

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

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

Held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD,**

BEXHILL-ON-SEA

On **Wednesday 29th July 2026** at **6:00pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Byrne, Cllr Carroll, Cllr Crotty, Cllr Drayson, Cllr El, Cllr Hunt, Cllr Goss, Cllr Jacklin, Cllr Peters, Cllr Plim, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Timpe, Cllr Winter, Cllr Wilson.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Adam Chugg, Town Clerk; L Muhilathithan, Civic Admin; One Videographer; 17 members of public.

00118 TO CO-OPT A COUNCILLOR TO FILL THE KEWHURST WARD VACANCY

The five candidates introduced themselves and said a few words.

Cllr Wilson proposed closing the standing orders to allow a closed vote due to the potential awkwardness of knowing some of the candidates.

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders and have a closed voted.

Annaliese Beeney was elected to be the new Councillor for Kewhurst Ward.

00119 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) One member of public proposed having a Veterans Champion for the Town. Would like to sort out the memorial; it needs a tidy up; some of the stonework needs doing. We have the highest number of Veterans in the County most of them are over 80. It would be nice to have brass plates where the poppies can sit. It would be nice to have a signpost of what the Memorial is to explain it's history. Would like to have about 2 or 3 benches to the right-hand side, as the veterans have to stand up for an hour, nice to have the option to sit down. I would like the garden to be more of a memorial.

Response –The team have been looking into the memorial; Rother District Council are responsible for the memorial. We are happy to take those points forward with them. Councillors will be aware; the Council did ask if the war memorial could be transferred to our care through the devolution process.

Initial.....

- b) A resident asked for an update on the £4,000 that Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council put toward the hotel viability study on the type of hotel that is needed in Bexhill. What update is there?

Response – Invitations to tender have been sent out through the Neighbourhood Board. Responses have been received and the Neighbourhood are about to announce the successful organisation; the feasibility study will be undertaken in the Autumn and will finish in November. The outcome will be reported back to the Council. Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council recommended to give £6,000 to Highways for a feasibility study about the proposed sculpture on the Glyne Gap Roundabout. What is the outcome?

Response – we can expect to bring the report to the September Full Council. Liaison is ongoing between the Council and Highways. Requested that when Councillors speak can other Councillors not speak over them.

Cllr Plim proposed re-opening standing orders.

It was **RESOLVED** to re-open standing orders.

00120 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve apologies for absence with reason from Cllr Huseyin and Cllr Lee.

00121 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

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

00122 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

To note Cllr Peters is standing in as Chair in Cllr Huseyin's absence.

Bexhill has hosted some amazing events. Personally thank Cllr Plim and whole Carnival Team for an amazing Carnival weekend.

00123 MINUTES

To approve the following minutes:

a) Wednesday the 24th June 2026

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday the 24th June 2026.

00124 MAYORS OFFICE

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

Cllr Peters gave an update on the recent events that have been attended by both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The Mayor has attended 9 events, the Deputy Mayor has attended 5 events, and the Town Clerk has attended 1 event.

00125 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were none.

Cllr Wilson suggested removing this item from the agenda due to recommendations being included elsewhere on the agenda.

00126 TO CONSIDER CIL FUNDING APPLICATIONS

a) To consider CIL funding application from Bexhill Heritage.

Cllr Wilson proposed suspending standing orders to allow Bexhill Heritage to speak about their application.

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders.

Bexhill Heritage gave an explanation on what the funds would be used for and how this would benefit the Town.

Councillors were given the opportunity to ask Bexhill Heritage questions about their application.

It was **RESOLVED** to re-open standing orders.

Discussion ensued.

Cllr Plim proposed motion to award Bexhill Heritage the full amount requested: £35,000 to restore Shelter 2.

It was **RESOLVED** to award Bexhill Heritage £35,000.

b) To consider CIL funding application from Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club.

Cllr Drayson declared an interest as a member of Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club.

Cllr Timpe declared an interest as a member of Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club.

Cllr Crotty proposed suspending standing orders to allow Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club to explain their application.

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders.

The Chairman of Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club gave an update on their application.

Councillors were given the opportunity to ask Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club questions about their application.

Cllr Plim proposed opening standing orders.

It was **RESOLVED** to re-open standing orders.

Cllr Plim proposed the Town Council award half the amount requested and for the Town Clerk to work with Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club to seek match funding elsewhere.

Cllr Plims motion fell.

Cllr Jacklin put forward a motion for the Town Clerk to work with the applicant to produce a more satisfactory application for a lower amount, suggestion of 25% or a third.

Cllr Willson put forward a motion to award the applicant £70,000 and for the Town Clerk to work with Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club to find matching funding elsewhere.

Cllr El proposed his support for Cllr Jacklin's motion if the 30% was removed.

Cllr Drayson suggested amending Cllr Jacklin's motion, removing "to work with" and replacing it with "liaise with".

Cllr Jacklin proposed motion for the Town Clerk to liaise with the applicant to produce a more satisfactory application at a lower amount.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Town Clerk to liaise with the applicant to produce a more satisfactory application at a lower amount.

