

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL** held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZEN'S CLUB, BEXHILL-ON-SEA**
On **Wednesday 10th January 2024** at **6:30pm**.

PRESENT: Cllr Brailsford; Cllr Byrne; Cllr Carroll; Cllr Drayson; Cllr Goss; Cllr Hampton; Cllr Jacklin; Cllr Norris; Cllr Timpe; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Wilson; Cllr Winter.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Miller, Clerk; J Daeva; Cllr Hollidge (East Sussex County Council); Cllr Stanger (Rother District Council); four members of the public.

00498 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public asked if the council had inspected the bus stops and if there are any reports available about them?

The council has not inspected the bus stops.

A member of the public asked if the committee looking into installing bins has investigated costs?

A full project plan will be investigated if the council agrees in principle to the suggestion of installing more bins.

What happened to the recording equipment from Bexhill Forum and if it has been inspected by a professional?

It is stored in the Hub and used for audio recording of meetings. It has not undergone any professional inspection.

Is there any data or surveys available from the Hub if the public are asking questions pertaining to the town council or if they are being directed to other authorities.

Yes, these are reviewed by the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

A member of the public asked what steps are being taken to address the problems that potholes are causing?

Cllr Hollidge (East Sussex County Council) is presenting an initiative to address the problem.

00499 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve apologies for absence with reasons from Cllr Clasby; Cllr El, Cllr Plim, Cllr Rustem; Cllr Crotty, Cllr Huseyin.

00500 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllr Winter declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council and as Trustee and Director of Citizen's Advice.

Cllr Timpe declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council.

Cllr Byrne declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council.

BoSTC/10.01.24-00154

00501 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed the two new Sackville councillors Cllr Timpe and Cllr Byrne to the Town Council.

00502 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th December 2023.

00503 COMMITTEES

To note the minutes from committee meetings held since the last meeting:

- a) Asset Transfer Committee 13/12/23
- b) Finance and General Purposes Committee 20/12/23
- c) To note current vacancies on committees as per Terms of Reference and appoint members to the following vacancies:
 - i. Planning, Development and Advisory Committee x 2
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Goss to the Planning Committee.

Cllr Hampton entered the meeting at 18:42pm

- ii. Climate, Nature and Environment Committee x 3
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Byrne to the Climate Nature and Environment Committee.
- iii. Community Committee x 1
There were no nominations.
Outstanding vacancies will be carried forward to the next meeting.

00504 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

Cllr Byrne and Cllr Timpe left the meeting at 18:45pm due to an interest as Rother District Councillors in the following items:

- a) Asset Transfer Committee.
 - i. It is recommended that Full Council include £55,000 in the precept budget and ringfence £55,000 from reserves for the CCTV project.
A recorded vote was requested.

It was **RESOLVED** that Full Council include £55,000 in the precept budget and ringfence £55,000 from reserves for the CCTV project.

FOR: Cllr Jacklin
Cllr Norris
Cllr Carroll
Cllr Winter
Cllr Wilson
Cllr Thomas
Cllr Goss
Cllr Hampton

AGAINST: None

- ii. It is recommended that the East Sussex County Council Bus Stop Improvements installation be approved by Full Council and that the Town Council take on the responsibility for the cleaning and maintenance of these bus shelters.

It was **RESOLVED** to that the East Sussex County Council Bus Stop Improvements installation be approved by Full Council and that the Town Council take on the responsibility for the cleaning and maintenance of these bus shelters.

- iii. It is recommended that the bus shelters maintained and cleaned by Rother District Council are transferred to the town council. £10,000 will be ringfenced from the Asset Reserve Fund to cover the costs of cleaning, maintenance and future repairs.

It was **RESOLVED** to that the bus shelters maintained and cleaned by Rother District Council are transferred to the town council. £10,000 will be ringfenced from the Asset Reserve Fund to cover the costs of cleaning, maintenance and future repairs.

A recorded Vote for both motions was requested.

FOR: Cllr Jacklin
Cllr Norris
Cllr Carroll
Cllr Wilson
Cllr Thomas
Cllr Hampton

AGAINST:

Cllr Winter

ABSTAIN:

Cllr Goss

- b) Finance and General Purposes Committee.
- i. To recommend the job descriptions for RFO and Facilities Administrator to Full Council for approval and recruitment begins.

(Taking into consideration any decisions made in item 7a above.)

BoSTC/10.01.24-00156

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the job descriptions for RFO and Facilities Administrator and recruitment to commence.

- ii. To consider the precept and budget forecasts for 2024/25.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve a budget of £ 746,794 and a precept of £713,164. This is band D equivalent of £41.92 per year, and increase of £3.61 on 2023/24.

Cllr Byrne and Cllr Timpe re-entered the meeting at 18:56pm

- c) Climate, Nature and Environment Committee.
 - i. To utilise the total CIL funds of £106,238.33 held by the Town Council as follows: £60,000 towards allotment safety measures and refurbishment, and £46,238.33 towards additional bins and dog bins, a graffiti project and a planting project. The Finance and General Purposes Committee have reviewed the recommendation but only support the allotment safety measures allocation (£60,000).

It was **RESOLVED** to allocate £60,000 towards the allotment safety measures.

