



# 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 Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

## **John Britton Award**

The Chairman introduced Mark Joyes, the recipient of this year's John Britton Award for young people for his voluntary work in the community

## **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.

The Town Clerk read a letter received from a member of the public concerning air pollution in Battle Road and asking if Hailsham Town Council had air pollution reports for Battle Road. Councillor N. Collinson reported that Wealden District Council had received the same letter and said that that Council would be responding and the Town Clerk would be copied into it.

County Councillor Lawrence Keeley spoke about housing needs in Hailsham and the surrounding areas.

HTC/15/  
2/128 **Present:** Councillors: Mrs. B. H. Beckett, Mrs. M. Burt, Mrs. L. J. Collinson, N.. A. Collinson, N. S. Coltman (Chairman), Mrs. S.P. M. Cottingham, R. T. Grocock, Mrs. B. Holbrook, P. S. Holbrook, G. Moore, M. A. Pinkney, J. Puttick, P. D. Soane, C. A. Tasane, Mrs. A Triandafyllou, C. Triandafyllou, Mrs. S. Van Der Geyton, Miss J. R. Wells and A. Willis.

129 **Officers in Attendance:** J. Harrison (Town Clerk), M. Cairn (Deputy Town Clerk and Business Enterprise Manager), D. Saxby and T. Hall.

130 **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors F. Berry, Ms C. Collinson-O'Toole, Mrs. S. Henstock, Ms A O'Rawe and Mrs. M. Laxton.

131 **Declarations of Interest**

None presented.

## **Hailsham and District Sports Alliance**

132.1 Mr. S. Wennington from the Hailsham & District Sports Alliance introduced his report as circulated with the agenda and as Appendix HTC/15/1/132A to these minutes.

- 132.2 Mr Wennington said there was a severe lack of sporting facilities in Hailsham, and this was an area of the country with above national obesity levels.
- 132.3 Mr Wennington asked Hailsham Town Council to support a project for a new sports facility in Hailsham to be implemented by the Hailsham & District Sports Alliance.
- 132.4 **RESOLVED** to write a letter of support of the Hailsham & District Sports Alliance proposal to supply a new sports stadium in Hailsham.

133 **Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes and Reports of the meeting of the Annual Meeting of Hailsham Town Council (Ref: HTC/AM15/100-127) held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising**

- 134 None.

**Committee and Panel Reports**

- 135 **RESOLVED**, after consideration in accordance with Standing Order 18(e), to receive the following reports of Committees, to approve and adopt the recommendations contained therein and the actions taken as reported therein.

- A. Finance, Budget and Resources Committee Meetings (8<sup>th</sup> July and 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015)
- B. Planning and Development Committee Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> June 23<sup>rd</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015)
- C. Communities Committee Meetings (1<sup>st</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015)
- D. Strategic Projects Committee Meeting (24<sup>th</sup> June 2015)

**Communities Committee**

136. Minute 20 – Tourist Signs on the A22

Councillor P. Holbrook asked if the signs for the A22 were in place yet.

The Deputy Town Clerk and Business Enterprise Manager responded that a recent meeting with East Sussex Highways, it was agreed the Town Council would look at the signage within the town first before re-visiting the signage on the A22.

No Change to the Committee recommendation.

**Committee Membership**

- 137.1 The Town Clerk referred members to the officer's report circulated with the agenda and as Appendix HTC/15/2/137A to these minutes which gave details to amendments to the formally appointed committee structure at the Annual Council Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

- 137.2 **RESOLVED** to note the following amendments:

Councillor Mrs Beckett to replace Councillor N. Collinson on the Strategic Projects

Committee.

Councillor N. Collinson to replace Councillor Mrs. A Triandafyllou on the Finance, Budget and Resources Committee.

Councillor Mrs. A Triandafyllou to replace Councillor N. Collinson on the Communities Committee.

137.3 The full committee membership is as in the officer's report attached as Appendix HTC/15/2/137A to these minutes.

137.4 Councillor P. Holbrook stated that he should have been consulted as leader of The Liberal Democrat group.

### **Lead Member for Hailsham Forward Stakeholders' Group**

138 **RESOLVED** to appoint Councillor Nigel Coltman as 'lead member' for the Hailsham Forward Stakeholders' Group in accordance with the terms of reference of that group.

### **Delegation of Authority to Spend Project Funds**

139.1 Councillor N. Collinson said that to expedite the process more quickly and efficiently, particularly in respect of festivities and events the Business Development Committee should have delegated authority to spend funds on specific projects of up to £2,000 without the need of ratification of full council.

139.2 Discussion ensued. Councillors Soane and Mrs. L. Collinson expressed concern at the level of £2,000 and the lack of input to the decision making process from other Councillors.

139.3 Councillor N. Collinson proposed that:

The Business Development Committee has delegated authority to spend up to £2,000 on a specific project.

Seconded by Councillor Willis.

139.4 On being put to the vote this proposal was lost by 9 votes to 5.

139.5 **RESOLVED** that this item be put on the agenda for the next meeting for further debate.

### **Petition on Town Centre Improvements (MASHH) Proposals**

140.1 The Town Clerk stated that a petition had been received in opposition to the Town Centre Improvements (MASHH) Scheme. The petition had been signed by 57 names representing 38 businesses.

140.2 **RESOLVED** to note the receipt of the petition and that a meeting was to be held with the identifiable signatories the following week.

### **General Power of Competence**

141 **RESOLVED** to note the Town Clerk's report as circulated with the agenda and

attached as Appendix HTC/15/2/141A to these minutes.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

- 142.1 The Town Clerk introduced this agenda item and referred members to the officer's report circulated with the agenda. Members were asked whether the Town Council wishes to write a neighbourhood Plan.
- 142.2 Councillor Puttick asked what guarantee does the Council have that any Plan written by the Town Council would be adopted by Wealden District Council. The Town Clerk responded that a Neighbourhood Plan is a statutory document, and as such cannot be ignored.
- 142.3 Councillor Soane said it would be a massive mistake not to write a Neighbourhood Plan and proposed that the Council did so.
- 142.4 **RESOLVED** to proceed with the writing of a Neighbourhood Plan and to form a small sub-committee to do so; the sub-committee to include the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee and to invite a representative of Hellingly Parish Council to participate.

### **Councillors' Questions/Information Forum**

- 143 Tour of Council Facilities
- Councillor P. Holbrook suggested that all councillors be invited to a tour of all the Council's facilities and properties. The Deputy Town Clerk and Business Development Manager said that this was in hand.
- 144 Remshalden
- Councillor Puttick said he was aware that the Mayor of Remshalden in Germany had written to the Mayor suggesting that he visit Hailsham and meet the Mayor. Councillor Puttick asked if a response would be sent.
- The Chairman said he would write as soon as possible,
- 145 Mayoral Duties
- The Chairman listed the events that he as Mayor and Councillor O'Rawe as Deputy Mayor had attended in the past two months.
- There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.09pm.

**CHAIRMAN**