



# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Extraordinary Meeting of Hailsham Town Council, held at the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Hailsham, on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.00 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 Council or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities of the Town Council) at the invitation and discretion of the presiding Chairman.

A member of the public asked that as Hailsham Town Council had stated in its draft Town Council Plan that it had opened negotiations with the owner of Ersham Farm about acquiring some land for an extension to Hailsham Cemetery, would this mean that it would oppose the land being used for future housing development. The Chairman responded that planning applications would be dealt with on their merits and in line with planning legislation.

A member of the public commended all those councillors who had voted to produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

A member of the public said that all Hailsham Forward members should declare an interest on agenda item 5 – Hailsham Town Market and Hailsham Forward.

A member of the public said that there should be public consultation on the Town Council Plan before agreeing it.

A member of the public, who was also a stall-holder on the Saturday market said the cost of £25.00 per stall was excessive and suggested that it should be £15.00.

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**Present:** Councillors: Mrs. B. H. Beckett, F. Berry, T. Burns, N. Collinson, N. S. Coltman (Chairman), G. de Jongh, R. Grocock, Mrs. B. Holbrook, P. Holbrook, Mrs. M. Laxton, Glenn Moore, M. A Pinkney, S. Potts, J. Puttick, C Triandafyllou and A Willis.

## **Officers in Attendance**

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Mr. M. Caira (Deputy Town Clerk) and Mr. D. Saxby.

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## **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors G. Blake-Coggins, Mrs. S. Cottingham, Ms A. O'Rawe, C. Tasane and Mrs S. Van der Geyten.

The Town Clerk had also given his apologies for absence.

The Chairman said that he would send a card to Councillor Tasane who was recovering from surgery on behalf of the Council.

## 242 **Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman confirmed that no members were currently members of Hailsham Forward.

## **Neighbourhood Plan Committee**

243.1 The Chairman thanked all members – councillors and non-councillors – for their invaluable work in producing the draft Neighbourhood Plan that was to be debated later in this agenda.

The final draft Neighbourhood Plan had been circulated with the agenda; the Chairman asked for comments before forwarding the agreed Plan to Wealden District Council.

Councillor Mrs Laxton said she had seen a small mistake on page 63. It should read “South Road” not “South Street”.

243.2 **RESOLVED** to agree the draft Neighbourhood Plan as amended and to formally present it to Wealden District Council.

## **Hailsham Town Market & Hailsham Forward**

244.1 The Chairman outlined the background to Hailsham Forward and explained that it had been suggested that Hailsham Town Council takes over the responsibility for the Saturday market. As HTC currently runs the summer and Christmas markets, he thought it made sense to also run the Saturday market.

The Deputy Town Clerk said that the market with the current level of traders the market barely broke even. The break-even figure was in the region of £9,000 per year.

244.2 **RESOLVED** that subject to an official request from Hailsham Forward Community Interest Company, Hailsham Town Council takes over responsibility for the Saturday Street Market.

The above resolution was carried by 12 votes to 2 with 2 abstentions.

244.3 Councillors Berry and Mrs Laxton requested that their opposition to the resolution be recorded. Councillors Mrs B Holbrook and P. Holbrook requested that their abstentions from voting be recorded.

## **Town Council Plan**

245.1 The Deputy Town Clerk introduced this agenda item and referred members to the draft report produced by the Strategy Working Group.

The document was a statement of the Council’s vision, purpose, objectives and values. The Plan was for a four-year period, starting in May 2018 and would be regularly monitored and updated.

Councillor Mrs Laxton said that the section on youth services should be updated to include a sentence on taking on other sites.

Councillor Collinson said that the business enterprise sections would need updating to reflect the earlier resolution on the Saturday market.

246 **RESOLVED** to accept and implement the Town Council Plan, as amended.

### **Councillor's Questions/Information Forum**

247 High Street

The Chairman updated the meeting on the bad state of repair of the High Street. Members were appalled at the way it had broken up and the length of time it was taking to carry out the remedial work.

The Chairman said he would write to East Sussex County Council conveying the Council's view.

248 Town Centre Bollards

Councillor Collinson suggested arranging a meeting with the town centre shopkeepers to talk about the location of the bollards.

249 Lord Lieutenant

The Chairman reported that he had recently met with the Deputy Lord Lieutenant who had confirmed that he and the Lord Lieutenant would be happy to attend Council events if requested. The Lord Lieutenant would be attending the Annual Town Meeting to present the Hailsham Community Hero award.

250 Anti-Speeding Equipment

Councillor Collinson reported that he had secured a grant for anti-speeding equipment. He would ask the Communications Officer to issue a press release.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.17pm.