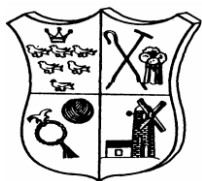


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



AMC/26/
022

REPORT (Minutes) of the Assets Management Committee held in the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Inglenook, Market Street, Hailsham on Thursday 16th July 2026 at 7.00 pm.

Public Forum

A member of the public expressed concern about the closure of roads in Hailsham, particularly Swan Road. This would cause great problems, and he asked councillors to write to the head of Highways at East Sussex County Council.

He also said that the minutes of the last meeting did not include reference to last year's budget underspend.

23 **Committee Members Present**

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

Officers in attendance:

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

24 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Caira and Laxton.

25 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Bryant, Chapman and Holbrook declared an interest in the agenda item on Grovelands Barn.

26 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Assets Management Committee held on Wednesday 10th June 2026, as amended be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The vote in favour of this resolution was unanimous.

27 **Update on Current Projects and Resolutions**

Mr Lee reported the following:

Resolutions from 10.06.2026

1. Community Vegetable Growing- Resolved to offer the ex-play area at

Blacksmith Copse as land for the Community Vegetable Growing scheme.

2. Operation Slingshot- It was resolved that HTC gives official support to a PSPO on this land
3. Climbing Wall, Clif funding application in submitted
4. Cemetery Chapel It was resolved to recommend to Council to repaint, recarpet and remove the pews and replace them with good quality chairs in the cemetery chapel
5. Ersham Roundabout. It was resolved to take responsibility for the bike parking facilities and the two benches, but not the litter bins or the bus shelter. However, to ask if the bus shelter could be relocated to Horsebridge.
6. Muslim Burials It was resolved to agree the request in principle and delegate the exact working to officers.
7. Sports Sub-Committee It was resolved that the Sub-Committee liaise with Mr Turner about the drainage work needed at the Western Road Recreation Ground with eye on the budget setting process in 2027/28. A costed plan would be needed.
8. Tree Report It was resolved that the £16,500 needed for the work be taken from the existing tree budget and officers to come back to the Committee if more funding was needed for other tree work.
9. City Washer It was resolved to recommend to Council that up to £55,000 be made available to purchase a graffiti removal vehicle, and to delegate the matter to officers to obtain the best price.
10. James West Consultation Centre It was resolved to bring this item back to the next meeting of The Assets Management Committee, but in the meantime get approximate costings on the six options.

O&F Updates

11. Foodbank, estimated to leave at the end of August
12. The Station works started 13th July, week delay due to building control application
13. Union corner application returned with further questions, next review is after the start date of toilet works, revised application has been submitted omitting the toilet works but adding the LED upgrade, additional questions have been asked, and a review will be next week.
14. Condition report works for year 2 underway. Re pointing works Kemar Kebab & redecoration. EICR + repairs at the cemetery office,
15. CAFM/compliance management programme ongoing

16. Street Market all booked for next 3 markets each with 22 stalls confirmed.
17. Post Office works, complete.
18. War memorial repairs, we have contacted a stone mason who has visited, price has been submitted, will go to charities trust after full council.
19. Vicarage field toilets, repairs to central toilet underway, lighting has been replaced in all three and new ceiling underway in central toilet.
20. Streetlight tender underway.
21. Mark Simms works team operative leaves 24th July
22. Stephanie Moore JWCC left on 13th July & Pippa Westover left on 3rd July
23. Ash dieback works have started.
24. Quinell Play Park completed

Mr Lee said that the land at Blacksmith Copse was not suitable for vegetable growing and land at Grovelands Barn was offered instead.

The Town Clerk said that the land at Welbury Farm was now owned by Hailsham town Council. Mr Lee added that Wealden District Council had been asked what would be permitted to take place on the land. He would get costings on plans once this had been received.

Mr Lee said that the problems with the toilets were on-going. The ceiling had fallen down in one of the pods. They should all be open again next week.

Councillor Mitchell asked if the work on Union Corner Hall was still scheduled to start on 20th July. Mr Lee said it was and would be completed during the school holidays.

Councillor Mitchell was concerned that Wealden District Council's refusal to give CIL/CLIF funding for some aspects of the work at the Union Corner Hall had cost Hailsham Town Council £16,000. He wanted to complain to Wealden District Council about this decision and asked for the emails requesting the funding and the refusal to be forwarded to him to enable him to do this. Mr Lee said he would forward the emails.

28 **Finance Report**

Copies of the latest Finance Report had been circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED to note the Finance Report.

29 **Appointment of Cemetery Wardens**

RESOLVED to appoint Councillors A. Blake-Coggins and Ricketts were appointed Cemetery Wardens for the remainder of the 2026/27 Council year.

The vote in favour was unanimous.

30 **Sports Sub-Committee**

Councillor Chapman stated that no meeting of the Sports Sub-Committee had taken place since the last Assets Management Committee meeting.

31 **Committee Work Programme**

Councillor Mitchell said that this agenda item arose from the Finance and Governance Committee.

32 **Assets Handover**

The Chairman said he had met with the previous Chair, Councillor Laxton for a handover of ongoing issues. He had also met officers.

Mr Lee said that a quote for the hedge at Battle Road play area had been sought.

33 **Grovelands Barn**

The Chairman said that the Bonfire Society had increased the number of fire extinguishers in their half of the barn from seven to ten. The other half of the barn has none.

Mr Lee said he would organise the removal of the scrap metal that had been accumulated outside the barn.

34 **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.

35 **Common Pond**

A company had quoted to provide two solar-powered fountains that would aerate the Common Pond.

RESLOVED to obtain two further quotes.

The vote in favour was unanimous.

36 **Ersham Roundabout**

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the latest East Sussex County Council designs had been received. The number of car parking spaces had been reduced.

Hailsham Town Council had also been asked to undertake the work to remove a number of trees before handing the land to ESCC

RESOLVED to hand the land to East Sussex County Council for them to carry out the tree work.

The vote in favour was unanimous.

37

Hailsham Town Council Property Sub-Committee

Councillor Bryant reported on a positive meeting held with members and officers of Wealden District Council,

It was noted that this would be an agenda item for the next Council meeting.

38

A22 Connectivity Project

A discussion on the route and work needed took place. It was agreed that officers would arrange a walk of the proposed route with interested councillors.

39

Cemetery Lodge

It was reported that the tenant of the Cemetery Lodge was vacating the Lodge at the end of August.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm