



## **HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF a meeting of Hailsham Town Council to be held at the Civic Community Hall, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 1BH on**

**Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at 7.00 p.m.**

1. **Public Forum**  
(No more than 15 Minutes)
2. **Apologies for Absence**  
To receive apologies for absence from Council members.
3. **Declarations of Interest**  
To receive notice of declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in respect of items on this agenda.
4. **Confirmation of Minutes**  
To resolve that the minutes of: the meeting of Hailsham Town Council held on 13th September 2023, and the Extraordinary Meeting of Hailsham Town Council held on 6th November 2023, are confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Confidential Business**  
To resolve that the press and public are excluded during the discussion on the next item of the agenda (6) as it concerns: The beginning of legal proceedings and the terms of tenders for contracts or negotiations (In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E).
6. **Wealden District Council Update - Confidential**  
To receive an update from Wealden District Council Public Health, Wellbeing and Asset Management Portfolio Holder and consideration of the Hailsham Aspires and Sports Hub projects.
7. **Chairman's Update**  
To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of Hailsham Town Council
8. **East Sussex County Council Update**  
To receive an update from the East Sussex County Councillors for Hailsham
9. **Committee Recommendations To Council**  
To consider recommendations made by committees, which are outside of their terms of reference or otherwise were resolved as recommendations to full council:

Assets Management Committee 20.09.2023

- Bus Service Improvement Plan
- Quinnell Drive Play Area
- Common Pond Pathways

Assets Management Committee 25.10.2023

- Electrical Works

10. **Hailsham Forward Membership**

To consider any changes to HTC's membership of Hailsham Forward for the remainder of the council year

11. **Chairman's Allowance**

To consider a request from the chairman to re-allocate a grant from his allowance.

12. **MOTION 187 – Post Office Banking Hub**

To consider a motion proposed by Cllr K-M Blundell and seconded by Cllr A. Blake-Coggins.

13. **Confidential Business**

To resolve that the press and public are excluded during the discussion on the next items of the agenda (14, 15 & 16) as they concern: The beginning of legal proceedings and the terms of tenders for contracts or negotiations and Engagement, Terms of Service (In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E).

14. **Committee Recommendations to Council – CONFIDENTIAL**

To consider a recommendation made by a committee, which is outside of the terms of reference or otherwise was resolved as a recommendation to full council:

Assets Management Committee 20.09.2023

- Grass Cutting

15. **Staffing Review - Confidential**

15.1 **MOTION 188 –** To consider a motion proposed by Cllr C. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr M. Laxton

15.2 **Staffing Committee Recommendation**—to consider a recommendation from the Staffing Committee meeting 15.11.2023 and consider next steps

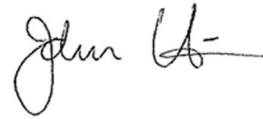
16. **Hailsham Youth Service- Confidential**

To receive an update and further consider the expansion of Hailsham Youth Service.

17. **CCTV- Confidential**

To receive an update on the Town Council's adoption of CCTV from Sussex Police

18. **Persimmon Homes - Confidential**  
To consider a request by Persimmon Homes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Harrison', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Harrison, Town Clerk  
16th November 2023

## **Gerard Fox - County Councillor Report to Hailsham Town Council November 2023**

**Diplocks Way:** I've continued to engage with Highways regarding the scheduling of resurfacing works on Diplocks Way. The commitment to do this work in the current financial year remains, but timing looks more likely to be in Q1 2024. Officers have undertaken in the interim to respond to any potholes that meet intervention criteria. I will continue to badger them for a firm date.

**MASHH committee:** At the recent **MASHH** meeting officers finally responded to my long-standing concerns, agreeing to revisit the design of the South Road/Ersham Road/Diplocks Way roundabout with the contractor to ensure that it will be able to accommodate the new DfT permissions on trailer length. Operators will now be able to use longer semi-trailer (LST) combinations up to 18.55 metres – 2.05 metres longer than standard size. We need to be certain that the new roundabout is able to accommodate these longer loads.

**Remembrance:** I was honoured to represent the Chairman of the County Council in laying the County wreath in Hailsham on Remembrance Day. It was as ever a moving, well attended, and well organised event.

**Free maths courses are being offered in East Sussex** to help adults build their numeracy skills and to mark Number Confidence week, which runs from the 6th to the 10th of November. The courses are being offered as part of a new national programme, The Multiply Project, to help improve people's confidence with numbers.

