

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the 10th meeting of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**
FULL COUNCIL held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN**
HALL,
on **Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 6.30pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Plim (Town Mayor); Cllr Baldry; Cllr Blagrove; Cllr Brailsford; Cllr Carroll; Cllr Drayson; Cllr Gibson; Cllr Harding; Cllr Norris; Cllr Rustem; Cllr Taylor-Gee; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Winter; Cllr Wray

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Miller, Clerk; one member of the public.

00544. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were none.

00545. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Barfoot; Cllr Clasby; Cllr Fenner; Cllr Izzard; for which reasons were given and accepted.

00546. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Winter declared an interest in the item concerning Citizens Advice Bureau
Cllr Drayson declared an interest in the item concerning Light Up Bexhill.

00547. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 19th January 2022.

Item: The town council would consider doing this if the funding matched the cost.

00548. COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP UPDATES

The following minutes and updates of committees were received:

- a) 26/01/2022 Community Committee
- b) 26/01/2022 Climate, Nature and Environment Committee
- c) 02/02/2022 Asset Transfer Committee
- d) 02/02/2022 Planning Committee
- e) 09/02/2022 Community Committee
- f) 02/03/2022 Asset Transfer Committee
- g) 02/03/2022 Planning Committee

00549. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

- a) Community Committee

That the town council adopts a policy that all written communications from Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council use clear plain English.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt a policy that all written communications from Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council use clear plain English.

- b) Climate, Nature and Environment Committee

That the town council investigates an emergency response plan.

Cllr Blagrove declared an interest in emergency response planning.
It was **RESOLVED** to investigate an emergency response plan.

00550. MAYOR'S OFFICE

- a) An update on the work of the Town Mayor was noted.
- b) It was noted that mayoral robes, hats, and coat of arms are being obtained using the Charter Trustee funds ringfenced for civic items only.

00551. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) External county councillor reports were noted.
- b) Ward reports from District Councillors – there were no further updates.
- c) Ward reports were received from Town Councillors.

00552. UKRAINE

a) To consider how the town council can support the people of Ukraine.
It was **RESOLVED** that Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council supports the people of Ukraine.

It was **RESOLVED** that the town clerk will add appropriate wording to the website indicating where to find help and advice to help Ukrainian refugees.

It was **RESOLVED** that the subject of how the town council can support the people of Ukraine will be a standing item on the agenda for the foreseeable future.

It was **RESOLVED** that Community Committee investigates the provision of boxes to give to refugees and the Community Committee is allocated up to £5000 from the contingency reserve to give to organisations to fund the project.

00553. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a) To consider Town Centre Steering Group recommendations
It was **RESOLVED** for the town council to work on its own on issues on the town centre as and when they arise and deal with things in a way that is in the best interests of the town centre.

*Cllr Harding left the meeting at 19:55
Cllr Harding re-entered the meeting at 19:56*

- b) To consider supporting Fairtrade.
It was **RESOLVED** to:
 - i. Widely offer FAIRTRADE marked food and drink options internally and make them available for internal meetings
 - ii. Promote the FAIRTRADE mark using Fairtrade Foundation materials in refreshment areas and promoting the Fairtrade Towns initiative in internal and communications and external newsletters
 - iii. Use influence to urge local retailers to provide Fairtrade options for residents
 - iv. Use influence to urge local business to offer Fairtrade options to their staff and promote the FAIRTRADE mark internally

- v. Engage in a media campaign to publicise the Fairtrade Towns initiative
- vi. Nominate a council representative (member or officer) to sit on the Fairtrade Steering Group and support ongoing work to promote Fairtrade
- vii. Organise events and publicity during national Fairtrade Fortnight – the annual national campaign to promote sales of products with the FAIRTRADE mark

A request for a recorded vote was made.

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Cllr Baldry		Cllr Blagrove
Cllr Drayson		Cllr Brailsford
Cllr Gibson		Cllr Carroll
Cllr Harding		Cllr Norris
Cllr Plim		Cllr Rustem
Cllr Taylor-Gee		
Cllr Thomas		
Cllr Winter		
Cllr Wray		

- c) To approve the motion in reference to s.245(6) Local Government Act 1972 to obtain the coat of arms:

It was **RESOLVED** that the parish of Bexhill-on-Sea should have the status of a town and that the parish council should be known as Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council.

