

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 28th September 2022 at 7pm**

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Miller, Clerk, Two representatives from the Broad Oak Allotment Association.

00276. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representatives from Broad Oak Allotment Association addressed the meeting and explained their request for toilet facilities at the site.

00277. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none,

00278. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

00279. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

00280. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the minutes from the meeting of the 15th June 2022.

00281. TO RECEIVE NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- a) Notes from Climate and Nature and Emergency Panel 17/08/2022

- i. To consider first draft of Climate Action Plan

It was **RESOLVED** for the Town Clerk to organise the public consultation of the draft Climate Action Plan. The Panel will review comments and update the final draft for consideration at the next meeting.

- b) Town Accessibility Working Group – meeting deferred.

- c) Beach and Sea Working Group – meeting deferred.

It was noted that the Mayor has been invited by Rother District Council to Operation Radcott meetings. These meetings review beach and sea issues. It was agreed that the Mayor could feedback information from these meetings to the Climate, Nature, and Environment Committee in an ex-officio status. The working group will remain deferred until further information is available. Operation Radcott will be added as a future agenda item.

00282. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- a) To note update on 'Hello Bexhill' projects.

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- i. 'Happy to Chat' - to consider installing bench at St Barnabas Church Gardens

It was **RESOLVED** to for the Town Clerk to identify a bench with Rother District Council on the Promenade to install the 'Happy to Chat' sign and launch the project.

It was **RESOLVED** to delegate to the clerk to organise the supply and installation of a new 'Happy to Chat' bench up to the value of £2000.00.

- ii. 'Welcome to Bexhill' signs - to consider latest design

It was noted that there had been issues with the resolution of the design on the reflective material and this is being resolved.

- 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 noted that Rother District Council are joining with East Sussex County Council's Emergency Resilience Forum, and the town council have been invited to join. More information will be provided by Rother District Council in due course.

- c) To consider installing sign for the Angling Club on totem sign on West Parade.

It was decided not to install the sign. The Angling Club could consider applying for a grant from the town council for signage.

- d) To receive update from W.ave Arts on plan to tackle graffiti issues with the Town Council.

It was noted that W.ave Arts will be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss ideas for tackling graffiti.

It was asked for an update from W.Ave Arts on the removal of graffiti from the Sea Road artwork.

- e) To note dog waste bin collections is carried out by Rother District within their existing waste services contract therefore it is not possible to price the service separately and to consider next steps.

It was **RESOLVED** to take no further action regarding dog waste collections.

Cllr Winter left the meeting at 20:41pm

- f) Sewage release on Galley Hill – to receive correspondence from Rother District Council reference a meeting with East Sussex County Council, MPs and Southern Water and consider next steps.

It was noted that the Committee is disappointed to not be included in meetings with Southern Water. It was **RESOLVED** 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.

Cllr Brailsford left the meeting at 21:05pm

Cllr Brailsford re-entered the meeting at 21:06pm

Cllr Izzard left the meeting at 21:24pm

Cllr Izzard re-entered the meeting at 21:25pm

- g) To note Community Committee lobbying Rother District Council regarding Glyne Gap roundabout improvements – noted.

00283. 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.

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

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

It was **RESOLVED** to support the designs and request that East Sussex County Council ensure that the plan is sensitive to the needs of the garage.

00284. It was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 3(x) and continue with the meeting.

00285. ALLOTMENTS SITES

- a) To note income and expenditure update from RDC

CostC (T)	Cat3 (T)	Account (T)	Sum of Amount
[-] Allotments- Bexhill	+		8.80
	[-] Allotments - Broad Oak Park	Grounds maintenance non-routine	42.26
		Recovery of costs incurred	-43.00
		Repairs to Premises	274.66
		Water	244.01
	Allotments - Broad Oak Park Total		517.93
	[-] Allotments - Preston Road	Grounds maintenance non-routine	1,576.57
		Grounds maintenance routine	963.92
		Rent income	-1,100.30
		Water	128.34
	Allotments - Preston Road Total		1,568.53
	[-] Allotments - Sidley House	Rent income	-265.82
	Allotments - Sidley House Total		-265.82
	[-] Allotments- All Saints Lane, Bexhill	Grounds maintenance routine	66.28
		Water	202.26
	Allotments- All Saints Lane, Bexhill Total		268.54
Grand Total			2,097.98

To note clerk has received a full breakdown of the budget lines for both income and expenditure and plot information and has decided to take the management on with immediate effect to regularise the position.

A suite of policy documents will be presented to the committee to adopt with the renewal of tenancy agreements in early 2023.

- b) To receive correspondence from Summerhill allotments (circulated prior to the meeting).

The neighbour encroachment was noted and the terms of the lease will be enforced.

- c) To consider request to permit the installation of a composting toilet on the Broad Oak Allotment site.

Advice will be sought from the National Allotment Society on the installation of a composting toilet.

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- d) To note padlock issues at Barrack Hall site and issues with parked vehicles – noted.
- e) To note gate repair being carried out by RDC at Barrack Hall – noted.
- f) To consider RDC request for approval of allotment fee rise

It was **RESOLVED** to increase the charges to £60 and £120.

- g) To receive update on recruitment of facility officer to manage allotments
It was noted that recruitment continues.

00286. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a forecast budget for 2023/24 of 2022/23 figures and to request that the F&GP Committee consider an additional staff member for managing the Climate Action Plan.

00287. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 16th NOVEMBER 2022

The meeting closed at 22:03pm and all items not covered will be added to the next meeting.

Signed..... Date.....

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