



HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of Hailsham Town Council held at the James West Centre, Brunel Drive on Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 7.00pm.

HTC/22/
01/123

Public Question Time

There were no members of the public in attendance.

124 **Present:** Councillors: G. Blake-Coggins, C. Bryant, D. Cottingham, J Crittenden, R. Grocock, B. Holbrook, P.S. Holbrook, M. Laxton, K. Lawrence, K. Nicholls, T. Powis and A M Ricketts.

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

125 **Officers in Attendance**

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

126 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received and accepted from Councillors A. Clarke, N. Coltman, J. Cook, S. Keogh, R. Newark and J. Puttick.

127 **Declarations of Interest**

None were declared.

128 **Chairman's Update**

The Chairman said he had attended a number of events and had been presented with a photograph of himself.

129 **Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Hailsham Town Council held on 18th May 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

130 **East Sussex County Council Update**

Councillor Fox said that he had contacted ESCC Highways Department about the issues relating to parking in Brunel Drive.

He had met with representatives of Southern Water about sewerage problems.

Councillor Murphy said that he had been on a tour of the new teaching block at Hailsham Community College and was impressed about it.

He had contacted Sussex Police about a few local problems.

There had been some anti-social problems in and around Eastwell Place, including a party. The situation was exacerbated by the street light being out for a number of weeks.

Committee Recommendations to Council

131.1 Staffing Committee 7th July 2022 – Staffing Review

At the meeting of the Staffing Committee held on 7th July 2022 it was resolved to recommend to Council to increase the funding allocated to the Staffing Review contract by £5,000, from £5,000 to £10,000, conditional on a suitable source of additional funding being identified.

131.2 **RESOLVED** to increase the funding allocated to the Staffing Review contract by £5,000 to £10,000. This additional funding to come from the Historical Commuted Sums budget.

132.1 Strategy Committee 11th July 2022 – CIL Projects

At the meeting of the Strategy Committee held on 11th July 2022 it was resolved to recommend to Council that it no longer allocates 25% of its total CIL receipts to 'Major Infrastructure projects' on the basis that this has never been clearly defined.

132.2 **RESOLVED** that Hailsham Town Council no longer allocates 25% of its CIL receipts to 'Major Infrastructure Projects'

133.1 It was also resolved to recommend to Council that an additional £30,000 from CIL receipts is allocated to the Changing Spaces project, with the facility to be installed at Western Road Recreation Ground.

133.2 **RESOLVED** that an additional £30,000 from CIL receipts is allocated to the Changing Spaces Project.

133.3 On a show of hands this resolution was carried by nine votes to one with one abstention. Councillor Grocock requested that his opposition be recorded, and Councillor Bryant requested that his abstention from voting be recorded.

Committee Membership

The Town Clerk referred members to the report sent with the agenda.

134 Finance, Budget and Resources Committee

Councillor Blake-Coggins proposed that the membership of the Finance, Budget and Resources Committee be amended so that it consisted of an odd number of members, and that a Conservative member of the committee be removed.

Following debate, Councillor Blake-Coggins withdrew his proposal.

135 Strategy Committee

Councillor Powis proposed that the membership of the Strategy Committee be more representative of the Council membership and not confined to the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of committees.

As Councillor Powis' proposal did not have a seconder, it fell.

136 South Wealden Parish Planning Cluster

RESOLVED that Councillors Laxton and Puttick (or the Deputy Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee) be Hailsham Town Council representatives to the South Wealden Parish Planning Cluster.

137 Wealden Group Against Over-Development

RESOLVED that Councillors Nicholls and Ricketts be Hailsham Town Council representatives to the Wealden Group Against Over-Development.

138 **Confidential Business**

RESOLVED that the press and public are temporarily excluded during the discussion on agenda items 10 and 11 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).

Persimmon Homes

139.1 The Town Clerk spoke about the history of this item and referred members to the detailed report that had been circulated with the agenda on a confidential basis.

139.2 **RESOLVED** to sign the renewed option Agreement for a further year as previously resolved in October 2019 and November 2021.

139.3 Councillors Blake-Coggins, Laxton and Nicholls requested that their abstention from voting be recorded.

Strategic Plan

140.1 The Town Clerk said that the Strategy Committee had met on 11th July and had amended the Strategic Plan. The revised Plan had been sent to members.

140.2 **RESOLVED** to adopt the revised Strategic Plan.

140.3 Councillor Laxton asked that her thanks to the Town Clerk be recorded.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.29pm.

CHAIRMAN

