVED** that comparative quotes be obtained for a 20 foot plus Christmas tree to be erected in Vicarage Field; and that the local companies be offered the opportunity to sponsor the tree to offset the cost.

C. Finance, Policy and Resources Committee

212 Minute 55 – Cost saving for Council

Councillor Coltman stated that this was a very politicised minute and was very concerned about it. It was rare for a minute to go into so much detail.

Councillor Coltman stated that the Council should look at its overheads, and suggested some areas where he thought cutbacks could be made.

Councillor I. G. Haffenden stated that there was an ongoing staffing review taking place.

Councillor Blake said it was an important that there should not be arbitrary cuts but all areas of Council expenditure and income should be looked at in a pragmatic way whilst maintaining current services.

- No change to minute recommendation.

Cuckmere Community Bus

213.1 An invitation had been received from the CCB, and circulated with the agenda, inviting one of the council members to serve on the CCB Committee.

213.2 **RESOLVED** to appoint Councillor B. Marlowe as Hailsham Town Council's representative to serve on the Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd. Committee.

Wealden Joint Action Group (JAG)

214.1 The Town Clerk reported a request from the above group in respect of Hailsham Town Council's "top two priorities/targets for the Council together with any resources that would be available to feed into the JAG process".

Councillor I. G. Haffenden stated that Hailsham was the only town in Wealden that sponsors two PCSOs to provide a dedicated presence on the streets of Hailsham.

214.2 **RESOLVED** to advise JAG that the two priorities should be parking and speeding in the High Street and no cold calling zones and that the resources were in the form of the sponsorship of the two PCSOs.

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service – Rural Review 2010

215.1 Members considered the consultation letter, executive summary and questionnaire as circulated with the agenda.

215.2 **RESOLVED** to encourage each individual councillor to answer the questionnaire from East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service as fully as possible and for a response to be sent from the Council as a corporate body in a bid to ensure there is no reduction in the service provision for Hailsham as a result of this review.

Town Mayor's Report

216.1 The Chairman stated that he intends to occasionally report to Council his activities. Since taking office he had attended the YOMBATS concert, Lark in the Park, opening of the Sensory Garden, RAFA concerts and a reception with the High Sheriff of Sussex. In all he had attended just under twenty events. He was also grateful to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Burchmore for standing in for him at the Hawkes Farm School summer fete.

216.2 He stated that this was the last meeting before the Town Clerk's birthday, and as such he had taken the decision to purchase an engraved vase and flowers from

members and staff to commemorate. The Town Clerk thanked everyone.

Councillors' Questions/Information Forum

217 **Hailsham Gazette Reporter**

Councillor G. Rowe asked if through the Chairman he could ask if the Hailsham Gazette would be replacing Andrew Raeburn as the Hailsham reporter. Mr Raeburn said that it would in due course. He then went on to thank the councillors and staff for their help and support during his time as Hailsham reporter.

218 **Twinning**

Councillor Puttick advised members that a civic reception would be held in October when dignitaries from Gournay-en-Bray would be visiting Hailsham to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Twinning Charter. He requested that all councillors consider hosting their French counterparts during their visit.

219 **Hailsham in Bloom**

The Town Clerk reminded members that the judging of the Hailsham entry in the South East in Bloom competition would take place on Tuesday 6th July 2010 and, on behalf of Councillor Bentley-Astor, Chair of the Hailsham in Bloom Sub-Committee, extended an invitation to all members to attend a presentation at the Hailsham Community Hall at 8.30am.

220 **Naxxar, Malta**

Councillor P. Holbrook asked if there was any update on the possible twinning with Naxxar in Malta.

The Town Clerk responded that a formal twinning with Naxxar had not progressed; the two councils instead had signed a letter of accord to agree economic development and friendship. In the current economic climate this had not developed any further but contact is kept alive between the two councils.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

CHAIRMAN

Global/Minutes and Agendas/DS/ HTC Minutes 05.07.10