



HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of Hailsham Town Council held at the Civic Community Centre on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 at 7.00pm.

HTC/21/ Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

Present: Councillors: C. Bryant, N. Coltman, J. Cook, D. Cottingham, J. Crittenden, R. Grocock, B. Holbrook, P.S. Holbrook, S. Keogh, K. Lawrence, M. Laxton, R. Newark, K. Nicholls, J. Puttick and A M Ricketts.

Officers in Attendance

Mr J Harrison (Town Clerk).

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received and accepted from Councillors: G. Blake-Coggins and T. Powis

Declarations of Interest

Councillors M Laxton, B Holbrook declared having interests in agenda item 5 – Staffing Issues, on the basis of having a personal interest.

Councillor P.S. Holbrook declared an interest in agenda item 5 - Staffing Issues on the basis of having a prejudicial interest.

Confidential Business

RESOLVED that the press and public are temporarily excluded during the discussion on agenda items 5 and 6 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).

Cllr P.S Holbrook advised the council that he would hand over chairmanship of the next agenda item to the Vice-Chair, Cllr J. Puttick, and then left the meeting before the start of discussions on this agenda item.

Staffing Issues

The Town Council's Staffing Committee had met on 20th January 2022 when it had considered an ongoing staff issue and had made a recommendation to the council.

Cllr K. Nicholls, the chair of the Staffing Committee, gave the council an overview of the situation, advice that had been received, and explained the committee's deliberations and rationale in making its recommendation.

The Town Clerk Mr. J. Harrison advised the council of further relevant advice he had received that day.

The council carefully considered the potential outcomes of the proposal and alternative options that were available to them.

During the discussions Cllr N. Coltman declared an interest on the basis that he is a member of the Staffing Committee (although he had not attended the meeting on 20th January 2022)

The recommendation to council was not proposed by any member of council present and therefore no motion was moved and no vote or resolution on this matter was made.

Cllr P.S. Holbrook returned to the meeting at 7.56pm, when discussions on item 5 had ended and he resumed chairmanship of the meeting

Town Crier Uniform

The council were advised that following the appointment of the new town crier a new uniform would be required. Quotes for the supply of this had been received.

The council **RESOLVED** that £4,000 be allocated from Contingency Funds for the purchase of a new Town Crier uniform; that the new uniform should include the Hailsham town crest; and that the opinions of the original Town Crier appointment panel would be sought on the design of the new uniform.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm.

CHAIRMAN