

**BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**

Held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD,**

**BEXHILL-ON-SEA**

On **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026** at **6:30pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Blagrove, Cllr Byrne, Cllr Carroll, Cllr Drayson, Cllr El, Cllr Goss, Cllr Huseyin, Cllr Jacklin, Cllr Lee, Cllr Plim, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Timpe, Cllr Wilson, Cllr Winter.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** M Webber, Deputy Clerk; L Muhilathithan; One Videographer, 0 members of public.

**00511 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was none.

**00512 HOMES ENGLAND – LAND AT NORTHEYE**

a) To discuss new development.

Two representatives from Homes England attended the meeting to speak on behalf of Homes England regarding the Development on the Northeye site. The representatives reported that there are no definite plans for the site yet. Focusing on engaging and working with residents to shape the future for the Northeye site. Committed to not just bring housing but to respond to local priorities. They want to know how involved the Council would like to be in this process.

**00513 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was resolved to receive and approve apologies for absence with reason from Cllr Crotty, Cllr Hunt, and Cllr Peters.

**00514 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Cllr Byrne declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council.

Cllr Drayson declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council and member of Egerton Bowls Club.

Cllr Timpe declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council and Old Town Occasions at Manor Barn.

Cllr Winter declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council.

**00515 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Initial.....

Cllr Wilson will be bringing item 8 forward and merging this with the Chairs Announcement.

The Chairman addressed the meeting regarding his term of office.

**00516 MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the following meeting:

a) Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

Cllr Timpe noted that the minutes do not include one of her declarations of interest.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from the meeting of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026, including the correction proposed by Cllr Timpe.

**00517 COMMUNITY GROUPS – CIL FUNDING**

a) To review the request from Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club for application for funds from CIL Community Group Fund.

Cllr Drayson re-declared his interest as a member of Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club.

*Cllr Drayson left the meeting at 19:08pm.*

Cllr Plim proposed a dual motion: to review the policy and then come back to the Full Council and to seek further clarification from the Bowls Club about their application.

*Discussion ensued.*

Cllr Plim added to his motion to investigate if Rother District Council have also been approached by the Egerton Indoor Bowls Club for CIL funding.

It was **RESOLVED** to review the policy, seek further clarification from Egerton Indoor Bowls Club on their application and to investigate if Rother District Council have also been approached.

**00518 MAYORS OFFICE**

a) To receive an update on the work of Town Mayor.

This item was moved up the agenda.

**00519 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES**

- a) Engagement and Communications Committee.  
For the Full Council to encourage as many Councillors as possible to attend the Annual Town Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Full Council to encourage as many Councillors as possible to attend the Annual Town meeting.

#### **00520 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

External Councillors may report for three minutes. Written reports must be received three days before the meeting.

To note the Council has received apologies from Councillor Hollidge.

- a) To receive reports from Division County Councillors.

There was none.

- b) To receive reports form Ward District Councillors.

There was none.

- c) To receive ward reports from Town Councillors.

Cllr Winter reported that unfortunately Harry Waddingham, Britains oldest War veteran, has passed away. Requested that the Council hold a minute of silence.

A minute of silence was held.

Cllr Timpe reported that it has been decided that for the upcoming summer season there will be two lifeguards on the beach.

Cllr Byrne reported that there is a new coffee van on the top of Galley Hill, welcoming the new business.

#### **00521 DEPUTY CLERK UPDATE**

- I. School Crossing Patrol at Little Common – To note the Deputy Clerk has emailed the school twice but has not received a response.
- II. Social media training - To note this has been booked for the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 at 6:30pm.
- III. Councillor training – To note Councillor training is being reviewed at present, more details to follow.

#### **00522 RUBBER GRASS MATTING – (CLLR LEE)**

- a) To receive update on the possibility of the installation of rubber grass matting along the A259 Little Common Road.

*Discussion ensued.*

Cllr Plim proposed the motion for the Clerk to seek further clarification from the Planning Department and East Sussex Highways on the feasibility of installing rubber grass matting and find the cost of undertaking the cost of an independent contractor.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to seek further clarification from the Planning Department and East Sussex Highways on the feasibility of installing rubber grass matting and find the cost of undertaking the cost of an independent contractor.

**00523 CCTV – EGERTON PARK**

- a) To receive update.

*Cllr Lee left the meeting at 19:59pm.*

To note that the Deputy Town Clerk had a meeting with Rother District Council and Inspector Whithead in relation to additional CCTV. They advised that on the last inspection additional CCTV is not possible due to the lack of availability for an electric supply. The other option is to phone in any issues to the police; they did operation Zippy last year which did resolve some of the issues occurring in the park.

*Cllr Lee re-entered the meeting at 20:01pm.*

**00524 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**

- a) To receive update from Deputy Town Clerk and the list which was agreed by Rother District Council Cabinet.

To note the list has been circulated to all Councillors. Further meetings between Rother District Council and Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council Officers are happening, mainly in relation to services etc. The Deputy Town Clerk is awaiting further information on services which will be shared with the Full Council when received.

Cllr Plim proposed the motion to investigate if Rother District Council have sold or are in negotiations with others to dispose of any of the assets on the green list.

To note questions to be emailed to the Clerk to be asked at the Leaders Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to investigate if Rother District Council have sold or are in negotiations with others to dispose of any of the assets on the green list.

**00525 PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) To receive update on the Neighbourhood Plan.  
To note all relevant documentation has been re submitted and meet the criteria, Officers are awaiting an update from Rother District Council Planning Officer of what the next steps will be. At present they are extremely busy dealing with the Local Plan consultation.

