



# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of Hailsham Town Council held at the Hailsham Civic Community Hall, Vicarage Lane on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.00pm.

HTC/21/  
03/168

## **Public Question Time**

Mr S Wennington from Hailsham Active updated the meeting on a number of issues.

The path around the Diplocks and Chandlers had now been completed to the satisfaction of local residents.

Fields in Trust had provided an additional £12,000 for maintenance of Western Road Recreation Ground.

Mr Wennington had met with local school and Hailsham East Community Centre with a view to allowing Hailsham Active to use their facilities.

He was working with a variety of organisations to look at improving the Maurice Thornton.

Councillor Murphy spoke about events he had attended at Hailsham East Community Centre and the opening of the Ropemakers Academy.

169 **Present:** Councillors: G. Blake-Coggins, C. Bryant, N. Coltman, D. Cottingham, R. Grocock, B. Holbrook, P. Holbrook, M. Laxton, R. Newark, T. Powis and J. Puttick.

Councillors G. Fox and S. Murphy (East Sussex County Council) were also in attendance.

170 **Officers in Attendance**

Mr J Harrison (Town Clerk), Mrs K Giddings and Mr D Saxby.

171 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received and accepted from Councillors A. Clarke, K. Nicholls and A-M Ricketts.

172 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Grocock declared an interest in agenda item 5 – Hailsham Aspires Project, as he is a member of the Hailsham Aspires Board.

173 **Confidential Business**

**RESOLVED** that the press and public are temporarily excluded during the discussion on agenda item 5 as they concern the terms of tenders and proposals and counter proposals in negotiation for contracts, terms and conditions of employment or are otherwise confidential information.

(In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E).

### **Hailsham Aspires Project**

174.1 The Chairman introduced Mr M Kelly from Wealden District Council. Mr Kelly had just taken on the role of operations manager for the Aspires project.

Councillor Newark declared an interest because of his association with Hailsham United Junior Football Club

174.2 **RESOLVED** that neither the Maurice Thornton Playing Field nor the James West Centre are made available for the proposed relocation of the facility as requested, as part of the Hailsham Aspires project.

174.3 Councillor Grocock requested that his abstention from voting be recorded.

174.4 **RESOLVED** that negotiation with Wealden District Council regarding Hailsham Aspires be delegated to The Assets Management Committee who should refer any decisions back to the Council and Charity Trusts.

174.4 Councillors R. Grocock requested that his abstention from voting be recorded.

175 **RESOLVED** that agenda items 6 and 7 – Persimmon Homes and Committee Recommendations to Council be moved to the end of the agenda.

### 176 **Confirmation of Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of Hailsham Town Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 177 **Chairman's Update**

The Chairman thanked Town Council staff for decorating the Inglenook window in aid of the Paint it Red event for St Wilfrid's Hospice. Over £3,000 had been raised.

He was pleased to see the turnout at the War Memorial for Remembrance Sunday. He thanked Mrs Karen Giddings for all her work organising the event.

The Chairman said that the plaque in memory of the late Councillor Glenn Moore would soon be erected on the barn in Vines Farm, Ersham Road.

### **Hailsham Forward Executive**

178.1 Councillor Coltman had resigned as member of the Hailsham Forward Executive and, therefore, members were asked to nominate a replacement.

178.2 **RESOLVED** that Councillor C Bryant be appointed to the Hailsham Forward Executive.

### **Safer Streets Project**

179.1 The Town Clerk reported that Hailsham Town Council had been asked to propose ideas for funding in the Safer Street Project.

179.2 **RESOLVED** to propose a scheme to upgrade the town centre CCTV and to suggest putting CCTV on the Western Road Recreation Ground (although it was recognised that this technically was outside the town centre).

### **Report of the Independent Wealden Parish Remuneration Panel**

180.1 Members were asked to consider the recent report and recommendations of the Wealden Remuneration Panel and their implications for Hailsham Town Council.

The Panel had recommended that there be a 3% increase to all basic and chairman's allowances, rounded to the nearest pound.

Discussion ensued and it was pointed out that it was resolved last year that no increase in allowances be awarded.

180.2 **RESOLVED** that the increase of 3% as recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel be accepted for 2022/23, bearing in mind that no increase was made in 2021/22.

### 181 **Confidential Business**

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(In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E).

### **Committee Recommendations to Council**

#### **Persimmon Homes**

182.1 Members were asked to sign a renewed option agreement as previously resolved in 2019.

182.2 **RESOLVED** to sign a renewed option agreement.

#### **Assets Management Committee**

183.1 Members were asked to consider a request by the Assets Management Committee to fund the installation of an overflow drain at the Common Pond and a crossover at the Maurice Thornton Playing Field.

184.2 **RESOLVED** to:

- a) Spend up to £20,000 to pay for an overflow to the Common Pond, and
- b) Spend up to £14,000 to pay for the installation of a cross over at the Maurice Thornton Playing Field.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.43pm.

