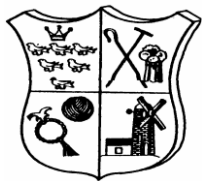


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held in the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Town Council Offices, on Wednesday 16th July 2025 at 7.00 pm.

AMC/25/
1x/19

Public Forum

Mr P. Taylor addressed the Committee in relation to drainage at Western Road. He stated there are a couple of areas blocking the drains. It was noted that drainage was on the agenda and due to be discussed later in the meeting.

Mr Taylor also queried the payment of some funds and asked for this to be looked into.

Sarah Jane Pateman spoke in relation to the Seeds of Hope project. She asked if the Committee would support her request to move the project to an alternative area of land, adjacent Grovelands Barn, as the current option is non-viable. This item was also on the agenda to be discussed.

J. Coates spoke about the new premises for the Food Bank and asked for the Community Hub to be taken into consideration. She stated she would like to place the Community Hub in 1 Market Square.

S. McGann from Hailsham Boxing Club advised the Boxing Club are currently training in a car park due to their current building having subsidence, which has made the building unusable. He advised the Club has put in planning permission with Wealden Council for a new premises and he asked for the support of the Council for this.

Members agreed to write a letter to Wealden Council in support of the Boxing Club.

Councillor S. Murphy advised that the graffiti on the Eastwell Place Bridge has now been removed. He stated he has discussed the situation with the Police.

S. Murphy asked if the Council would consider funding some white boards on the bridge and to take responsibility for the cleaning of the boards?

M. Laxton reported that the graffiti project will be discussed at the Assets Committee in September and the white boards can be discussed then.

2

Committee members present

Councillors: A. Blake-Coggins, B. Carpenter, M. Laxton (Chair) A. Ricketts (substituting for C. Bryant), C. Mitchell, G. White.

Other Councillors in attendance: P. Holbrook

Officers in attendance: J. Harrison (Town Clerk), T. Lee (Operations Manager) and K. Giddings.

3 **Apologies For Absence:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor C. Bryant

4 **Declarations of Interest**

P. Holbrook declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Seeds Of Hope as his daughter is involved in the charity.

A Blake Coggins and P. Holbrook declared interests in the agenda item for the Youth Service, Service Level agreement, as they are Directors of the CIC.

5 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Assets Management Committee**

Current Projects

T. Lee reported the following:

- The replacement doors for the Vicarage Field toilets have been ordered. The fitting will then be arranged. There is a new lock on order for the disabled toilet and the tap in the toilet is due to be fixed
- The extension to the skatepark at Maurice Thornton Recreation Ground has now been completed
- There are plans in place to paint the outside of the Town Council offices
- The last quotation is due in for the Maurice Thornton vehicle gate and once this has been received a decision will be made
- East Sussex County Council have advised that the new mobility bus shelter is due to be placed on Vicarage Field on 24th July
- T. Lee is waiting on the last quotation for the Union Corner toilets
- The Common Pond pathways and the Battle Road gate and fence are due to be completed shortly

B. Carpenter asked how much the new toilets at Vicarage Field have cost the Council so far? It was noted he has put in a Freedom of Information request for the up to date costs and the ongoing costs.

P. Holbrook thanked T. Lee for organising the painting of the outside of the Town Council offices.

T. Lee advised he will arrange for the leaning flower poles on Vicarage Field to be fixed.

7 **Infrastructure Funding**

Members noted the potential projects listed in the report. J. Harrison advised that the next steps required are to produce plans and indicative costs for Wealden Council. Members were advised that the funding is match funding, so the Town Council is required to provide 20% of the funds, with Wealden providing the remaining 80%.

The Committee agreed to progress the following projects:

Union Corner Hall
A22 connectivity project
Hailsham Boxing Club

- 7.1 **RESOLVED** to organise costings for the three listed projects and submit these to Wealden District Council by the required deadline

A. Blake-Coggins
M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White

All voted in favour of the proposal

B. Carpenter abstained from voting

8 **Youth Service**

C. Mitchell requested a correction on point 1.1 of the Agreement and advised this needs to be changed to 7 years

- 8.1 **RESOLVED** that the Service Level Agreement is forwarded to the CIC to be adopted.