A recorded vote

FOR: Cllr Jacklin
Cllr Byrne
Cllr Timpe
Cllr Norris
Cllr Carroll
Cllr Winter
Cllr Wilson
Cllr Goss
Cllr Hampton
Cllr Thomas

AGAINST: None

00505 GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION.

- a) To consider quotations for videoing meetings.
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Bexhill Radio to video and audio record all council scheduled council meetings. The contract shall be for one year.
- b) To review Council project list as of December 2023.
The project list was reviewed and noted.
Cllr Winter left the meeting at 19:13pm.
Cllr Drayson entered the meeting at 19:16pm.

00506 MAYOR'S OFFICE

- a) To receive update on the work of the Town Mayor.

BoSTC/10.01.24-00157

An update was noted.

00507 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) To receive reports from Division County Councillors.
Cllr Hollidge reported that Holliers Hill is on the pot-hole repairs list and he has prepared a report on potholes that is being submitted to the County Council.

The extension to parking restrictions were discussed. On 26th January the MP has called a meeting to discuss Northeye.

- b) To receive reports from Ward District Councillors.
Cllr Timpe gave an update on the proposal for cashless carpark machines.
Cllr Stanger gave an update on St Marks ward.
- c) To receive reports from Town Councillors.
There were none.

00508 ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL

- a) To note update on the High Street Task Force – Cllr Brailsford.
- b) To note any updates on leaders meetings – Cllr Brailsford and Cllr Wilson. It was noted that this will take place on 24th January 2024.
- c) To receive notification of bidder for methodist church and moratorium period for the Asset of Community Value.

It was **RESOLVED** to register an interest in purchasing the methodist church.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to investigate the options as a priority over other projects, and report back as much information about the building as possible to the next meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to investigate the availability of the church for sale in Ninfield Road.

It was **AGREED** for this item to be brought forward on the agenda.

00509 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) Cllr Jacklin.
Can we look into the cost and feasibility of establishing a directory or network of local community groups, events and organisations.
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- b) Cllr Jacklin.
Is there a means by which we can provide data on the number of people the office helps through day to day enquiries and other help?
This item was deferred to the next meeting.

- c) Cllr Wilson.

BoSTC/10.01.24-00157

To review the current summary of the terms of reference and scheme of delegation to include all committees and advisory committees.

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint a working group (advisory committee) to review the terms of reference and scheme of delegation to include all committees and advisory committees to report progress back to the next full council meeting. Cllr Drayson; Cllr Brailsford; Cllr Wilson were appointed to the working group with the clerk.

00510 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

All information circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

FOR DECISION:

- a) Request from Wave Arts seeking a statement of support for Glenleigh Park Academy Hallway Art Project Grant application to RDC and to consider matched funding at £750 (total Wave Arts grant application to RDC £1500).

It was **RESOLVED** to support the Wave Arts for Glenleigh Park Academy Hallway Art Project but are unable to offer matched funding at this time.

- b) Request from Bexhill Heritage seeking a statement for support for restoration of K6 phone kiosk in Norman's Bay for Grant application to RDC.

It was **RESOLVED** to support Bexhill Heritage's restoration of the K6 phone kiosk.

FOR NOTING:

- c) Bexhill Lions funding flyer.
d) 10 emails from residents regarding Christmas Tree.
e) Email from Chamber of Commerce regarding Christmas Lights.
f) Freedom of Information request concerning Kites Nest Wood.
g) Freedom of Information request concerning Christmas Tree.
h) Freedom of Information request concerning Christmas Tree.

00511 SUSSEX POLICE LIAISON

- a) To note police liaison group postponed. – Noted.

00512 NORTHEYE ASYLUM PROPOSAL

- a) To receive any further updates.

It was **RESOLVED** to for the forthcoming MP meeting about Northeye to be advertised by the town council online. Councillors will attend and report back to the next meeting.

00513 ST LEONARD'S ROAD GREENING PROJECT

- a) To receive update.

It was noted that there will be another meeting on the 16th January 2024.

00514 PEBSHAM ACCESSIBLE PLAY PARK

- a) To note update – there was no further update.

00515 EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES

To receive reports from external representatives (circulated prior to the meeting)

- a) RALC – Cllr Wilson and Cllr Jacklin
- b) Citizen’s Advice – VACANCY
To appoint representative to Citizen’s Advice.
It was **RESOLVED** to request feedback from Cllr Winter on this group at each meeting rather than appoint a new representative.
- c) Bexhill Air Cadet Squadron – Mayor
This item was deferred.
- d) Fairtrade – VACANCY
To appoint representative to Fairtrade group.
It was **RESOLVED** not to appoint a representative to the Fairtrade group.
- e) Bexhill Maritime – VACANCY
To appoint representative to Bexhill Maritime.
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Timpe as representative to Bexhill Maritime.
- f) Little Gate Farm – VACANCY
To appoint representative to Little Gate Farm.
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Jacklin as representative to Little Gate Farm.
- g) Support for Ukraine – Cllr Drayson and Cllr Crotty
It was **RESOLVED** to offer support as and when required.
- h) High Street Task Force – Cllr Brailsford. (reported earlier under a standing agenda item).

00516 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) To receive answers to questions raised at the last meeting.
There were none.
- b) To receive questions from councillors at the meeting.
Cllr Drayson asked if the council could hold a councillor surgery on the first Saturday of every month at the Hub.
Cllr Norris asked about the cigarette enforcement officers and asked what the town council could do to raise awareness of their patrols for residents.
- c) To note any future agenda items.
- d) To consider any new risks to be added to the risk register.

00517 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 7TH FEBRUARY 2024

The meeting was closed at 20:29pm.

DRAFT