



## **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 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

StC/23/2/0  
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#### **Public Forum**

None presented

02 **Present:** Cllrs; G. Blake-Coggins, K-M Blundell, C. Bryant, P. Holbrook (Chair), M. Laxton, C. Mitchell and A-M Ricketts.

03 **Officers Present:** J. Harrison (Town Clerk)

04 **Apologies For Absence:** received and accepted from Cllrs A. Clarke & K. Nicholls

05 **Declarations of Interest:**  
None given

#### **Confirmation of Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategy Committee held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 as a correct record and that they are signed by the Chairman.

#### **Progress Against the Town Council's Strategic Plan**

The committee considered the report by exception.

John Harrison highlighted the following:

Investment in Play Areas: the work on the project to improve the Battle Road, Maurice Thornton and Stroma Gardens play areas was now complete. There were some snagging issues to be ironed out at Battle Road. Additional work and quotes to be presented at the Assets Management Committee 19.07.2023

7.1 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. Agreement at Assets Management Committee 28.06.2023 that part of the site is sub-let to Scouts group for a new scout hut. Request made to WDC for separate sub-lease.

7.2 James West Community Centre Hall and Land; the latest correspondence revealed that WDC and the developer are negotiating and calculating S106 to be paid by the developer after which an indemnity agreement will be required and to be agreed by HTC. Wet pour repairs and other improvements have been identified.

7.3 Ersham Road Triangle; have contacted ESCC re organising the transfer of HTC's land to ESCC but had no response.

7.4 Town Council Youth Services: The Prevent project with East Sussex Children's Services has come to a close, but work continues with the hard to reach young people. Working towards those of the verge of anti-social behaviour and crime. Many of these young people are known to the Youth Offending Service and Police. Cllr Blundell suggested that a discreet project continuing this work could be initiated. It was agreed that Youth Service managers be invited to the next Assets Management Committee.

- 7.5 The Safe Hub opening times are currently 3.00pm to 6.00pm, combined with the detached team, they have been more active averaging and engagement of around 30 young people each Friday, around the recreation ground and teen shelter.
- 7.6 The Friday Night Project is now open throughout the year from April, delivering 'early intervention' activities.
- 7.7 The Youth Service Manager has made contact with a secret donor and has received a contribution of £750 towards PGL in June, that is willing to contribute towards the PGL weekend. The service received a donation of a 'clever touch' TV and £1500-£2000 worth of training and education.
- 7.8 Expanding the Youth Service – Welbury Farm Community Centre service: Currently, attendance for this quarter is 141 young people in the school years 6 to 8. Years 9, 10 and 11 have been launched and attendance has been slow at 88.
- 7.9 Human Resources/Staffing Developments – the Staffing review process is underway. The second HTC meeting to be attended by the consultant is scheduled for 31st July 2023
- 7.10 The committee discussed the need to re-write the councils Business Plan as part of the review process and it was agreed to ask Mr James Corrigan (consultant) for the cost and possible dates for this review).
- 7.11 Neighbourhood Plan Process – The re-writing of HTC's Neighbourhood Plan was pending Wealden District Council publishing their new Draft Local Plan. The Sustainability Appraisal Consultation has now been launched. Therefore, contact has been made with the HTC Neighbourhood Plan Consultant (Troy Planning) to discuss the way forward and the costs and process for the response to the Sustainability Appraisal, the response to the new WDC Local Development Plan and to renew the Hailsham Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 7.12 The committee noted that WDC's new plan should be published very soon this year assuming everything goes to plan. It would therefore be necessary to appoint a full complement of members to the Neighbourhood Plan Committee at the next Town Council meeting and look to starting the process of re-writing the Neighbourhood Plan.

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. It was noted that the joint working group would be on the agenda for the Town Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July.

34 **Maintenance Plan**

The committee received and noted an update on progress against the Maintenance Plan.

35 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm

CHAIRMAN

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