A. Blake-Coggins
M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White

All voted in favour of the proposal

B. Carpenter abstained from voting

The Committee thanked C. Mitchell for organising the Agreement

9 **Community Infrastructure Levy and Reserves Statement**

Members noted the report and it was agreed to discuss the potential up and coming CIL funding at the meeting in September

10 **Review of Priorities for Strategic Plan**

Members noted the Plan

11 **Electric Vehicle Charging Facilities**

Members discussed the installation of electrical points on the Council owned areas

It was agreed T. Lee will investigate costings for a charging point unit and bring back to the Assets Committee for consideration

B. Carpenter left the room at 7.50 pm

11.1 **RESOLVED** to investigate the costs and options for the electrical charging facilities and begin the process to have the facilities installed

A. Blake-Coggins
M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White

All voted in favour of the proposal

B. Carpenter returned to the meeting at 7.53 pm and did not vote on the matter

P. Taylor and S. Murphy left the meeting at 7.54 pm

12 **Confidential Business**

RESOLVED that due to the special and confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, and possible disclosure of personal or legal information not in the public interest at the present time, the following items of business be transacted following the temporary exclusion of members of the Public and Press, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E.

13 **Hailsham Boxing Club**

Members discussed the current situation of the Boxing Club. It was agreed to write the letter in support of their planning application for Change of Use of the property they wish to move to.

13.1 **RESOLVED** to write a letter to Wealden District Council supporting the Boxing Club's request for Change of Use Planning Permission

A. Blake-Coggins
M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White
B. Carpenter

All voted in favour of the proposal

14 **1 Market Square**

Members discussed the lease situation for 1 Market Square and the proposed rent for the building

14.1 **RESOLVED :**

- i) to offer a two month rent free period in the lease, to allow the foodbank to undertake work to the building at their own cost
- ii) a minimum of £14 per square metre to be charged for rent
- iii) The final rent to be agreed at the Officer's discretion

A. Blake-Coggins

M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White

All voted in favour of the proposal

B. Carpenter voted against the proposal

15 **Seeds of Hope**

The Committee discussed the request to move the project to a new location, adjacent Grovelands Barn

15.1 **RESOLVED** to proceed with the proposal to move the project to the new location Grovelands Barn

A. Blake-Coggins
M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White
B. Carpenter

All voted in favour of the proposal

16 **Welbury Farm Land**

J. Harrison updated members on the current situation with the Welbury Farm land

16.1 **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council to :

- i) Accept the lower commuted sum that is being offered by Taylor Wimpey
- ii) Request the funds and land transfer within 3 months
- iii) Organise a public consultation to investigate preferences for the use of the land

A. Blake-Coggins
M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White

voted in favour of the proposal

B. Carpenter voted against the proposal

17 **Cemetery**

Members noted the excavation had taken place and J. Harrison and D. Saxby had been present at the excavation

18 **Cemetery Lodge**

T. Lee advised that R. Dunn Estate Agents had proposed a rent increase of £100 per month for the Cemetery Lodge

18.1

RESOLVED to :

- i) Increase the rent by £100 per month
- ii) From 2026, increase the rent by £100 a month, on an annual basis, until it reaches the market rental value

19

Western Road Recreation Ground Drainage Proposals

The Committee discussed the quotations received for the drainage work

RESOLVED to recommend to Council to accept the quotation for £8,406.68 from Hailsham Roadways. The funds for the drainage to be taken from CIL funding

A. Blake-Coggins
M. Laxton
A. Ricketts
C. Mitchell
G. White
B. Carpenter

All voted in favour of the proposal

20

Harold Avenue Allotment

Members discussed improving the security of the allotment site by installing new higher gates.

A quotation had been received for £4,800 from AF Metal Fabrication

Members were in favour of replacing the current gates with the proposed new gates

20.1

RESOLVED to recommend to Council to allocate £4,800 from CIL funding, for the installation of two new gates at the Harold Avenue allotment site

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm