BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD, BEXHILL-ON-SEA** on **Wednesday 7th October 2026** at **6:00pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Carroll, Cllr Plim, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Wilson.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: A Chugg, Town Clerk; L Muhilathithan, Council Administrator; One Videographer; 0 members of public.

00185 TO ELECT VICE CHAIR

Cllr Plim nominated Cllr Carroll to be appointed as Vice Chair of the Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Carroll as Vice Chair.

00186 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were none.

00187 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

00188 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUINARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllr Plim declared an interest in item 8 and 18.

Cllr Wilson declared a potential pecuniary interest in item 8 and 18.

00189 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

00190 MINUTES

To approve the following minutes:

a) Wednesday 8th July 2026.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday the 8th July 2026.

00191 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a) To note the current budget as of the 30th September 2026. – **Noted**.

Discussion ensued.

All comments were noted of, answers to be circulated.

b) To receive predicted budget for 2027-2028.

Discussion ensued.

Cllr Wilson proposed motion to not produce a council tax leaflet for 2027-2028.

This motion fell.

Cllr Wilson proposed motion to remove budget line for Civic Regalia at £7,000.

The vote was two all, Cllr Plim as Chair of the Committee used the casting vote against the motion.

The motion fell.

Cllr Carroll left the meeting at 18:24pm.

Cllr Carroll re-entered meeting at 18:25pm.

All comments were **noted** of answers will be circulated via the RFO.

00192 REGALIA

a) Cllr Plim has proposed the following motion:
"That this council revisit the question of providing a Past Mayors pendant/badge based on the designs submitted to council over six months ago. The funding to provide these items for the Town Councils three former Mayors will come from the current regalia budget.

Subsequent cost for future recipients will be born from future Mayoral budgets. Each pendant will be inscribed with the name and term of office of the recipient."

This motion was deferred to the December meeting of the Engagement and Communications Committee.

00193 TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK ON BEXHILL DAY – SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST 2026.

a) To note feedback was positive and engaging, two stall holders have given feedback, along with staff. Will endeavour to make the event bigger and better next year.

All feedback was **received** and **noted** of.

00194 REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY (8TH NOVEMBER 2026) AND ARMISTICE DAY (11TH NOVEMBER 2026)

a) To note planning is underway. – **Noted**.

00195 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON - SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2026

a) To note planning is underway. – **Noted**.

To note Officers are investigating the feasibility of getting a stage for the event.

Cllr Wilson proposed motion to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to ensure that a stage is prepared for the Christmas Lights Switch On, assuming it costs around £1200.

It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to ensure that a stage is prepared for the Christmas Lights Switch-On, assuming it costs around £1200.

00196 TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

a) To consider and receive the following points, as laid out in the report:
    I. To consider amendments to Media Policy.

II. To receive feedback on Summer and Autumn events so far; purely from Comms perspective.
III. Website latest.

Report received.

The following 6 points were noted of: more social media, community calendar of events, for Councillors to help provide content (external representative report) for social media, Town Clerk Report basis for sharing information, add "please like and share" to posts, website hits.

00197 TO RECEIVE VISITOR LOG FOR MONTH OF AUGUST

a) The number of residents engaged with the Council Hub in person or via telephone in August was 189. The breakdown of this can be seen in the chart below:

Month	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Total
August	26	47	43	35	38	189

The visitor log was **noted**.

00198 TO CONSIDER DRAFT EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2027

Civic Awards	March 2027
Mayoral Ball/Gala	April 2027
Bexhill Day	August 2027
Battle of Britain Memorial	September 2027
RAF Wings Walk	September 2027
Remembrance Day	November 2027
Christmas Light Switch On	December 2027

Cllr Plim proposed motion for Clerk to liaise with the Royal British Legion to discuss potential plans for VE Day Commemoration 2027.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to liaise with the Royal British Legion to discuss potential plans for VE Day Commemoration 2027.

00199 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION LIAISON

a) To note, Officers have two meetings scheduled with the RBL. Thursday the 6thOctober 2026 to discuss Remembrance Day in Little Common and Wednesday the 24thSeptember 2026 to discuss Remembrance Day in Central. – **Noted**.

00200 OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENCE

a) To note we have received a draft friendship accord from Bayencourt, this will be reviewed at the next Full Council. – **Noted**.

00201 TO CONSIDER PAYING MEMBERSHIPS FEES FOR PAST MAYORS TO BE MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX MAYORS ASSOCIATION

a) To note the membership costs an annual fee of £10 per Mayor/Ex Mayor. – **Noted**.

It was **RESOLVED** to pay membership fees for Past Mayors, funded from the Mayor's Budget.

00202 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

a) Cllr Plim

This council supports formation of a Former Mayors of Bexhill working party and calls upon former Mayor Cllr Paul Plim to call the first meeting at a time and place of convenience. The Town Clerk is asked to initially support the formation of this group by making contact with all former Mayors of Bexhill to make them aware of the time and place of its first meeting.

The group should be made up of former Mayors of Bexhill on Sea Town Council and former Charter Trustee mayors of Bexhill.

The group's purpose would be to:

1) support the incumbent Mayor of Bexhill on Sea in any agreeable way.
2) Promote and support Bexhill Day in agreement with the Town Clerk.
3) Support the Bexhill trust in agreement with the chair of the Bexhill Trust.

The group would meet quarterly and report to the Engagement and Communication Committee or whatever committee replaces it in the future.

Discussion ensued.

This motion fell.

00203 BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2026-2027

Saturday the 15th August 2026	Bexhill Day
Sunday the 20th September 2026	The RAFA Wings Appeal Walk
Sunday the 8th November 2026	Remembrance Sunday
Wednesday the 11th November 2026	Armistice Day
Saturday the 5th December 2026	Christmas Lights Switch-On
April 2027 (exact date TBC)	Mayor's Ball

00204 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2026

All motions for the next meeting of the Engagement and Communications Committee on the 2nd December 2026 must be received by the 20th November 2026.

The meeting was closed at 19:14pm.

Date.....

Signed.....