

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** of the
BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN**
HALL,
on **Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 7pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Plim (Town Mayor); Cllr Baldry; Cllr Blagrove; Cllr Brailsford; Cllr Carroll; Cllr Clasby; Cllr Drayson; Cllr Fenner; Cllr Izzard; Cllr Gibson; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Winter; Cllr Wray.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Miller, Clerk; one member of the public, County Councillor Geary and County Councillor Hollidge, two representatives from 18 hours.

00149. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two representatives from 18 hours spoke about the organisation's work, and it was noted that a business case request for funding will be put forward to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

00150. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies with reasons for absence from Cllr Rustem, Cllr Harding, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Norris, and Cllr Carroll.

00151. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Winter declared an interest in the item concerning Citizens Advice.

00152. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of 22nd June 2022.

00153. COMMITTEES

To receive the minutes and updates of committees held since the last Full Council meeting:

- a) 06/06/2022 Planning and Development Advisory Committee – noted.
- b) 22/06/2022 Finance and General Purposes Committee – noted.
- c) 22/06/2022 Planning and Development Advisory Committee – noted.

00154. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance and General Purposes Committee

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following policies:
 - i. Grievance Policy
 - ii. Disciplinary Policy
 - iii. Sickness Absence Policy
 - iv. Health and Safety Policy
 - v. Expenses Policy
 - vi. Travel and Expenses Claim Form

- b) To approve recruitment of full time Facilities Co-ordinator role
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the recruitment of the full time Facilities Co-ordinator role.

00155. MAYOR'S OFFICE

- a) To receive update on the work of the Town Mayor – an update was noted.
Cllr Izzard left the meeting at 19:32 and re-entered the meeting at 19:32pm.

00156. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

External councillors may report for 3 minutes written reports must be received three days before the meeting.

- a) To receive reports from Division County Councillors
Cllr Geary addressed the meeting and gave a general update, requesting that the council keep county members informed of local issues that require their help. Cllr Geary agreed to check on the additional grass cuts being funded by the town council. It was noted that a monthly surgery takes place at the Amherst Club for all residents. Cllr Geary reminded councillors to request county councillor attendance for any issues that need to be addressed.
Cllr Hollidge addressed the meeting and gave an update on the proposed London Road changes and reminded all to engage with the consultation starting on 11th July.
Cllr Hollidge advised that the parking review informal consultation will be released to residents in July and a formal consultation by the end of the year. The Transport for South East consultation was noted.
- b) To receive reports from Ward District Councillors – Cllr Thomas gave an update on the proposals for housing on Eilerslie Lane.
- c) To receive ward reports from Town Councillors – noted.

00157. SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

- a) To receive update from Cllrs Brailsford; Taylor-Gee; Thomas on 'Bexhill Hub for Ukraine Support'
Cllr Taylor-Gee gave an update. It was noted that a Ukrainian speaking trauma team is being developed. Group meetings are being held for hosts to support those assisting. Funding has been received from East Sussex County Council, via Rother Voluntary Action group to assist. The town council was thanked for its continued interest and support.

00158. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- a) To note Strategy Training date change – noted,
- b) To consider design for corporate flag
It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the corporate flag design circulated and for the copyright to be investigated.
- c) To approve Bexhill Trust membership – it was noted that the trust will meet next week to discuss this matter.

00159. EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES

To receive reports from external representatives (circulated prior to the meeting)

- a) RALC - Cllr Winter and Cllr Taylor-Gee
It was noted that the AGM had conducted its usual business.
- b) Citizen's Advice Bureau – Cllr Gibson
This item was deferred in Cllr Gibson's absence.
- c) Bexhill Air Cadet Squadron – Mayor – it was noted that the committee are due to meet in August.
 - i. To adopt Mayoral Cadet Policy
The title of the policy to be reviewed at the Community Committee with a final recommendation referred to full council.
It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Mayor Cadet Policy with an amendment to include all community youth groups and schools.
 - ii. To adopt Safeguarding Policy
It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Safeguarding Policy with an amendment for all councillors undertake an enhanced DBS check within two months of taking office, at no personal cost to themselves. The DBS check will be reviewed regularly. It was agreed to update item 6c to 'refrain from any discriminatory behaviour...'
- d) Fairtrade – Cllr Izzard
Cllr Izzard reported that there is an event in St Leonards and a 'National Great Big Green Week' campaign.
- e) To receive update from Cllr Drayson on Summer Road Safety Update 13/06/2022 – an update was noted.
- f) To appoint representative to selection panel for 'Old and Bold' initiative with Active Rother
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Barfoot to the 'Old and Bold' panel.
- g) To appoint representative to attend Sea Angling Club Design Workshop 18/07/2022 7pm
It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Gibson to attend the Sea Angling Club Design Workshop.
- h) To note police liaison meeting requested – noted.

00160. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) Cllr Drayson
That this Council urgently creates an Allotment Committee to recommend an effective strategy for their management and to lead the implementation of that Strategy.
It was **RESOLVED** to refer this motion to the Climate, Nature and Environment Committee.
- b) Cllr Brailsford
That this council consider changing the terms of reference for committee membership to prevent the Mayor and Deputy Mayor from taking up full committee places due to their existing ex-officio status.
It was **RESOLVED** to refer this motion to the Finance and General Purposes Committee to investigate.

- c) Cllr Thomas
 That this council consider supporting the proposal for a new direct railway route to Polegate.
Cllr Fenner left the meeting at 20:56pm and re-entered the meeting at 20:56pm
 It was **RESOLVED** to refer the motion to the Climate, Nature and Environment Committee and make a recommendation to the full council.

Cllrs Blagrove and Winter left the meeting at 21:02pm

Cllr Clasby left the meeting at 21:03pm and re-entered the meeting at 21:03pm

00161. CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- a) Request to send joint letter with Chamber of Commerce to CEOs of banking institutions in the town – it was noted that the Chamber of Commerce have since informed the town council that they do not wish to do anything with or support the town council and no further action was taken.
 b) Thank you for Mayoral visit to Clifford Road Day Centre – noted,
 c) Community Speedwatch update and request for joining police support – noted.

00162. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) To receive answers to questions raised at the last meeting

<p>Cllr Brailsford Would the council consider a motion to prevent the mayor and deputy mayor from taking up full committee places as they have ex-officio status and can already attend and vote at all meetings.</p>	<p>This item is on the agenda.</p>
<p>Cllr Thomas Would the council will consider supporting the proposal for a new direct railway route to Polegate.</p>	<p>This item is on the agenda.</p>

- b) To receive questions from councillors
 Cllr Baldry asked what steps the town council can take to encourage members of the public to stand for election in May 2023.
 c) To note any future agenda items – there were none.
 d) To consider any new risks to be added to the risk register.
 A potential risk was raised possibility of insufficient candidates standing in May 2023.

00163. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 6TH SEPTEMBER 2022

The meeting was suspended at 21:11pm to allow the streaming service leave.

The meeting re-convened at 21:19pm

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 in item 164 & 165, the public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting during consideration of the following:

00164. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON LEASE NEGOTIATIONS

The Community Committee will consider a communications strategy for the new premises and the Finance and General Purposes Committee will consider the project plan.
The procurement policy will be reviewed at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee.

00165. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON STAFFING MATTERS

It was noted that there was no further update.

Meeting closed at 21:24pm

Signed.....

Date.....