

## BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL Climate, Nature and Environment Committee** held at the **Town Hall Committee Room** on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 6.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Baldry; Cllr Wray; Cllr Plim; Cllr Izzard; Cllr Norris; Cllr Winter; Cllr Thomas

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** J Miller, Clerk

**00082. TO ELECT CHAIR**

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Wray as chair.

**00083. TO ELECT VICE CHAIR**

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Izzard as vice chair.

**00084. TO APPOINT MEMBERSHIP OF WORKING GROUPS**

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Accessibility Working Group Cllr Baldry, Cllr Winter, Cllr Izzard, Cllr Thomas
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to defer the Beach and Sea Working Group until workloads ease.
- c) It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs Izzard, Wray and Taylor-Gee to the Climate and Nature Emergency Panel.

**00085. TO APPOINT COMMITTEE MEMBER TO THE ASSET TRANSFER COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Wray to the Asset Transfer Committee.

**00086. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were none.

**00087. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies for absence with reasons from Cllr Taylor-Gee and Cllr Brailsford.

**00088. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

There were none.

**00089. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Wray spoke about the success of the Climate event and appealed to councillors to work on improving the allotment sites across the town.

*Cllr Thomas entered the meeting at 18:38pm*

**00090. MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the minutes from the meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

**00091. TO RECEIVE NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM WORKING GROUPS**

- a) Notes from Climate and Nature and Emergency Panel event – it was noted that these are being prepared in order to form a draft plan for the group to work with.
- b) Town Accessibility Working Group - notes of 11/03/2022
- c) Beach and Sea Working Group – meeting is being deferred.

**00092. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

- a) To note update on ‘Hello Bexhill’ projects.
  - i. Happy to Chat policy, risk assessment and marketing being investigated. It was noted that RDC have not yet agreed for their benches to be used. Other owners of benches shall be approached, such as local churches or to investigate if private land owners may be open to taking part. This will be considered on the next agenda.
  - ii. ‘Welcome to Bexhill’ signs  
The committee agreed to include ‘Bexhill-on- Sea Town Council’ logo welcomes you to Bexhill-on-Sea. The birthplace of British Motor Racing.’ Have serperle skeleton image on sign if possible.
- b) To note Cllr Taylor-Gee attended the May course dates for Zero Carbon Britain: Carbon Literacy for Local Authorities course – noted.  
It was **RESOLVED** to offer Carbon Literacy training to staff when workloads allow.  
It was **RESOLVED** for the council to sign up to the NALC Climate Action Network.
- c) To note request made for information from Rother District Council on how the town council can fit into its emergency response and disaster planning.  
It was noted that there had not yet been received. It was noted that the Mayor had attended a Ministry of Defence event and there is interest in mobilising parish and town council’s in emergency response plans.
- d) To consider how the committee can tackle the graffiti issues raised by residents.  
It was **RESOLVED** to approach w.ave arts to investigate how controlled graffiti could be used to clean up the existing graffiti hot spots and to present ideas to the council.

**00093. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

To note Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) meeting being arranged with East Sussex County Council to raise outstanding highways matters from last agenda and to nominate members to attend.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Plim attend the Strengthening Local Relationships meeting.

**00094. ALLOTMENTS SITE**

- a) To receive update regarding encroachment issues at Summerhill allotments.

It was noted that the committee do not wish to pursue the historic encroachment issues and it was **RESOLVED** to close the matter.

- b) To receive update on issues at Barrack Hall allotments
- c) To note update from RDC on allotment management and request to Finance and General Purposes Committee to recruit a staff member to manage the allotment sites.

It was noted that the allotments will be prioritised this year and the legal information will be presented to the committee to consider next steps. It was suggested that members observe inspections and allotment management to understand how the council can maximise the positive impact. An extra-ordinary meeting will be considered if the information becomes available before the next meeting,

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance and General Purposes Committee to recruit a facilities officer whose role includes managing the allotments.

**00095. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

**00096. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Emails from residents regarding graffiti – noted.

**00097. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a) Questions from the last meeting

Cllr Plim asked to find out if dog waste bins is a service that could be enhanced or taken over from Rother District Council, this includes the Dog Warden service.	This can be addressed in the transfer of assets discussions with Rother District Council. The town council would need to consider the costs/resources required to take on this service and its impact on the annual budget.
Cllr Taylor-Gee asked if it would be considered to introduce a policy for allotment holders on the use of glyphosate.	The allotment sites can be consulted on changes to policy if the committee decides to do so. Allotment holders sign a tenancy agreement and any changes to this would require a formal consultation process.

It was **RESOLVED** for an options paper on the dog waste bin service be prepared for the next meeting,

- b) To receive questions and future agenda items  
Cllr Izzard asked if the council could contact RDC for more information on the Combe Valley Nature Reserve issues raised concerning sewage issue.

Cllr Thomas asked if the committee would support a motion to full council could use the space in the ground floor of the new offices to support a community fridge.

**00098. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

*The meeting closed at 19:49pm*

Signed.....

Date.....

DRAFT

Initial.....