18 different maths and numeracy courses are being run at locations across the county including Plumpton, Hastings, Eastbourne, Lewes, Rye, and Newhaven. Courses are free and available to residents aged 19 or over, with beginner sessions to boost confidence and help participants build on the foundations of their maths knowledge, as well as more advanced offers up to a Level 2 Functional Skills Qualification. Read more about this story [here](#).

**Gold Award for East Sussex:** A commitment to support current and former military personnel and their families has earned East Sussex County Council national recognition. The authority has been given a Gold Award under the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Support Scheme, the highest honour which recognises the positive role employers play in supporting the armed forces community. To achieve the accolade, the council had to provide 10 additional paid days leave for reservists, and have supportive HR policies in place for reservists, veterans, Cadet Force adult volunteers and the spouses and partners of those serving in the Armed Forces.

**Strong Corporate Peer Challenge Review for East Sussex:** The County Council has received a strong vote of confidence following a recent independent peer

review. The council participated in a Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) with the aim of further improving the authority's work. The review is offered to all local authorities by the Local Government Association and included a three-day site visit in June 2023. The independent CPC report found the county council to be well-run and well-managed, open and approachable as well as a trusted and respected partner. It also noted that it was clear from the interviews conducted that **'the organisation does what it says it will do and does it well'**, with the review team finding a strong record of delivery across all key service areas.

**New Highways Control Hub:** New technology is now in place in the form of a control hub to enable East Sussex County Council's highways contractor to monitor activity, track work and find ways to improve the service. The introduction of the hub follows the council's decision to invest an additional £15.7 million to address increasing road damage caused by extreme weather. The money is paying for more patching and surface dressing work to bring roads in poor condition up to a good standard and protect them for longer. Reports of road defects can be made [online](#), where information about how East Sussex highways are managed and upcoming roadworks can also be found. Read more about this story [here](#).

**Recovery Month:** As part of Recovery Month events East Sussex County Council has been running a consultation exercise on its drug and alcohol services. Residents are encouraged to complete the online survey to help the council identify what is working well and what could be improved with its current drug and alcohol service that runs across East Sussex. The survey is coming to a close on the 30 November. The feedback will influence how we design a service model that helps people recover from substance misuse problems and which will be available to anyone who needs this support. You can read more about the survey and Recovery Month [here](#).

Happy as ever to answer any questions.

Gerard Fox  
County Councillor  
Hailsham New Town  
**Conservatives**

**Report to:** Hailsham Town Council

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

**By:** John Harrison, Town Clerk

**Title of Report:** Chairman's Allowance

**PURPOSE:**

To consider a request from the Chairman to re-allocate a grant from his allowance.

The £100 cheque payable to `Garden Guardians` as this can no longer be paid, Paul would like to replace it for a cheque to `Friends of Hawkes Academy` also £100 from the Mayor's allowance.

**Previous Resolution**

**HTC Annual Council Meeting 17.05.2023**

Chairman's Allowance

RESOLVED to distribute the remaining amount of the Chairman's Allowance from 2022/23 equally (£100) to the following organisations:

Garden Guardians  
Pass it On (Community Fridge)  
Hailsham Choral Society  
Hailsham Allotment Society  
Charles Hunt Centre  
Hailsham Town Football Club (Youth Team)  
Hailsham Bowling Club  
Fighting Fit Boxing Academy

*(Minute Ref HTC/AM/23/121)*

**Report to:** Hailsham Town Council

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

**By:** John Harrison, Town Clerk

**Title of Report:** Motion 187 – Post Office Banking Hub

**PURPOSE:**

To consider a motion proposed by Cllr K-M. Blundell and seconded by Cllr A. Blake-Coggins

**Make the Hailsham Post Office a Banking Hub**

Council notes;

1. We have seen many bank closures over the last few years in Hailsham, most recently the proposed closure of Lloyds TSB and Halifax next year.
2. A lack of banks and banking facilities in the town threatens Hailsham's town centre as people who come into town to bank will also shop here.
3. In-person banking facilities benefit the elderly, the young and those with disabilities.
4. The Hailsham Post Office is owned by Hailsham Town Council and we must make every opportunity to help it thrive.
5. Banking Hubs are run through post offices across the UK\*

It is therefore proposed

1. The Town Council undertakes to transform Hailsham Post Office into a banking hub for the benefit of our town.
2. This should be researched and a report prepared for the next suitable full council meeting.

Notes:

<https://www.postoffice.co.uk/bankinghubs>

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/news/2022/09/more-banking-hubs-to-open-across-the-uk-to-help-people-get-access/>

<https://runapostoffice.co.uk/what-is-a-banking-hub>