**00526 ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL LIASON**

- a) To receive update on Pebsham Recreation ground.  
Due to the fact that Pebsham Recreation Ground is now on the asset transfer list, there is no longer a purpose to continue with the lease as we will potentially get the freehold. The Deputy Town Clerk has met with Rother District Council and are looking at a Memorandum of Understanding so that the play park can proceed alongside the transfer of assets to avoid further delay. Further update to follow.

*Cllr Thomas left the meeting at 20:20pm.*

**00527 EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- a) To receive update from external representatives.

Cllr Wilson stated it will now be expected for external representatives to have a report pre-prepared and provided before the meeting if they have an update.

Cllr Jacklin – This afternoon the Government announced geographical definitions of some of the new unitary authorities. The decision for Sussex has not been taken. It will be decided after the May elections. Whether they need further input I don't know but I will try to find out on Friday.

Cllr Wilson – Good news, the Neighbourhood Board had their first four-year investment signed off by MHCLG. Should start getting funds coming through to start making some of the projects in Bexhill happen and to regenerate parts of Bexhill.

**00528 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

*Cllr Thomas re-entered the meeting at 20:22pm.*

a) Cllr Lee

For the Town Council to investigate the possibility and costs of installing Modular self-cleaning toilets in the town.

Cllr Lee requested this motion to be deferred until April meeting.

b) Cllr El

After personally witnessing this issue and receiving an email from the school it is clearly visible that a zebra crossing is essential for St Peter & St Paul Primary School. After a recent incident in which a child was knocked down whilst trying to cross the road, followed by the illness of the school crossing patrol officer it has become evident that a zebra crossing would be a hugely important addition for the school and the residents alike. I would like to put forward a motion to lobby all necessary institutions and do everything in our power to secure the installation of a zebra crossing in front of St Peter & St Paul Primary School on Buckhurst Road, Bexhill, as soon as possible and without delay.

*Discussion ensued.*

Motion for Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council to request the installation of a zebra crossing in front of St Peter & St Paul Primary School on Buckhurst Road.

It was **RESOLVED** for Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council to request the installation of a zebra crossing in front of St Peter & St Paul Primary School on Buckhurst Road.

*Cllr Goss left the meeting at 20:32pm.*

*Cllr Goss re-entered the meeting at 20:35pm.*

Cllr Winter proposed for the Clerk to look at other Parish and Town Councils and see what they have done to solve this issue with School Crossing Patrol.

Initial.....

To note Councillors should use their social media to promote the need for School Crossing Patrol Officers.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to investigate how other Parish and Town Councils have solved this issue with School Crossing Patrol.

c) Cllr Wilson

Safety of Councillors – During the FAC there was a debate around the safety of councillors. Cllr Blagrove requested if the main door of the building our meetings are within could be locked. Cllr Wilson added that there is a risk for any councillor meeting a resident on their own or holding a surgery on their own. Whilst that part is on the risk register should the corporate body have a standard approach to ensure safety?

*Discussion ensued.*

Cllr Plim put forward the motion to review the security arrangements for public meetings, which do not incur costs.

It was **RESOLVED** to review security arrangements for public meetings, which do not incur costs.

**00529 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

- a) Cavendish Consulting – on behalf of LNT Care Development – Does the Town Council want a one-to-one meeting with them in relation to the planning application for Land West of Pages Lane for a 66-bed care home.

It was **RESOLVED** to organise a one-to-one meeting in relation to the planning application for Land West of Pages Lane.

- b) Bellway Homes – To consider the following street names for the development on Turkey Road:

Road 1 – Lunsford Drive

Road 2 – Quarry Way

Road 3 – Brickworks Close

Apartment blocks –

Block 1 - Highwoods Court

Block 2 - Fair Acre Court

Cllr Plim proposed that instead of 'Brickworks Close' they refer to local Woodland areas North of the development for a street name, such as Scallet Woods Close or Way.

It was **RESOLVED** to suggest that instead of Brickworks Close they refer to local Woodland North of the development for the street name, such as Scallet Woods Close or Way.

- a) Bellway Homes – To consider adopting the new Bus shelters in the development off Turkey Road, in return for an agreed financial consideration – If so, does the Town Council have a preferred make or model of shelter that Bellway could supply and install.

Cllr Jacklin requested that the Bus Shelters be wooden instead of plastic for cohesivity with the area.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the new Bus Shelters in the development off Turkey Road with the request that they are wooden.

Cllr Plim proposed delegating the choice of design to the Clerk as this is an operational decision.

**00530 RISK REGISTER**

- a) To consider any new risks to be added to the risk register.  
There was none.

**00531 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026**

All motions for the next meeting of the Full Council on 29<sup>th</sup>April 2026 must be received by received by the 18<sup>th</sup>April 2026.

Cllr Wilson announced that the next meeting of the Full Council will be on the **22<sup>nd</sup>April 2026**, therefore the motion deadline will be the **11<sup>th</sup>April 2026**.

*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:*

*The meeting was closed to the public at 20:49pm.*

**00532 MOTIONS**

- a) To consider two Motions put forward by Cllr Wilson in relation to Local Government Reorganisation – Asset Transfer.

*Cllr Lee left the meeting at 20:52pm.*

*Discussion ensued.*

*Cllr Lee re-entered the meeting at 20:54pm.*

It was **RESOLVED** to take this discussion to the Leaders meeting and then report back to Full Council.

**00533 APPOINTMENT OF MAYORAL CADET AND STANDARD BEARER**

It was **RESOLVED** to delegate the authority to Cllr Wilson and Cllr Huseyin to choose who will be the Mayoral Cadet and Standard Bearer.

*The meeting was closed at 21:00pm.*

*Date.....*

*Signed.....*

Initial.....