

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 26th January 2022 at 6.30pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Plim; Cllr Brailsford; Cllr Carroll; Cllr Norris; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Taylor-Gee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Miller, Clerk; Cllr Blagrove; Cllr Winter; A representative from the Bexhill Museum.

00455. In the absence of the Vice Chairman or Chairman it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Plim to the position of Chairman

00456. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies for absence with reasons from Cllr Izzard. Cllr Wray was absent.

00457. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

00458. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none

00459. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Blagrove addressed the meeting and asked four specific questions:

1. What is the aim of debating COVID 19 and is there an explanation of what the end goal and benefit to the Bexhill residents would be?
2. Why is Cllr Izzard making recommendations to this council about COVID?
3. Is Cllr Izzard the self-appointed health minister for Bexhill?
4. Why is Cllr Izzard using the town council to make political points?

00460. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM THE BEXHILL MUSEUM ON THEIR IDEAS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT.

A representative of the Bexhill museum explained how the organisation is tackling the threat of flood risk and the reducing its carbon footprint through heat pumps, solar panels and insulation to create more efficient energy use.

00461. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to sign and approve the minutes from the meeting of the 10th November 2021 and 8th December 2021.

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00462. TO RECEIVE NOTES FROM WORKING GROUPS

- a) Climate and Nature Emergency Panel – notes of 19/01/2022 were received.
- b) Beach and Sea Working Group
The group has not yet had its first meeting.
- c) Town Accessibility Working Group
The group has not yet had its first meeting.

00463. UPDATE ON CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

- a) To receive any update on changes made by councillors or staff on the council decision that they reduce their own carbon emissions where possible, for instance using public transport or walking/cycling or car sharing to local meetings.
Cllr Thomas reported that he has been car sharing, made positive changes to his property and has stopped using aerosols to shave.
- b) To consider how the committee develops a carbon monitoring system to assess, monitor and reduce its own carbon footprint.
It was **RESOLVED** to defer this item until the council rents a property.
- c) To consider how the council can ensure plans are developed to make any premises it takes on carbon neutral with a target of 2025.
It was **RESOLVED** to defer this item until the council rents a property.
- d) To note that the Council has applied for the National Lottery Together for our Planet funding – noted.
- e) To note no councillors or staff members have agreed to attend the course dates for Zero Carbon Britain: Carbon Literacy for Local Authorities course.
Cllr Taylor-Gee and Cllr Thomas requested to attend the training in May.

00464. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- a) To receive update from Rother District Council on graffiti issues.
It was noted that Biffa remove graffiti from RDC owned property.
- b) To receive update from Rother District Council on chemical weed spraying.
It was noted that the town council is not able to directly inform the policy of RDC and the cost and effectiveness of more environmentally friendly methods is being reviewed regularly.
- c) To receive update from Rother District Council on Electric Vehicle Charging points.
It was noted that the RDC cabinet is considering contracting out the supply and maintenance of ECV points at its meeting in February.

- d) To note flower display expert contact details being passed to the clerk following last meeting – it was noted Cllr Carroll will contact the resident and refer to the clerk.
- e) To discuss Cllr Thomas' recommendations from the Chief Medical Officers Report 2021.
Cllr Thomas circulated a report at the meeting which was noted.
- f) To note 'Hello Bexhill' projects being progressed and a report will follow at the next meeting.
Cllr Carroll will ask if the bench could be used in the Polegrove.
A bench along the front will be requested from RDC.
- g) To debate COVID 19 (Cllr Izzard)
This item was deferred until Cllr Izzard is present.

00465. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a) To note SLR meeting being arranged with East Sussex County Council to raise outstanding highways matters from last agenda. (Cllr Plim and Cllr Carroll) – noted.
- b) To receive update on London Road consultation from East Sussex County Council.
There were no further updates.

00466. ALLOTMENT SITES

- a) To note RDC continuing assistance with allotment management until town council has the resources to manage – noted.
- b) To note formal request from allotment holder regarding encroachment issues at Summerhill allotments.
It was **RESOLVED** to investigate if the encroachment had been reported before the town council took over the ownership of the allotments if it is RDCs responsibility.
Mediation will be considered.
- c) To note Town Clerk liaising with Rother District Council regarding allotment responsibilities and a full report will be received in due course.

00467. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- a) To note awaiting outcome of survey before agreeing next steps.

00468. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) **Cllr Izzard**
It was **RESOLVED** for councillors to look at the system and for the clerk to investigate the costings to be prepared for the meeting in April.
- b) **Cllr Taylor-Gee**
To consider if the council should write a statement to promote its interest regarding Electric Vehicle Charging points
It was **RESOLVED** to prepare a press release supporting RDC's EVC policy.

00469. CORRESPONDENCE

There is none.

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00470. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a) Questions from the last meeting

Cllr Taylor-Gee Should the council write a statement to promote its interest regarding Electric Vehicle Charging points?	This motion is on the agenda.
Cllr Izzard Asked for an update from RDC and ESCC on electric vehicle charging points to be added on this agenda	This item is on the agenda.
Cllr Izzard Asked for an emergency COVID 19 debate on the next agenda	This item is on the agenda.
Cllr Izzard Asked for the council to consider the modern.gov. system.	This motion is on the agenda.
Cllr Plim Asked for the Chamber of Commerce to present to the committee on their actions in relation to climate changes	An invite has been sent.
Cllr Wray Asked for an update on the London Road Consultation	This item is on the agenda.
Cllr Thomas Requested that the museum staff are invited to the next meeting to discuss their ideas about the environment	This museum staff are attending this meeting.

- b) To receive questions and future agenda items
There were none.

00471. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 9th MARCH 2022

The meeting closed at 20:21pm

Signed.....

Date.....

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