



**HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the Strategy Committee,  
held at the, Fleur-De-Lys Council Chamber, Market Street, Hailsham  
On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

- StC/22/4/2 **Public Forum**  
4 None presented
- 25 **Present:** Cllrs; N. Coltman, M. Laxton, K. Nicholls, T. Powis, J. Puttick and A-M Ricketts (Chair).
- 26 **Officers Present:** J. Harrison (Town Clerk)
- 27 **Apologies For Absence:** received and accepted from Cllrs A. Clarke, D. Cottingham, P. Holbrook, S. Keogh, and R. Newark
- 28 **Declarations of Interest:**  
None given
- 29 **Confirmation of Minutes**  
**RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategy Committee held on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 as a correct record and that they are signed by the Chairman. [The meeting scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 had not taken place].
- 30 **Health Parks Project**  
The committee received a presentation from Cllr Trevor Powis on the Health Parks Project. The council had previously agreed to take part in the project which was designed to maximise community benefit from green spaces in terms of health and wellbeing. The report proposed two initial steps; the creation of a "Health and Well-being" page or link on the Town Council website and a new signage regime, with larger signs highlighting each facility as an HTC site and a QR code linking to the new website.
- 30.1 The report then went on to identify a significant number of potential improvements and developments to the council's portfolio of land. Some items had been highlighted as 'possible' and feasible areas of development in the context of the HTC Strategic Plan, with the suggestion that a 'wish list' was created from this.
- 30.2 In particular specific suggestions were forthcoming for the Western Road Recreation Ground, Hailsham Country Park and Maurice Thornton Playing field. The committee **RESOLVED** to adopt the suggested amendments to those areas in the Council's Strategic Plan.
- 31 **Progress Against the Town Council's Strategic Plan**  
The committee considered the report by exception.
- 31.1 John Harrison highlighted the following:  
  
Specialist Markets: The council's communities committee, in partnership with the local community, organised two Christmas events in November and December 2022. The Council also organised a very successful events working with Wealden District Council in March as part of the Streets of Wealden project.
- 31.2 Investment in Play Areas: the contract had been awarded and work was due to start in

April on the [project to improve the Battle Road, Maurice Thornton and Stroma Gardens play areas.

- 31.3 Maurice Thornton Field and Facilities: the new lease from Wealden District Council was now complete. A meeting with Hailsham United JFC was to be organised to discuss the sub-lease arrangements.
- 31.4 Western Road Recreation Ground and Adjoining Facilities – Lighting scheme; the work was now underway. HTC had received a connection date from UK Power Networks of 25<sup>th</sup> April. All lampposts and bollards have now been installed and the cables have been pulled round to each fitting. The mains kiosk is close to completion. Between now and the switch-on date, the contractors will be 'second fixing' the posts and will finish fitting out the mains kiosk.
- 31.5 De-registration of Ersham Road Triangle: The Land Transfer documents for the new village green are ready to be signed, subject to final arrangements regarding access to the land and ESCC preparing transfer documents of the former village green to them.
- 31.6 Square Youth Café: Projects implemented during this quarter in conjunction with ESCC include 'Prevent'; Working towards preventing those young people on the verge of anti-social behaviour and crime. Working with 'hard-to-reach' young people around the reality of their life and actions relating to their behaviour in the town. Many of those YP are known to the Youth offending Services and local police.
- 31.7 The Youth Service had received £4000 of funding from JAG to deliver Prevent and fund training to staff on conflict resolution.
- 31.8 Safe Hub – the opening times are currently 4.15pm to 6.15pm; combining with the detached team, have been more active in engaging with up to 30 young people each Friday, particularly around the Western Rd Recreation ground and Youth Shelter.
- 31.9 The Youth Council were now meeting regularly and have selected a President, Vice-President and Treasurer.
- 31.10 Human Resources – Staffing Developments; The Staffing review process had now begun. This was a significant piece of work and required a large amount of input from the Town Clerk. Interviews with Staff and Councillors were scheduled to start on 28<sup>th</sup> March.

32 **Confidential Business**

**RESOLVED** that the press and public are excluded during the discussion on the next item of the agenda as they concern employment issues and the terms of tenders and proposals and counter proposals in negotiation for contracts, or are otherwise confidential information. to go into confidential business.

33 **Progress against the Town Council's Strategic (Confidential Items)**

The Committee noted ongoing issues highlighted regarding ongoing projects on this part of the strategic plan and that work on this would commence after the May elections.

34 **Maintenance Plan**

The committee received and noted an update on progress against the Maintenance Plan. The committee noted that work on the Stroma Gardens Play area was due to be completed during this year.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.12pm

CHAIRMAN

DRAFT