



HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Neighbourhood Planning Committee

REPORT (Minutes)

of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee,
held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham
on Thursday 5th March at 7.00 p.m.

To deal with any questions or brief representations from members of the public relevant to the remit of the committee, in accordance with Standing Order 1. and Hailsham Town Council policy. (15 Minutes)

There were no members of the public present.

NP/19/04/
30 **Present:** Councillors D Cottingham, P Holbrook, M. Laxton (Chairman) and J Puttick.

31 **Officers Present:** Mr. J. Harrison (Town Clerk) and Mr. D. Saxby.

32 **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies had been received and accepted from Councillors Coltman and Hinton.

33 **Declarations of Interest**

None presented.

34 **Minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee held on 7th November 2019**

RESOLVED to note and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee held on 7th November 2019.

Progress to date, Next Steps and Timetable

35.1 The Town Clerk advised that it was hoped that the referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan would take place on 7th May, the same date as the elections for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The consultation period with statutory consultees on the HRA update had ended on 27th February. The final report was to be issued on 4th March.

35.2 The Town Clerk had researched what could and couldn't be done in respect of campaigning for a positive vote in the referendum; this was not allowed. Furthermore, once the date of the referendum was announced a form of purdah was in force. Individual councillors were permitted to campaign but not on behalf of the Town Council. As 28 days-notice of the referendum were legally required this could have an impact on the Annual Town meeting scheduled for 1st April 2020.

The Examiner had asked for the extent of the town centre to be defined on a map.

35.3 **RESOLVED** to:

- a) Agree record the summary from the Inspector's comments in the Neighbourhood Plan.
- b) That the Neighbourhood Plan does not suffer as a result of the outcome of Wealden District Council's own Local Plan. Any publicity should make clear the differences and the importance of having the Neighbourhood Plan in place in the absence of any other up-to-date Plan.
- c) That a special edition the Town Council newsletter "Our Hailsham" be issued to every household in the parish at the end of April advertising the referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Confidential Business

36 **RESOLVED** that the press and public are excluded during the discussion on the next item of the agenda (8) as its concerns the terms of tenders and proposals and counter proposals in negotiation for contracts (In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E).

Financial Statement

37.1 The Town Clerk stated that there was £9,777 remaining in the Neighbourhood Plan budget. However, this was likely to be exceeded for outstanding work.

The Committee went through the outstanding committed expenditure.

37.2 **RESOLVED** to rescind the resolution made at the meeting held on 7th November 2019 (NP/20/03/29.2) to accept the quotation of £2,300 plus expenses received from Troy Planning to appraise and review the draft Conservation Area.

The vote was unanimous, therefore reaching the two thirds majority needed to rescind a previous resolution.

37.3 **RESOLVED** to:

- a) remove £2,300 from committed expenditure for Troy Planning to undertake a Conservation Area Appraisal.
- b) Remove £3,000 from committed expenditure for Troy Planning to train Hailsham Town Councillors on the Neighbourhood Plan.

37.4 **RESOLVED** to ask Council for additional funds of £5,000 from the Contingency Fund for additional work from Troy Planning to complete the Neighbourhood Plan process.

37.5 **RESOLVED** to note the financial statement of expenditure against budget for the project.

Cuckmere and Pevensey Environment Land Management Test and Trial

38.1 The Town Clerk had received a request from Natural England asking for advice from those with the experience and expertise to help develop a future

environmental land management scheme and planning policy, particularly on consultation matters.

38.2 **RESOLVED** to reply to Natural England advising them to look at the Hailsham Town Council Neighbourhood Plan, which is available online, to ascertain who was consulted; and offering them a stand at the Annual Town meeting on 1st April 2020.

39 **Draft Inspectors' Report**

This agenda item was incorporated in earlier items of business.

40 **Post Adoption Statement and SA of Recommended Modifications**

This agenda item was incorporated in earlier items of business.

41 **Councillor Training**

RESOLVED not to employ Troy Planning to provide Councillor Training at a cost of £3,000 but for them to produce the Councillors' Guide to the Neighbourhood Plan – A Small Booklet.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.48pm.