

## **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**

To all Members of Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council

You are summoned to attend a meeting of **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**  
to be held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD,**  
**BEXHILL-ON-SEA**

on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 6:00pm**

when it is proposed to transact the following business:

Julie Miller

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025

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Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.

*Please note that the proceedings of this meeting may be recorded in line with regulations set out in the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. Members of the public addressing the council but not wishing to be recorded should put this request to the town clerk at the earliest opportunity.*

**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE DURING THE MEETING AS THIS INTERFERES WITH THE RADIO MICROPHONES USED IN RECORDING THE MEETING.**

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*In accordance with standing order 3(e) this session shall not exceed 15 minutes unless directed by the Chair of the meeting. Subject to standing order 3(f), a member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. In accordance with standing order 3(e), a question shall not require a response at the meeting nor start a debate on the question. The chair of the meeting may direct that a written or oral response be given. A person shall raise his hand when requesting to speak and stand when speaking (except when a person has a disability or is likely to suffer discomfort). The chair of the meeting may at any time permit a person to be seated when speaking. A person who speaks at a meeting shall direct his comments to the chair of the meeting. Only one person is permitted to speak at a time. If more than one person wants to speak, the chair of the meeting shall direct the order of speaking.*

#### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

#### **3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

#### **4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **5. MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the following meetings of the full council:

- a) Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024. (Appendix A)

#### **6. COMMITTEES**

- a) To note minutes from committee meetings held since the last meeting:
- i. Amenities Committee 08/01/25 (Appendix B)
  - ii. Finance and Audit Committee 15/01/25 (Appendix C)
  - iii. Planning and Development Committee 15/01/25 (Appendix D)
- b) To note current vacancies on committees as per Terms of Reference and appoint members to the following vacancies:
- i. Planning and Development Committee x 1.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES**

- a) Finance and Audit Committee
  - i. To ringfence £5,000 of CIL funds towards future accessibility projects
  - ii. To approve updated Expenses Policy *(Appendix E)*
  - iii. To approve Preventing Sexual Harassment Policy *(Appendix F)*

## **8. MAYOR'S OFFICE**

- a) To receive update on the work of the Town Mayor. *(Appendix G)*

## **9. 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.
- b) To receive reports from Ward District Councillors.
- c) To receive ward reports from Town Councillors.

## **10. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

- a) To consider process for responding to planning applications to replace the Planning and Development Committee.

*(Appendix H)*

## **11. ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL LIASION**

- a) To note leaders meeting notes from 17/01/25. *(Appendix I)*
- b) To consider offer from Rother District Council for the Town Council to take temporary control of the public toilets until the freehold is negotiated to enable toilets to be re-opened.
- c) To note awaiting update on the request for the acquisition of Rother District Council Town Hall, a list of discretionary services and an update on the devolution of parks and open spaces and the Museum.
- d) To note Channel View East Public Convenience lease with solicitors.
- e) To note no clarification on ownership of War Memorials received, this matter is being followed up regularly.
- f) To note heads of terms for Pebsham Play Park with solicitors, no timescales available at present.
- g) To consider re-arranging the visioning exercise meeting to focus on reviewing the services available to the Town Council following updates from Rother District Council and East Sussex County Council.

## **12. POST OFFICE**

- a) To note request sent to Post Office Ltd for inclusion of the town council in the closure consultations and to be sent any consultation documents to promote to residents.

### **13. SIDLEY LEAKY DAMS PROJECT**

- a) To receive notes from the meeting held with East Sussex County Council and Rother District Council and David Dennis.

### **14. EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES**

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

- a) RALC – Cllr Jacklin and Cllr Thomas.
- b) Citizen’s Advice – Cllr Byrne
- c) Bexhill Air Cadet Squadron – Mayor
- d) Bexhill Maritime – Cllr Timpe
- e) Little Gate Farm – Cllr Jacklin
- f) Town Board – Cllr Wilson
- g) Chamber of Commerce Centenary Fund Assessment Panel – Cllr Wilons
- h) To note Amenities Committee submission for Cllr Byrne to join the Combe Valley CIC.

### **15. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- a) Cllr Byrne

I would like to propose that Bexhill Town Council facilitate two “Town Forum” style public meetings during 2025. The meetings to be held in March and September, actual dates to be announced nearer the time. The meetings would largely follow the “Any Questions” format with questions being directed to a panel of prominent local residents and local authority Councillors. The meetings should, if possible, be held in a suitable non-council venue.

- b) Cllr Jacklin

- i. Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council acknowledges the request by East and West Sussex County Councils and Brighton and Hove City Council to combine into a single Sussex wide authority with Mayoral elections in May 2026. We understand that under this new structure District and Borough Councils would be absorbed into the new authority with Town and Parish Councils remaining in place.
- ii. Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council will seek to set up an appropriate mechanism for this transition to be managed if and when this transition is confirmed.
- iii. Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council will also initiate discussions with RDC and ESCC at the earliest appropriate time to ensure that Bexhill on Sea residents receive value for money during this reorganisation, that the Town continues to evolve and improve and key services are maintained.

### **16. CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

- a) Rother District Council Budget Consultation – Deadline for response: 10/01/25.
- b) Statutory Consultation on proposed parking restrictions and shared footpaths for Bexhill cycle route between Worsham and Collington.

## 17. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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

Cllr El asked for a final design update on the Pebsham Play Park and have this displayed in the Hub.	This has been circulated.
Cllr Jacklin asked for the list of discretionary services to be provided. prior to the visioning exercise.	This has been requested.
Cllr Jacklin asked if the previous motion is the last longest motion ever agreed by the Town Council.	Quite possibly!

- b) To receive questions from councillors at the meeting.  
c) To note any future agenda items.  
d) To consider any new risks to be added to the risk register.

## 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

*All motions for the next meeting of full council on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025 must be received by 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025.*

*Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press will not be permitted to attend during the following items:*

## 19. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON LEGAL CLAIM