

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**
AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD,**
BEXHILL-ON-SEA

on **Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 6:30pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Byrne, Cllr Drayson, Cllr El, Cllr Goss, Cllr Plim, Cllr Wilson.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Daeva, Clerk; J Bartholomew; One Videographer; 0 members of the public.

00099 TO ELECT CHAIR

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Drayson as chair of the Amenities Committee.

00100 TO ELECT VICE-CHAIR

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Byrne as vice-chair of the Amenities Committee.

00101 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

00102 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve apologies for absence with reasons from Cllr Rustem.

00103 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

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

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

Cllr Wilson declared an interest in item **00113 b)** as an acquaintance of the member of the public submitting this request.

00104 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

00105 MINUTES

Initial.....

- a) To approve the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 7th May 2025.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 7th May 2025.

00106 DISCRETIONARY SERVICES

- a) To review lease agreement for Devonshire Square toilets and recommend to Full Council.

The Council raised the following queries in relation to the lease agreement: clarification is sought on what common services are referenced in the lease; confirmation is needed regarding which external areas of the building the tenant would be responsible for; the Council would like to know whether there is potential to extend the lease beyond the initial 10-year term. Under 'lease status', the meaning of a 'protected lease' is unclear and requires explanation. It was noted that the break clause provides for a rolling break with six months' notice by the landlord only, and the Council questioned whether this could also be made available to the tenant, and if not, why that is the case. The lease places full repairing obligations on the tenant, and clarification is requested on whether this extends to the entire external structure of the building, particularly as the landlord holds the insurance. The Council queried the rationale behind the restricted hours of operation and whether these can be set by the tenant. There was also a question regarding why the tenant is responsible for the building's insurance and what proportion of the total insurance premium this represents. The Council asked whether there is a lease plan available that clearly outlines the areas for which it would be liable. Finally, the Council queried how frequently the landlord would expect deep cleaning to take place, as this may impact the terms of the existing cleaning contract.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend approval of the lease to Full Council, subject to satisfactory responses being received to the above queries.

- b) To note quotes for pointing of Devonshire Square toilets being sought and exploring designs for the front of the building. – noted.

00107 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS

- a) To note the committee have not yet carried out a review of the of existing and potential new CCTV over the next three years in collaboration with Sussex Police, local PCSO, local Chamber of Commerce, BRAG and possibly other interested parties in the town and meeting pending. – noted.

00108 TOWN ACCESSIBILITY WORKING GROUP

- a) To nominate members for Town Accessibility Working Group.
It was **RESOLVED** to put this item to Full Council for appointments.

00109 BUS SHELTERS

- a) To note Endwell Road bus shelter opposite blueberries designs in workflow and will be received at the next meeting. – noted.
- b) To consider next steps for Cooden Beach Bus Shelter.
It was **RESOLVED** not to continue with this.
- c) To consider complete refurbishment of Town Hall Square bus shelter for cost of £3,480.84.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve complete refurbishment of Town Hall Square bus shelter for cost of £3,480.84.

00110 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a) To note updates following Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) meeting. – noted.
- b) To consider exploring options for a safer crossing at Turkey Road.
It was **RESOLVED** to support the exploration of options for a safer crossing at Turkey Road.

00111 TOWN RANGERS

- a) To receive update report.
The report was received.
- b) To consider areas of priority for Town Rangers to address.
The Council discussed the need to contact East Sussex County Council and Rother District Council for permission to tidy up certain areas, including London Road. The clerk will prepare a strategic report identifying priority areas for the town rangers and outlining a tidy-up plan, including specific details of the locations to be addressed. Concerns were raised about overgrown bushes obstructing visibility at the end of Glyne Ascent and where West

Common Road meets Little Common Road, as well as the need for weeding near London Road. It was also suggested to produce business cards or leaflets to promote the work of the Town Rangers.

00112 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

00113 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- a) To receive request for Bus Shelter in Pebsham Lane and to consider investigating installation.

It was **RESOLVED** to investigate the installation of the Bus Shelter in Pebsham Lane, and to investigate the refurbishment of the other three bus shelters in Pebsham.

- b) To consider request for grit bin for junction of Singleton Walk and Martyn's Way.

Cllr Wilson declared a personal interest in this item.

Cllr Wilson left the meeting at 20:02pm.

It was **RESOLVED** to investigate the installation of grit bin on the junction of Singleton Walk and Martyn's Way.

Cllr Wilson re-entered the meeting at 20:06pm.

00114 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Questions carried forward from last meeting.

There were none.

- b) To receive questions and future agenda items.

Questions shall be recorded in the minutes and responded to at the next meeting or before.

Cllr Goss asked whether the committee could meet on a monthly basis.

Cllr Byrne asked what the contingency plan would be if a business leasing a public toilet were to fold, and whether the Town Council would want first refusal in such a scenario, suggesting the need to develop a strategy.

Cllr Byrne also requested that Rother District Council be asked what actions they would take if a leaseholder were to go

bankrupt and return the lease, and whether any action would be required from the Town Council in that event.

00115 BEXHILL WILD DOMESDAY PROJECT

- a) To receive end of year two report.
The end of year two report was received.
- b) To consider request from David Dennis to represent the town council at Crowhurst Parish Council meeting.
It was **RESOLVED** not to give David Dennis permission to represent the town council at a Crowhurst Parish Council meeting.

00116 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 1ST OCTOBER 2025

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press will not be permitted to attend during the following items:

00117 BEXHILL WILD DOMESDAY PROJECT

- a) To receive letter and draft contract from David Dennis.
It was **RESOLVED** not to proceed with the draft contract and proposal.

The meeting was closed at 20:38pm.

Date.....

Signed.....