00554. EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES

- a) To receive reports from external representatives (circulated prior to the meeting)
 - i. RALC - Cllr Winter and Cllr Taylor-Gee
It was noted that the next meeting is in April.
 - ii. Citizen's Advice Bureau – Cllr Gibson
There was no further update.
- b) To consider appointing Cllr Plim external representative to Bexhill Air Cadet Squadron
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint the office of Mayor as the external representative to Bexhill Air Cadet Squadron.

Cllr Drayson left the meeting at 20:11

Cllr Drayson re-entered the meeting at 20:13

00555. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

a) Cllr Thomas

That this council considers purchasing the Methodist Church

The motion was amended to:

That this council wishes to see the Sackville Rd Methodist building is made available to community use and supports exploring ways to achieve this objective.

A request for a recorded vote was made.

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Cllr Taylor-Gee	Cllr Baldry	Cllr Drayson
Cllr Thomas	Cllr Blagrove	Cllr Plim
	Cllr Brailsford	
	Cllr Carroll	
	Cllr Gibson	
	Cllr Harding	
	Cllr Norris	
	Cllr Rustem	
	Cllr Winter	
	Cllr Wray	

The motion fell.

b) Cllr Blagrove

We should film any meetings of the Bexhill on Sea Council which allow the public to be present, and live stream to YouTube. Equipment used should have very good sound quality.

A request for a recorded vote was made.

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Cllr Baldry		
Cllr Blagrove		
Cllr Brailsford		
Cllr Carroll		
Cllr Drayson		
Cllr Gibson		
Cllr Harding		
Cllr Norris		
Cllr Plim		
Cllr Rustem		
Cllr Taylor-Gee		
Cllr Thomas		
Cllr Winter		
Cllr Wray		

It was **RESOLVED** that this council should film any meetings of the Bexhill on Sea Council which allow the public to be present, and live stream to YouTube. Equipment used should have very good sound quality.

c) Cllr Drayson

That this council earmarks £6,000 pounds from the budget for 2021/22 to fund the street Bunting and Flag display in Bexhill on Sea town centre being planned by Light Up Bexhill CIC to celebrate Her Majesty the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

Cllr Drayson left the meeting at 20:39

It was **RESOLVED** that this council earmarks up to £5,100 from the unspent grants budget for 2021/22 to fund the street Bunting and Flag display in Bexhill-on-Sea town centre being planned by Light Up Bexhill CIC to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee The bunting should not display the words jubilee and should become the property of the town council when the event is over.

It was **RESOLVED** that the council delegates the accounting of the expenditure for the jubilee grant allocated to the Light Up Bexhill CIC to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

00556. CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

There were none.

00557. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) To receive answers to questions raised at last meeting – these were circulated prior to the meeting – noted.

Cllr Izzard asked when the motion that he raised about having a COVID debate would appear on the agenda.	This has taken place at the Climate, Nature and Environment Committee on 9th March 2022.
Cllr Izzard asked for an update on the Fairtrade motion.	The correct motion to support the Fairtrade Town Status is on the agenda of this meeting.
Cllr Izzard asked for an update about a motion that he had raised regarding biodiversity.	This question has been withdrawn.
Cllr Izzard asked about the requirements for substitutes at committees.	The town council discussed the standing order reference 4 (d) v in August 2021 but decided not to name the substitutes to each committee and each named substitution is currently made by the person sending apologies. This can be reviewed without special motion now that six months has passed.

- a) To receive questions from councillors.
There were none.
- b) Future agenda items

00558. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 20th APRIL 2022

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960, because of the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting during consideration of following item

00559. TO REVIEW SURVEY AND LEASE FOR NEW PREMISES

It was noted that there are some delays.

Meeting closed at 21:12pm

Signed.....

Date.....

