

BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**
ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD,**
BEXHILL-ON-SEA
On **Wednesday 5th February 2025 at 6:00pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Blagrove; Cllr Byrne; Cllr Huseyin; Cllr Plim; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Winter

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: J Miller, Clerk; One videographer; Cllr Wilson (ex-officio)
Cllr Drayson; one member of the public.

00582 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Cllr Drayson addressed the meeting and advised that the group that arranged the Tree of Hope will be putting together an event for the Day of Reflection on March 9th for the COVID-19 pandemic.

00583 RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

00584 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Byrne declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council and Trustee of Men's Shed.

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

00585 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair reported that today, the central government has announced plans for greater devolution, opening the door for more local decision-making powers. As part of this, a consultation has been launched on the potential creation of a strategic authority and an elected mayor for Sussex.

This is a significant opportunity for Bexhill, and many items on the agenda would be affected by these proposed changes.

It was noted that the Christmas Lights item shall be moved to a confidential session due to commercial sensitivity of the pricing matters.

00586 MINUTES

a) To sign and approve the minutes for the meeting of Wednesday 4th December.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 4th December 2024.

00587 FIVE YEAR STRATEGY

- a) To note visioning exercise being updated to include devolution services and meeting provisionally booked for 16th April 2025. – noted.

00588 REGALIA

- a) To note St Peter's Church Mayoral kneeling cushions on order. – noted.
- b) To note Mayoral Cadet and Standard Bearer applications open for 2025-2026. – noted.
- c) To consider options for Mayoral board.
It was **RESOLVED** to obtain a quote from Men's Shed, and if they are unable to proceed with Gold Tree Bespoke
- d) To receive research into civic regalia valuations and consider next steps.
It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with a one-off valuation by Vaughtons.
- e) To consider purchase of bi-corn hat for Mace Bearer approximate cost £600.
It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a bi-corn hat for the Mace Bearer at a maximum cost of £600.
- f) To note regalia removals quotes on hold until further news on the Town Hall position in the devolution plans. – noted.

00589 COMMUNICATIONS

- a) To note councillor photos for press and media material outstanding for: Cllr Hampton; Cllr Huseyin; Cllr Hunt. – noted.

00590 BEXHILL-ON-SEA CIVIC HISTORY BOOKLET

- a) To receive draft civic history booklet (circulated in Zip File due to size of document) - this was noted, and photographs will be added.

00591 BEXHILL DAY (16 AUGUST 2025)

- a) To note planning underway. – noted.

Cllr Winter left the meeting at 18:37pm

00592 CIVIC AWARDS AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (29 MARCH 2025)

- a) To note event details and winners to be selected at February Full Council meeting. – noted.
It was **RESOLVED** to organise a second town meeting to be held in the first two weeks of October on a Saturday at 12pm. This could

00593 COUNCILLOR TRAINING EVENTS

- a) To note autism awareness training outstanding for Cllr Byrne; Cllr Hampton; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Timpe. – noted.

00594 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION EVENTS

- a) To note investigation into lamp post poppies underway.
A report was received, and it was **RESOLVED** to purchase 79 poppies at £5.00 each and obtain permission to affix to the posts specified throughout Central, Little Common, Sidley.
- b) To consider supporting VE Day 80 street party 11th May 2025 and road closure.
It was **RESOLVED** to support VE Day 80 street party 11th May 2025 and road closure.
- c) To consider supporting Battle of Britain event 14th September 2025.
It was **RESOLVED** to support Battle of Britain event 14th September 2025.
- d) To note St Peters Church request to integrate Remembrance Day service with parade – further information to follow. – noted.

00595 COMMUNITY EVENTS

- a) To note update on tender circulation for serpollet sculpture on Glyne Gap roundabout. – noted.
The ongoing maintenance of the roundabout was discussed, and it was noted that this is the responsibility of National Highways.
- b) To note Street Market booked for 17th and 18th May and to confirm road closure support for September market.
It was **RESOLVED** to support the September market and organise the road closure. Alternative locations could be encouraged for the future.

00596 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There are none.

00597 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Request from ex-Councillor Lynn Brailsford to create a larger past mayor's badge.
It was **RESOLVED** to investigate past mayor's badge options on a chain or larger badge.

00598 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- a) To note answers to questions from the last meeting.
There were none.
- b) To receive questions from councillors and any future agenda items.
Cllr Huseyin asked if the Committee would ask the Bexhill Lions to relocate the Street Market in 2026.

00599 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 2nd APRIL 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 were asked to leave the meeting during consideration of item 600:

00600 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2025 (29 NOVEMBER 2025)

- a) To consider three-year contract with current supplier.
It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Full Council that financial regulations are suspended to permit the council to enter into a three-year contract with current supplier.

The meeting closed at 19:20pm.

Date.....

Signed.....

