



HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Extraordinary Meeting of Hailsham Town Council held at the Hailsham East Community Centre, Vega Close on Monday 6th November 2023 at 7.00pm.

HTC/23/
02x/185 **Present:** Councillors: A Blake-Coggins, G. Blake-Coggins, K-M Blundell, C. Bryant, D. Chapman, A. Clarke, F. Clarke, B. Holbrook, P.S. Holbrook, M. Laxton, C. Mitchell, K. Nicholls, S. Potts, A-M Ricketts, and G. White.

186 **Officers in Attendance**

Mr J. Harrison (Town Clerk), Mr M. Caira (Deputy Town Clerk and Business Enterprise Manager), Mrs K. Giddings, Mr D. Saxby, Mr T. Hall, Mr A. Joyes and Mr J. Cottingham.

187 **Public Question Time**

No members of the public were in attendance.

188 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received and accepted from Councillors Crittenden, Hayes and Rusu.

189 **Declarations of Interest**

None were declared.

190 **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).

The Town Clerk reiterated the extremely confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Staffing Review

191.1 The Chairman introduced Mr James Corrigan (Council HR and Governance Support) and asked him to address the Council following the production of his final report on the Staffing Review. All members had received a copy on a confidential basis.

Councillor G Blake-Coggins proposed putting the report on hold and revisiting it in the future.

Councillor Blundell seconded the proposal, adding that it should be revisited in six months.

- 191.2 **RESOLVED** that any implementation of the recommendations in the Staff Review is put on hold.

The proposal was carried by 9 votes to 6.

Councillor Blundell proposed that the report is revisited in six months; in this time the Staffing Committee should meet with staff to enable their views to be taken into account, although members of staff were invited to talk to any councillor that they wished.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor Bryant.

- 191.3 **RESOLVED** to revisit the recommendations contained in six months' time and that the Staff Committee should arrange for staff to give their opinion. Although members of staff could talk to any councillor they wished.

This proposal was carried by 13 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

Councillor Laxton requested that her vote against be recorded, and Councillor Mitchell requested that this abstention be recorded.

Hailsham Youth Service

- 192.1 The Youth Service Manager Andy Joyes, and Deputy Manager Joel Cottingham, addressed the meeting and gave a presentation about the possible expansion of the Hailsham Youth Service.

The proposal was to explore the possibility of expanding the service in a new premise which had recently been put on the market. The cost of purchasing the site could be taken from CIL receipts, subject to some final clarification with the Wealden District Council CIL Officer.

Councillors, whilst fully appreciative of the work done by the Youth Service, wanted more information on the long-term finances of the proposal, including revenue costs and income streams.

- 192.2 **RESOLVED** that in order for further information on the proposal would be provided at the next full Council meeting on 22nd November; however, an offer could be made on the site.

This proposal was carried by 10 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions.

Councillors Laxton and Mitchell requested that their vote against the proposal be recorded.

Councillor Nicholls requested that he abstention from voting be recorded.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.16 pm.

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CHAIRMAN