



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Town Team Discuss Key Projects at Annual Meeting

1 August 2016

Stakeholders attended Hailsham Forward's AGM held at Diplocks Hall on Friday [29 July], at which reports were given of the Town Team's activities during the past year and the next move determined in terms of fulfilling town centre revitalisation objectives.

Among the attendees were local councillors, business association members and representatives from local voluntary organisations.

At the meeting a number of objectives for the revitalisation of the town centre and surrounding urban environment were reviewed and it was agreed that Hailsham Forward will work with East Sussex County Council, Wealden District Council and local businesses to continue making improvements in a number of areas.

Existing Hailsham Forward Partnership projects include the creation of the Hailsham Card – a loyalty scheme launched in March to give customers a greater incentive to use town centre shops, which continues to expand its membership from local businesses.

Other major projects include the development of Hailsham Street Market which now operates from the town centre every Saturday, and working in partnership with the local Chamber of Commerce and other parties to tidy up and improve town centre shop fronts.

Additional aims of the Partnership include working with other agencies to improve industrial park access and parking, as well as the expansion of the Hailsham Town & Shopping Guide (to include industrial estates) and encouragement of links between education and business, e.g. employment and training.

At the AGM, updates were provided on the traffic and transport improvements currently being carried out in the town centre as part of the Movement and Access for Hailsham & Hellingly (MASHH) scheme.

"The Town Team is a partnership involving representatives from many sectors of the local community," said Councillor Nigel Coltman, who continues as Chairman of the Hailsham Forward Stakeholder Group. "All our project partners have a common goal - working to put town revitalisation plans and proposals into action."

"We'll continue to listen to the views of stakeholders while we work on various projects, keeping the local community informed at all times during the process."

Further information on Hailsham Forward's town revitalisation plans can be found on their website: www.hailshamforward.co.uk

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Notes to Editors:

- Town Teams are being established nationwide to bring viable local aspirations to bear on up-and-coming local policies and strategies relating to community, environmental and business development issues.

- Hailsham was selected by the Department for Communities and Local Government to receive a grant of £10,000 for the recently established *Hailsham Forward* (Town Team) to help drive forward its objectives to revitalise the town centre and surrounding urban environment.

For all enquiries relating to this press release, contact:

Terry Hall
Communications/Public Information Officer
Hailsham Town Council
Ingenook
Market Street
Hailsham
East Sussex, BN27 2AE

Tel: (01323) 841702 | Email: terry.hall@hailsham-tc.gov.uk