00127 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

External Councillors may report for three minutes. Written reports must be received three days before the meeting.

a) To receive reports from Division County Councillors.

Martin Kenward – privilege of helping the Dutchess of Gloucester open a new facility. Attended a 100th birthday party for Winnie the Pooh at Ashdown Forest, joined by Queen Camilla. Held a reception for civic leaders. Intends to put on a reception for volunteers at Manor Barn. To put a volunteer's name forward all you need to do is email chairman@eastsussexcountycouncil.gov.uk.

Victoria Carson – Buckhurst Road, ongoing issues are attributed to the natural spring, treatment options are restricted. Also, a shallow high-pressure gas main. Buckhurst road has been added to the Road Work Program. Water issues again, waiting to hear back from Southeast Water. Already have draft engineering program, will go to tender once confirmation is received. Eversley Road has two voids, waiting to hear

back with feedback and repair plan. Has put forward request with Highways to find out if there is any accessibility funding to pay for Cllr Lee's proposed drop kerbs. Lots of anti-social behaviour on De La Warr parade, one solution may be speed bumps and reduced speed limit. Pete Morely – Lots of work has been going on, such as; kerb repairs, footway repairs, vegetation maintenance, tree overgrowth, tree obstruction removal, tree clearing. Litter pick was done on Barnhorn Road. Visited Northeye with Homes England, further public consultation to take place in September. Our concerns with that are the road infrastructure. Launch of work well scheme East Sussex and Surrey Hospitals. To help people with mental health and skeletal issues to get back into the workplace. Works alongside skill bootcamps another initiative. Chair of the SPSA business forum, looking at growth of businesses. New apprenticeship scheme launched.

- b) To receive reports from Ward District Councillors.

There were none.

- c) To receive ward reports from Town Councillors.

Cllr Carroll – thank you to the Heart of Sidley and everyone involved for the new Sidley hub, not an easy task but proved that when people work together a beautiful thing can be built. And thank you to London Philharmonic for taking the time to be there.

Cllr Crotty – good news, Bexhill banking hub has found a permanent home on Devonshire Road. Well done to the Town Rangers for the planters they look great and well done to Bexhill Carnival.

00128 TOWN CLERK UPDATE

- a) To receive update from Town Clerk – report received.

00129 TO CONSIDER NEXT STEPS FOR THE CIVIC HISTORY BOOKLET

- a) To receive report on Civic History Booklet and decide next steps.

Discussion ensued.

Cllr Plim proposed motion for the Council to utilise both distribution pathways; sell copies and give free copies to Councillors, Council staff,

Past Mayors and Past Charter Trustee Mayors; and for the Clerk to investigate selling the booklet at selected outlets within the Town.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Cllr Plim's motion to utilise both distribution pathways and for the Clerk to investigate selling the booklet at selected outlets within the Town.

Cllr Jacklin left the meeting at 20:14pm.

00130 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) To consider planning application for installation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and associated external ancillary pathways, including BNG at All Saints C of E Primary School, All Saints Lane, Bexhill-on-Sea TN39 5HA.

Cllr Plim proposed the Council fully support the above planning application.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the planning application for the installation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and associated external ancillary pathways, including BNG at All Saints C of E Primary School, All Saints Lane, Bexhill-on-Sea TN39 5HA.

- b) To consider a response to Rother District Council consultation on the Local Enforcement Plan.

Discussion ensued.

Cllr Jacklin re-entered the meeting at 20:16pm

It was **RESOLVED** for all Councillors to submit their comments to the Town Clerk to then be forwarded on to Rother District Council.

00131 ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL LIAISON

- a) To receive Rother District Council Liaison Report. – report received.

Cllr Plim proposed closing standing orders to allow the meeting to continue.

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders to remove time constraints. Discussion ensued.

- b) To consider delegating authority to the Town Clerk and the RFO to sign the licence agreement for land at the Seabourne Road Recreation Ground, Pebsham.

It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Clerk and the RFO to sign the licence and agreement for land at the Seabourne Road Recreation Ground, Pebsham.

00132 TO CONSIDER PAYING MEMBERSHIPS FEES FOR PAST MAYORS TO BE MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX MAYORS ASSOCIATION

- a) To note the Sussex Mayors Association membership requires an annual payment of £10 per Mayor/Ex Mayor. – noted.

Cllr Plim proposed this motion should be deferred to the Engagement and Communications Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to defer this motion to the Engagement and Communications Committee.

00133 EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES

- a) To receive updates from external representatives.
 - i. RALC – A report from Cllr Wilson was circulated prior to the meeting.

00134 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) To note motions shown in Appendix H are to be discussed in the September meeting of the Full Council. – noted.

00135 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

There were none.

00136 RISK REGISTER

Initial.....

a) To consider any new risks to be added to the risk register.

Cllr Goss suggested that the new property will need to be added to the risk register.

00137 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2026

All motions for the meeting of the Full Council on the 30th September 2026 must be received by the 18th September 2026.

To note the Clerk has requested an extraordinary meeting, which will take place on Wednesday the 26th August 2026.

The meeting was closed at 20:43pm.

Date.....

Signed.....

Initial.....