

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

To all Members of Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council Climate, Nature and Environment Committee
Cllr Brailsford; Cllr Izzard; Cllr Norris; Cllr Taylor-Gee; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Winter; Cllr Wray

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the
CLIMATE, NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
of **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**
to be held in the **Bexhill Senior Citizens Club Main Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea**
on **Wednesday 16th November 2022 at 7pm**
when it is proposed to transact the following business:

Julie Miller

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

10th November 2022

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.

Please note that the proceedings of this meeting may be recorded in line with regulations set out in the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. Members of the public addressing the council but not wishing to be recorded should put this request to the town clerk at the earliest opportunity.

AGENDA

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting in accordance with standing order 3(e) shall not exceed 15 minutes unless directed by the chair of the meeting. Subject to standing order 3(f), a member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. In accordance with standing order 3(e), a question shall not require a response at the meeting nor start a debate on the question. The chair of the meeting may direct that a written or oral response be given. A person shall raise his hand when requesting to speak and stand when speaking (except when a person has a disability or is likely to suffer discomfort). The chair of the meeting may at any time permit a person to be seated when speaking. A person who speaks at a meeting shall direct his comments to the chair of the meeting. Only one person is permitted to speak at a time. If more than one person wants to speak, the chair of the meeting shall direct the order of speaking.

2. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW DAVID DENNIS TO ADDRESS THE MEETING REGARDING DOMESDAY SURVEY

3. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. MINUTES

To approve and sign the minutes from the meeting on 28th September 2022 (Appendix A)

7. TO RECEIVE NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM WORKING GROUPS

a) Climate and Nature Emergency Panel Recommendations:

- i. That the Committee approve the Climate and Nature Plan and recommend its adoption to Full Council (Appendix B)
 - ii. That the Committee recognise the scope of work required to implement the plan and recommend that Full Council appoint a Full time Climate and Nature Officer at the earliest opportunity.
 - iii. That the Committee requests that Council staff explore the options to conduct a Nature and Biodiversity Audit similar to that of the Crowhurst Biodiversity audit conducted in 2020 at the earliest opportunity. (https://www.crowhurstpc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/WMI343-CROWHURST-BIODIVERSITY-AUDIT-14-May-2020-Autosavedv1.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwir6tbL0qH7AhUKIMAKHWvmD_4QFnoECBMQAQ&usg=AOvVaw2lkkS5EcKezWY9nP8omaBQ)
- b) Town Accessibility Working Group – meeting deferred.
 - c) Beach and Sea Working Group – meeting deferred.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- a) Operation Radcott – to receive update from Cllr Plim
- b) To note update on ‘Hello Bexhill’ projects.
 - i. To note clerk to identify a bench with Rother District Council on the Promenade to install the ‘Happy to Chat’ sign and launch the project at earliest opportunity.
 - ii. To noted the clerk to organise the supply and installation of a new ‘Happy to Chat’ bench up to the value of £2000.00 at earliest opportunity.
 - iii. ‘Welcome to Bexhill’ signs - to consider latest design circulated prior to the meeting.
- c) To note awaiting information from Rother District Council on how the town council can fit into its emergency response and disaster planning.
- d) To W.ave Arts to be invited to a future meeting to discuss ways of dealing with graffiti issues.
- e) To note graffiti removed from Sea Road art work.
- f) Sewage release on Galley Hill – to note the clerk to arrange a community stakeholder meeting with those affected by the sewage release, asking them to provide evidence to the town council of the effects of sewage release. This will be noted, and information publicised in the press. The committee will then call a meeting with Huw Merriman, RDC Ward Councillors, East Sussex County Councillors and Southern Water to discuss the evidence.

9. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a) 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.
- b) To note consultation on school streets All Saints, Sidley.

10. ALLOTMENT SITES

- a) To note clerk and assistant to work on transition of allotments to the town council.
Request to permit the installation of a composting toilet on the Broad Oak Allotment site – to note clerk to seek advice from the National Allotment Society on the installation of a composting toilet.
- b) To receive update on recruitment of facility coordinator to manage allotments.

11. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- a) To note current budget position year to date *(Appendix C)*

12. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) Cllr Thomas:
This Committee urges Southern Water and all associated companies:
 - i. To make public an investigation into the causes of the equipment failures at the Galley Hill pumping station, and of actions to be taken to prevent a recurrence.
 - ii. To install back-up equipment capable of taking over and managing key functions in the event of a breakdown of the primary machinery.
 - iii. To set a date, no later than 2027, for all sewage discharges into the sea to cease in the Bexhill Town Council area, and areas adjacent to it.
 - iv. To increase investment in the sewage and wastewater systems within Bexhill to ensure efficient treatment of the same, sufficient to meet present and predicted demand.
 - v. To provide compensation for the losses and costs suffered because of the calamitous failures of Southern Water.
- b) Cllr Thomas
Would the committee support a motion to full council to use the space in the ground floor of the new offices to support a community fridge?
- c) Cllr Thomas (referred from Full Council)
That this council consider supporting the proposal for a new direct railway route to Polegate.

13. CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

All circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

- a) Email from resident requesting assistance with land encroaching her property that ESCC advised is town council owned 08/08/2022
- b) Email from resident requesting the town council support improvements to Devonshire Square 29/08/2022
- c) Email from resident concerning sewage spill at Galley Hill 22/08/2022
- d) Email from resident concerning sewage spill at Galley Hill 20/08/2022
- e) Email from visitor concerning perceived risks of rocks on beach 13/08/2022
- f) Trees for Cities Project – Tree planting in Bexhill 28/07/2022 and 08/09/2022
- g) Upgrades to gas network The Glades 22/07/2022
- h) Preventing plastics litter picks 28/10/2022
- i) Complaint regarding dog mess on pavements from visitor to Bexhill 27/10/2022
- j) Sussex Residents Association – effect of telecommunications equipment in public areas 24/10/2022

- k) Old Town Preservation Society – request for information on additional verge cutting 24/10/2022
- l) Emergency planning in Rother – 14/10/2022
- m) Invitation to tour waste energy recovery and in vessel composting facilities – 30/09/2022
- n) Email from resident regarding the replacement of ‘Ben’s Bench’ by Rother District Council – 08/09/2022
- o) Update on tree planting projects – 07/09/2022
- p) Splash Deck Outfall Pipe – 10/11/2022

14. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Questions carried forward from last meeting

<p>Cllr Izzard Could the council contact Rother District Council for more information on the Combe Valley Nature Reserve issues raised concerning sewage issue.</p>	<p>This item is on the agenda</p>
<p>Cllr Thomas Would the committee support a motion to full council to use the space in the ground floor of the new town council offices to support a community fridge.</p>	<p>This item is on the agenda</p>

- b) To receive questions and future agenda items
 Questions shall be recorded in the minutes and responded to at the next meeting or before.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 18th JANUARY 2023