

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL Climate, Nature and Environment Committee** held at the **Rother District Town Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea** on **Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 7pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Wray (Chair); Cllr Plim; Cllr Izzard; Cllr Winter; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Taylor-Gee.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Miller, Clerk, one member of the public; David Denis, Lucie Bolton (Rother District Council).

00720. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A representative of the Bexhill Family Collective addressed the meeting to give more information on the request to lease allotment land for Dragonflies nursery.

00721. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve apologies from Cllr Baldry, Cllr Brailsford, and Cllr Norris with reasons.

00722. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Izzard declared an interest in the Dragonflies Nursey.

Cllr Thomas declared a general interest as a Rother District Councillor.

00723. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chair thanked the attendees of the meeting and the Town Clerk for putting together an interesting and varied agenda.

00724. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the minutes from the meeting of 16th November 2023.

00725. It was RESOLVED to bring forward the following item for discussion:

a) To note update on transfer of allotment management.

It was noted that the keys and tenancy agreements for Sidley House and Preston Road have all been handed over and an audit of the allotments is taking place. It was noted that this is a positive step forward and risk assessments will be carried out. Future policies and strategy documents will be presented to the committee at the next meeting.

The fees issue will be raised with Finance as a risk.

b) To receive update on compostable toilet.

It was noted that a toilet would cost approximately £4,000 and the Town Clerk is investigating grant funding.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Climate, Nature, and Environment Committee to fund the compostable toilet.

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Cllr Izzard did not vote on the following item:

- c) To consider request from Bexhill Family Collective CIC to utilise allotment space at Preston Road.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Town Clerk to organise a suitable allotment space for the Bexhill Family Collective CIC using the current tenancy agreement.

00726. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL CLIMATE OFFICER TO ADDRESS THE MEETING.

00727. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW DAVID DENNIS TO ADDRESS THE MEETING REGARDING THE DOMESDAY PROPOSAL

00728. TO CONSIDER NEXT STEPS FOR THE DOMESDAY PROPOSAL

It was **RESOLVED** recommend to full council that financial regulations are waived, and the council enters into a one-year contract to provide the first step of the Domesday Project.

It was **RESOLVED** that the committee supports and endorses the Domesday Project and welcomes the opportunity to be involved in it in mutually agreed ways.

Cllr Izzard left the meeting at 20:53pm.

00729. TO RECEIVE NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- a) Town Accessibility Working Group – meeting deferred.
- b) Beach and Sea Working Group – meeting deferred.

Cllr Izzard re-entered the meeting at 20:54pm.

00730. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- a) To note update on 'Hello Bexhill' projects.
 - i. Happy to Chat – to agree bench suggestions and apply to Rother District Council for permission to affix sign.
It was **RESOLVED** to amend the wording from “stranger” and request that all five bench locations are used as follows.
Devonshire Square, Marina, Marina Court Avenue, Western Road and Western Road Centre.
 - ii. ‘Welcome to Bexhill’ signs - to receive update.
It was noted that East Sussex County Council are working on the licences for installation.
- b) 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 **RESOLVED** to proceed with the East Sussex Association of Local Council's Resilience and Emergency Template at a cost of £120 and £50 for additional support.

- c) Sewage release on Galley Hill – to review transcript from Sewage meeting and consider strategy for 21st March 2023.

- d) To receive update on community fridge.

It was noted that this had not yet been investigated and will be looked at when workload.

00731. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a) To note Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) meeting being arranged with East Sussex County Council, Cllr Plim and Cllr Thomas to raise outstanding highways matters from last agenda and to nominate members to attend – noted.
- b) To note speaker to be invited to next meeting from English Regional Transport Association and present information on the new direct rail route to Polegate – noted.

00732. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- a) To note current budget position year to date. It was noted that the unspent budget will be recommended to be used for the Domesday Project and the Emergency Plan.

00733. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There are none.

00734. CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

All circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

- a) Correspondence from MP's office regarding purchasing grit bins for Bexhill Central 21/12/2022
 - b) Next drain down of Egerton Park lake 06/01/2023
 - c) Trees for Cities 13/01/2023
 - d) London Road corridor Buckhurst Road improvements 15/01/2023
 - e) Comments about London Road junction problems 16/01/2023
 - f) Resilience and Emergency Plan templates 30/01/2023
 - g) NALC Climate Emergency Agenda 07/02/2023
 - h) Request from Natural England for the town council to maintain the Coastal Path panel 24/02/2023
- It was **RESOLVED** to find out more about the costs.
- i) Email from resident regarding graffiti 28/02/2023
- It was **RESOLVED** to investigate a project plan for "grot busting" team.
- j) Email from resident regarding cannabis use at Scholars Walk 04/03/2023
 - k) Contractor work for new sewer at Buckholt Lane 06/03/2023

00735. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Questions from last meeting:
There are none.

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- b) To receive questions and future agenda items:
Grit bins; hanging baskets.

00736. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – TO BE CONFIRMED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The meeting closed at 21:37pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

DRAFT

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