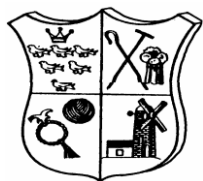


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held in the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Inglenook, Market Street, Hailsham on Wednesday 14th October 2026 at 7.00 pm.

AMC/26/
02/64

Public Forum

Mr P. Turner addressed the Committee. He said he had obtained quotes for the work to the Western Road Recreation Ground. As this would have consequences for next year's budget, it was agreed that it would be discussed under the agenda item on budget setting.

65 **Committee Members Present**

Councillors: C. Bryant, A. Blake-Coggins, D. Chapman (Chair) M. Caira, B. Carpenter, Mr P. Holbrook, C. Mitchell and G. White.

66 **Officers in attendance:**

J. Harrison (Town Clerk), T. Lee and D. Saxby.

67 **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies had been received.

68 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Bryant and Chapman declared an interest in agenda item 12 – Streetlights as they are acquaintances of one of the people who had tendered for the work.

Councillor Bryant declared a personal interest in agenda item 5 – Hailsham Town Football Club.

Councillor Mitchell declared an interest in agenda item 9 – Union Corner Hall – MoU.

69 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on Wednesday 9th September 2026 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The vote in favour of this resolution was unanimous.

Updates and Progress

Mr Lee had provided a report on the following:

O&F Updates

- The Station youth club mezzanine, fir doors were fitted on 2nd October, just waiting for building control to sign project off.
- Union corner hall works completed, final snagging taken place and work scheduled in for 26th.
- 70 South Road instructed an architect
- Streetlight tender has been scored, and the preferred contractor has been selected agenda item.
- New manager for James West Started on 5th October Kirsten Fernforth
- Purchased the City washer, awaiting delivery
- Ash Dieback works completed
- Condition report work ongoing.
- Compliance system ongoing.
- Cemetery lodge refurbishment underway and quotes being gathered for remedial works.
- 4 Market street, internal works completed and funded by retaining the deposit from the foodbank, there is some condition report works that we are getting done, this includes repairs to the roof but will not impact the new tenants.
- Seeds of Hope licence completed, and Sarah-Jane has collected the keys.
- Lease for 4 Market Sq. nearing completion
- District Valuer contacted for remaining lease valuations (tennis, cricket & Football) reply came back stating

Discussed with the Team Leader and regrettably we are unable to assist. Our regional Team are at capacity with planned pipeline contractual commitments and cannot take forward ad hoc enquiries at present.

- Currently working on updating and renewing leases.
- Appeal lodged with secretary of state regarding WDC enforcement notice for the removal of the windows at 6a Market Street, these windows were installed without the required planning permission in place. Awaiting an outcome.
- Planning the Christmas market with the team

71

Hailsham Town Football Club

Mrs D. Corbett of Hailsham Town Football Club addressed the meeting.

RESOLVED that representatives of Hailsham Town Football Club meet with the Sports Sub-Committee and relevant offices to talk about the opening of the club's toilets to the public.

72

Finance Report

Copies of the latest Finance Report had been circulated with the agenda. The Responsible Finance Officer said that the Assets Management Committee had spent 40% of its annual budget to date.

Councillor Laxton said she had major concerns that £70,000 per annum would be needed to meet the cost of business rates for 70 South Road. The Town Clerk said that the Council was appealing for reduced rates as the property would be used for community use.

Councillor Bryant said that Twinning should sit with the Communities Committee, not this Committee.

RESOLVED to note the Finance Report.

73

Budget Setting

The Responsible Finance Officer had produced a draft budget for the Assets Management Committee.

Councillor Mitchell said reading of meters would be necessary until all smart meters had been installed.

RESOLVED to:

- a. Include an additional £5,000 for the Western Road Recreation Ground as per the quote given by Barcombe Landscaping to Mr Turner. It would also allow for a rolling programme of works to other playing fields.
- b. Agree the RFO's draft budget as amended and send to the Finance and Governance Committee to consider as part of the whole Council budget.

This resolution was carried unanimously.

74

Station Road Sports Pitches

The Committee discussed the provision of a 3G football pitch and solar floodlights.

It was agreed to request that the developers make the site ready for a sports pitch.

RESOLVED to:

- a. Put in a request for planning permission to Wealden District Council for the provision of solar floodlights and a 3G pitch.
- b. To delegate this matter to officers to get costings for solar panel floodlights and bring it back to the Committee with a view to recommending to Council to fund the project by CIL money.

This resolution was carried unanimously.

75 **Union Corner Hall – Memorandum of Understanding**

The Committee discussed Mr Lee's draft MoU. Councillor Mitchell asked why his draft MoU was not put to the Committee.

RESOLVED to defer this agenda item to the next meeting to allow time to liaise with the Union Corner Hall Management Committee on the draft MoU.

This resolution was carried unanimously.

76 **A22 Connectivity Project**

Councillors Laxton and Mitchell said that as this project had arisen from the Neighbourhood Plan, it should come under the auspices of that committee.

Other councillors said it should remain with the Assets Management Committee.

RESOLVED to agree the timeline drawn up by Mr Lee and for the project to stay with the Assets Management Committee.

Councillors Blake-Coggins, Bryant, Caira, Carpenter and Chapman voted in favour of the resolution.

Councillors Laxton and Mitchell voted against.

Councillor Holbrook abstained from voting.

77 **Confidential Business**

RESOLVED that the press and public are excluded during the discussion on the next items on the agenda (12 to 15) as they concern: the terms of tenders for contracts or negotiations or matters that are otherwise not in the public interest (In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders No. 1E).

The vote in favour of this resolution was unanimous.

78 **Streetlight Tender**

Two valid quotes had been received as part of the tendering process. These were as follows:

Festival Illuminations - £287,000
Enervo - £206,000

RESOLVED to accept the lower bid from Enervo for £206,000 with the proviso that officers have a satisfactory meeting with the contractor.

The vote in favour of the resolution was unanimous apart from Councillor Bryant who abstained from voting.

79

Cleaning Contract

Mr Lee spoke about the problems the Council was having with the cleaning contract.

RESOLVED to agree Mr Lee's recommendation in respect of the cleaning contract, and for the Post Office to withdraw from the contract.

The vote in favour was unanimous apart from Councillor Holbrook who abstained from voting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.01pm