

# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

## AGENDA

**Notice is given of a** meeting of the Communities Committee, to be held at the Fleur-de-Lys Council Chambers/Meeting Rooms, Market Street, Hailsham, on

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 at 6.00pm**

**1. Election of Committee Chairman**

Prior to commencement of the remainder of formal business of the meeting, a period of not more than 15 minutes will be assigned for the purpose of permitting members of the public to address the assembly, or ask questions on matters relevant to responsibilities under the direction of this committee, at the discretion of the Chairman.

The order of formal business to be transacted will thereafter be as follows:

**2. Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence of appointed members.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

To receive notice of declarations of personal or prejudicial interests in respect of items on this agenda.

**4. Minutes of previous Meeting - Business Enterprise Committee**

**4.1** A) To note the Minutes and Reports of the Meeting of the Business Enterprise Committee (Ref: BEC/14/6/47-57) held on 12th March 2015.

B) To consider any matters arising.

**5. Minutes of previous Meeting - Festivities & Events Committee**

**5.1** A) To note the Minutes and Reports of the Meeting of the Committee (Ref: 14/7x/121 - 129) held on 20th April 2015.

B) To consider any matters arising.

**6. Election of Committee Vice Chairman**

7. **Christmas Light Switch On Event**  
To discuss the planning and organisation of the event
8. **Christmas Market Event**  
To discuss the planning and organisation of the event
9. **Summer Events**  
To discuss the planning and organisation of the events
10. **Hailsham Bonfire Society**  
To discuss the 2015 event
11. **Hailsham Festival of Arts & Culture**  
To receive a verbal report on the Hailsham Festival of Arts & Culture 2015.
12. **Hailsham Forward**  
To receive an update on the activities of Hailsham Forward. Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 and draft minutes of meeting held on 2 April 2015 are attached for information.
13. **Hailsham and Hellingly Movement & Access Strategy.**  
To receive a verbal update on the Movement and Access Strategy.
14. **Reconnecting The Town**  
To discuss ways to overcome the disconnection between the different business areas of the town.
15. **Local Skills Gap**  
To discuss how to identify the skills gap that may exist in the town and what can be done to overcome any skills gap identified.
16. **Tourist Signs on the A22**  
To receive a verbal update on the progress made on the Tourist Signs and to consider how to move this project on based on the progress made to date.

Dated this 26th day of May 2015

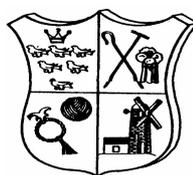
**Committee Membership:**

Councillor Mrs. S. Cottingham  
Councillor N.A. Collinson  
Councillor Mrs. C. Collinson-O'Toole  
Councillor Mrs. S Henstock  
Councillor Ms. A. O'Rawe  
Councillor J. Puttick  
Councillor C. Tasane  
Councillor C. Triandafyllou  
Councillor Miss J. Wells



JOHN HARRISON  
Town Clerk

# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Communities Committee relating to the organisation of festivities and events held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham, on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 at 6.00 pm.

CC/2/15/1

## **Election of Chairman:**

Cllr C. Triandafyllou proposed Cllr Ms A. O'Rawe, seconded by Cllr C. Tasane

Councillor Ms A. O'Rawe was unanimously elected as Chairman

Prior to commencement of formal business, a period of not more than 15 minutes was assigned for the purpose of permitting members of the public to address the Committee or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities under direction of this Committee) at the invitation and discretion of the presiding Chairman.

Mr N. Schulz, of the Old Mill House, Harebeating Lane, addressed the Committee regarding the MASHH (Movement and Access Strategy Hailsham and Hellingly) meetings, asking how the Town Council can improve the communication to members of the public regarding these meetings. He advised that there is no information on these meetings on the ESCC website, the last mention of a MASHH meeting on the Wealden District Council website was June 2013 and he could not find any information either on the Town Council website.

Cllr Ms A. O'Rawe stated that discussions regarding MASHH are under the Business Enterprise Committee meetings. Cllr N. Collinson considered that although the MASHH discussions are on the Town Council website, it is not clear how to find them. He advised Mr Schulz that previous minutes of discussions on the MASHH project can be found on the Town Council website under the Business Enterprise Committee.

M. Caira read out an email from Mrs H. Deehan. She had requested her concerns were discussed at the meeting. Mrs Deehan questioned the suitability of the proposed rink and referred to the closing of a rink in previous years, due to health and safety grounds. She asked if the Council could consider other types of activities on the day rather than a rink, such as Santa's grotto, reindeer or carousels.

In response to her email, M. Caira advised that the Council had already agreed to arrange a skate rink for Christmas 2015 and this was agreed and could not be changed. The Council had needed to make the decision quickly to ensure a booking was placed in time for the Christmas market. Regarding the closing early of a rink, this was in 2012 and was because the light had become very poor and the rink was closed an hour early, at 4.00 pm, as it was very difficult to see well enough to sort out the right sizes for the skate rink boots for the children. As far as the Council was aware the skate rink had been considered to be a positive addition to the Christmas markets. M. Caira advised that the rink was mainly used by smaller children due to the small size of the rink. It was agreed that as all markets need to be booked and organised a year in advance, alternatives can be looked at for 2016 but not 2015.

Members agreed a questionnaire could be put in place for market visitors on the day of the Christmas market, to give the public a chance to comment on ideas for future events.

Cllr C. Tasane suggested the Council respond to queries or comments raised on the "Hailsham Voice". M. Cairra advised that the Council does not have the resources or the time to keep track of what is being raised on social media sites such as face book, street life or the Hailsham Voice, but if a member of the public wishes to comment on an issue or pose a question to the Council they can contact the Council directly, and can do this by commenting on the Councils face book page or email or telephone the office.

Cllr Ms J. Wells asked if the Council set an age limit on the skate rink. M. Cairra advised that no age limit has been set in the past, but that in their experience older children do not really wish to use the rink as it would be too small for them.

J. Seale arrived at 6.20 pm

N. Collinson suggested the Town Council produces a list of sites they monitor, whether that be just telephone, email or letter, so the public are aware of how they can direct questions or comments to the council.

#### **Committee members present**

Councillors: N. Collinson, Mrs S. Cottingham, , Ms A. O'Rawe, J. Puttick, C. Tasane, Mrs A. Triandafyllou (substituting for Mrs S. Henstock), C. Triandafyllou, Ms J. Wells,

#### **Other members present**

J. Cullen (Hailsham Community College) Mrs G. Constable (Hailsham Lions), Ms. J. Seale, Mrs D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church)

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings & M. Cairra

#### **Apologies For Absence:**

#### **Committee Members**

Mrs C. Collinson –O'Toole and Mrs S. Henstock

#### **Other members**

J. Coates.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

None were received.

#### **Confirmation of Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Business Enterprise Committee meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

#### **Matters Arising**

The issue of advertising on the highway needs resolving.

### **Confirmation of Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Festivities Committee meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

### **Matters Arising**

G. Constable from the Lions advised that she has given N. Collinson a list of the traders that were booked for the Lions fete, so they could be contacted for future events. Members agreed it was unfortunate that the Lions event had had to be cancelled.

### **Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr N. Collinson proposed Cllr C. Triandafyllou, seconded by G. Constable

Cllr C. Triandafyllou was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman

### **Christmas Light Switch on**

Cllr C. Tasane suggested Peter Lambert, from Britain's Got Talent, is contacted to be chairman. The Committee Clerk advised she will contact him.

Members agreed that Grovelands and Hailsham Community College Choirs would be invited to attend the Christmas event.

### **Christmas Market**

Members advised the skate rink is in place, hog roast, and finer details of the day will be agreed nearer the time.

M Cairn advised that no road closure was put in place at the 2014 market as some of the shop keepers suffer financially when stalls are placed in front of their shops. He suggested that as the Quintin's has been booked for the event, that space could be used for some stalls.

It was agreed that some stalls could be placed in St Marys Walk. The traders would be advised of this though at the time of booking. 2 "A" boards could be placed in the High Street directing the public to the stalls here. The Committee Clerk was asked to contact Mrs Irit, the owner of the St Marys Walk shops.

### **Summer Markets**

G. Constable advised that the Lions would like to book their candy floss for the three summer events.

The Committee Clerk will ask T. Hall to organise a flyer and posters for the summer events. Cllr Ms A. O'Rawe suggested a list of organisations the flyers could be distributed to and Cllr Ms J. Wells advised she would take some flyers to Marshlands School.

