Agenda item: 10 **Appendix: D**

Purpose: To consider approving updated Terms of Reference for the Town Accessibility Working Group as recommended by the Amenities Committee.

ACCESSIBILITY WORKING GROUP (ADVISORY COMMITTEE)

Role

The role of the Accessibility Working Group is to research ~~the issues that are affecting accessibility in the whole of Bexhill.~~, identify, promote and support improvements to accessibility throughout Bexhill, and to advise the Council on matters relating to accessibility and inclusion

6.1 Membership

a) The Panel shall consist of no more than FOUR councillor members appointed by the Amenities Committee ~~and an unlimited number of councillors and non-councillor members (any local community organisations, residents and businesses should be invited to join).~~"together with such co-opted councillor and non-councillor members as the Group considers appropriate, including representatives of local community organisations, residents and businesses."

6.2 Meetings

a) The group will arrange meetings as required and shall not be open to the public.

Additional provision:

b) The Group may invite representatives of community organisations, public bodies, businesses, accessibility specialists or other individuals to attend and contribute to meetings where appropriate.

6.3 Responsibilities

a) The group will ~~take into account~~ consider all accessibility issues including hearing, visual, dementia, frailty and 'hidden' disabilities.

b) The group will carry out ~~an audit of current provisions in place for accessibility~~ a review of current provisions for accessibility within Bexhill."

~~c) The group will present a set of recommendations to the Amenities Committee to inform the five year strategic plan of the council set out in electoral ward categories.~~ c) The Group will make recommendations to the Amenities Committee, and where appropriate to other committees of the Council, on matters relating to accessibility and inclusion.

d) The Group will produce notes for each meeting, of which are to be circulated to all Group members and progress updates are to be provided to the Amenities Committee regularly.

Additional provisions:

e) The Group may consider and provide advice on the accessibility implications of Council policies, services, facilities, projects and events where accessibility issues arise.

6.4 Rights and Powers

a) This Group is unable to make council decisions however it can ~~is able to~~ make full representation to each relevant committee/full council in line with the council Standing Orders.

Additional provision

b) The Group may consider priorities that the Council may take forward as a corporate body.

c) Recommendations of the Group may be submitted to the relevant Committee(s) and/or Full Council for consideration.

d) The Group may engage with external organisations, businesses, community groups and public bodies for the purpose of gathering information and developing recommendations, provided that it does not commit the Council to any expenditure, policy position or decision.