

**BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the **COMMUNITY COMMITTEE** of **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL** held in **Pebsham Community Centre** on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 6.30pm**

Present: Cllr Plim; Cllr Baldry; Cllr Brailsford; Cllr Barfoot; Cllr Carroll; Cllr Gibson; Cllr Rustem; Cllr Winter

Also in attendance: J Miller Clerk; Cllr Blagrove; Cllr Thomas; four members of the public.

**00041. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN**

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Baldry as Chairman of the Committee.

**00042. TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN**

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Taylor-Gee as Vice Chairman of the Committee.

**00043. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve apologies for absence with reasons given from Cllr Clasby and Cllr Taylor-Gee.

**00044. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Cllr Baldry declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item concerning the Senior Citizens Club and Friends of Bexhill events.

**00045. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Baldry announced that this is the first sitting of a committee of the new town council and remarked on its significance as the Community Committee as councillors are all working for the community.

*The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to address the meeting.*

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

Cllr Blagrove asked to join the Community Committee and was advised to raise this at full council when the terms of reference is being considered. Cllr Thomas commented that increasing numbers on the committee could affect the efficiency.

**GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**00046. Terms of Reference**

It was **RESOLVED** to add the following to the agreed terms of reference and recommend to full council for adoption.

1.8. To work in conjunction with the Mayors Office to utilise the office of Mayor for the benefit of Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council as a whole and to

receive reports from the Mayor on any forthcoming functions they are due to attend.

1.9 To hold the delegated authority to approve grants and community support within the framework of the financial regulations.

### **COMMUNICATION**

To note update on social media channels and website.

It was noted that Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are all online and the website shall be available by the end of the week.

- 00047.** It was **RESOLVED** to formally thank the town clerk for the timely introduction of the website and social media platforms.

To note newsletter format options and budget being investigated

It was also noted that residents will be able to sign up for alerts to the publication of the newsletter on the website and posters could be put around the wards informing residents about the new website.

To consider a noticeboard strategy.

- 00048.** It was **RESOLVED** to research a sponsorship policy for review at the next meeting.

- 00049.** It was **RESOLVED** to research a noticeboard policy for review at the next meeting.

- 00050.** It was **RESOLVED** to investigate options of lease or purchase of noticeboards for review at the next meeting.

- 00051.** It was **RESOLVED** for councillors to feedback to the town clerk the recommended locations for new noticeboards in each ward. The town clerk shall email all councillors for feedback on this, with a deadline to reply by 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

To consider recommending the appointment of a Town Crier to full council.

- 00052.** It was **RESOLVED** to research the appointment of a Town Crier for review at the next meeting.

To consider involvement of the Town Forum.

It was **RESOLVED** to formally thank the Town Forum for all their work in the town and for providing a platform for hearing the views of residents during the formation of the town council.

- 00053.** The clerk shall seek the views of the Town Forum on how it sees its role in conjunction with the town council moving forward.

- 00054.** It was **RESOLVED** for the town clerk to investigate the equipment held at the Town Forum to stream council meetings.

To note ID cards and lanyards being investigated for recommendation to full council.

- 00055.** It was **RESOLVED** for the town clerk to investigate branding and a PO box to use on business cards. A cost for business cards shall be obtained.

## CONSULTATION 2021

To consider approach to the consultation exercise and agree next steps.

After much discussion it was agreed that the town council must listen to people as this is the most important piece of work that it will do. It was agreed that different methods must be used to communicate with all residents and business and timescales are to be set.

**00056.** It was **RESOLVED** for the town clerk to put together a draft set of consultation questions and costed project plan for consideration by the committee.

**00057.** It was **RESOLVED** to call an extra-ordinary meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to review the plans.

## EVENTS

To consider how to mark Bexhill Day on 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

**00058.** It was **RESOLVED** for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to perform a journey around of Bexhill-on-Sea taking in all wards and visiting local events on Bexhill Day.

**00059.** It was **RESOLVED** for the town clerk to design an invite, in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, for councillors to pass on to local organisations and businesses to get involved in Bexhill Day, residents shall be asked to contribute stories about Bexhill-on-Sea.

To consider investigating a Town Freeman/Freewoman policy and recognising nominees appointed during COVID-19 lockdown.

It was **RESOLVED** for the town clerk to draft a Town Freeman/Town Freewoman policy for consideration by the committee and arrange awards at a later date.

*Cllr Carroll left the meeting at 20:10*

## YOUNG RESIDENTS

To consider setting up a youth council and agree next steps

*Cllr Carroll re-entered the meeting at 20:12*

**00060.** It was **RESOLVED** to include the idea of a youth council in the consultation and act upon the residents views before setting up a working group.

To consider investigating Mayor Cadets

It was noted that a proposal for a youth Mayor may come from the consultation results.

## MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Taylor-Gee

To consider setting up a 'ping ping parlour'

This motion fell.

To consider 'Hello Bexhill' strategy as discussed at Full Council

*Cllr Barfoot left the meeting at 20:21pm*

*Cllr Barfoot re-entered the meeting at 20:23pm*

- 00061. It was **RESOLVED** to set up a project plan to consider the strategy for ‘Hello Bexhill’.  
To consider a Communications sub-committee of the Community Committee  
 This motion fell.  
To consider inviting Chair of Town Centre steering group to report on progress with regeneration.
- 00062. An amendment was made to the motion and it was **RESOLVED** to invite the Chair of Town Centre steering group to report on progress with regeneration to Full Council.  
To consider recommended to full council the appointment of a part time fund raiser.
- 00063. It was **RESOLVED** to investigate the role of a part time fund raiser in a future project plan for staffing.  
To consider drafting an external representatives policy for recommendation to full council.
- 00064. It was **RESOLVED** to draft an external representatives policy for consideration at a future meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

To consider request from Bexhill Senior Citizens Club to support a grant application for building refurbishment.  
It was noted that due to the short notice of this request the committee did not have enough information to make a decision. Future applications for support should need to provide how much, what is for and the benefit to the community.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 00065. It was **RESOLVED** to hold the next meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 18:30pm to discuss the consultation to be held at Little Common Community Centre if available.  
*Cllr Brailsford left the meeting at 21:00*
- 00066. It was **RESOLVED** that future committee meetings shall be held on the second Wednesday of the month.  
*Cllr Brailsford re-entered the meeting at 21:01*

Meeting closed at 21:03.

Signed.....

Date.....

Initial.....