Cllr Ms J. Wells asked whether many of the stalls at the children's market would be teaching crafts and whether these stalls are purely for selling products or whether there is

any learning involved. M. Caira advised that the Community College have two “enterprise scheme” stalls and that at the last children’s market some traders were demonstrating craft work. Cllr Ms J. Wells considered that it would be beneficial to have a number of these stalls at the event and the Committee Clerk suggested A. Wells could investigate some ideas for this theme and take charge of organising some children’s demonstrations.

D. Sinden advised she would contact the Committee Clerk regarding the times of the open church at Hailsham Church on the market days.

The Committee Clerk advised that unfortunately the cadets would not be able to provide the climbing wall but they will still be selling hot dogs at the event.

### **Bonfire Society**

Cllr N. Collinson advised that Wealden District Council have given permission for the use of the site for the Bonfire event.

Cllr Ms J. Wells raised concerns that most of the public houses and restaurants in the Wealden District Council toilet scheme had shut their toilets on the bonfire night event in 2013. Cllr N. Collinson advised that this would not happen again as Wealden District Council had written to all the community scheme toilets advising they must keep their toilets open for such events.

D. Sinden advised Hailsham Church will have an open church on that day.

### **Hailsham Lions**

G. Constable advised that she would no longer be president of the lions after this meeting and she would advise shortly whether she will be continuing to attend the Communities Committee or whether the new president would attend.

D. Sinden, G. Constable, J. Seale and Cllr Mrs. S. Cottingham left the meeting at 7.15 pm

K. Giddings left the meeting at 7.20 pm

### **Hailsham Festival of Arts & Culture**

Councillor N. Collinson advised the meeting that a meeting of the Festival Committee was taking place on 1<sup>st</sup> June to finalise the programme. He confirmed that the event will be opened with a barn dance on 9<sup>th</sup> September with the finale at the Pavilion.

### **Hailsham Forward**

Minutes of the Hailsham Forward Executive Team had been circulated prior to the meeting. M. Caira advised the meeting on the work of the Hailsham Forward Project and highlighted the Hailsham Street Market, Hailsham Town and Shopping Guide, improvements to shop fronts and Hailsham Community Forum and the main achievements to date.

Cllr N. Collinson highlighted some of the projects that Hailsham Forward is currently working on including a loyalty scheme, local lottery and community energy scheme.

### **Hailsham and Hellingly Movement & Access Strategy**

Cllr C. Triandafyllou advised the meeting that works on the improvements to the High

Street and surround roads will hopefully start in August. These works were publicised by Wealden District Council in 2014 during a public consultation exercise. The works aim to make it easier for pedestrians to move around the town centre, provide dedicated loading and disabled bays and time limited parking. He stated that a MASHH meeting will be held soon to finalise the timetable of works for the town centre.

Cllr N Collinson highlighted a number of issues the Chamber of Commerce had raised in respect of the improvement works to the town centre which have been forwarded to Claire Warwick at East Sussex County Council, these include the location of loading bays and the net loss of around 30 parking places in the High Street. He also highlighted some of the other schemes being considered by the MASHH group including the Battle Road/High Street Junction, South Road/Diplocks junction and the A22 at Hempstead Lane.

Cllr Ms J Wells highlighted the difficulty in parking around Hailsham Community College and asked if Tesco could be approached to request concessions in their car park.

### **Reconnecting the Town**

M. Caira advised the meeting that Hailsham Forward have been working on this issue for a few months, details can be found in the Hailsham Forward minutes.

Cllr N Collinson highlighted the issue that the Chamber of Commerce do not represent all the local businesses, leaving a gap in support and representation for some of the towns businesses. He proposed that the Town Council could play a role in supporting local businesses via a local business forum. This could be promoted via a business newsletter. It was agreed that all members consider ideas for the newsletter and a business forum for Hailsham.

### **Local Skills Gap**

There appears to be a local skills gap with local school leavers finding it difficult to secure work locally.

Cllr Ms J. Wells proposed that there should be some form of club where 16 – 25 year olds can meet and get help with finding work including CVs, interview techniques etc.

It was agreed to set up a small working group to take this forward to include Cllr Ms J Wells, Cllr N. Collinson, Cllr C Tasane and James Cullen. M Caira agreed to support this group.

### **Tourist Signs on A22**

M. Caira advised the meeting that East Sussex County Council had recently proposed a different scheme on signage than that already agreed by the Council. It was agreed that the Town Clerk, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should meet with East Sussex Highway officers to discuss the proposals put forward by East Sussex.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.59pm. The next meeting will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00 pm