

HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment and General Purposes Committee held on 27th February 2023.

Matt Jeffers (Chairman)
Sandy Ellis (Vice Chairman)
Clare Cheney
Rachel Cromie **
Stephanie Inglesfield
Jack Langley
Alastair McPherson
Howard Muddin

Apologies Absent***
Also present: Town Clerk and Events and Community Officer.

36. Apologies

R. Cromie – Ill Health

37. Minutes

The minutes of the Environment & General Purposes Committee dated 19th December 2022 were taken as read, confirmed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

38. Substitutes

None

39. Declarations of Interest

None

40. Haywards Heath in Bloom Presentation

Cllr Ellis, Chair of the Haywards Heath in Bloom Committee (HHiB), welcomed committee member Mr Murray Crump to the meeting who made a presentation regarding taking HHiB into a more strategic direction to demonstrate all of the good work being undertaken in the Town. This work would enable the benefits being derived from HHiB to be portrayed to the South East in Bloom (SSEiB) judging and other interested parties. It also included mapping the projects that the HHiB Committee work upon and those that the Town Council deliver upon whilst linking such to Town Council priorities, policies and the services provided in the Town. The mapping included the work of the groundstaff in keeping the Town in good order (planting, highways work on roundabouts and graffiti removal etc), Haywards Heath allotments, Western Road Cemetery and Nature reserve, litter picks and street furniture services provided. The presentation also included links to third party activities that the HHiB Committee supports. All of the aforementioned was presented in a mind map format, which could be developed as time moved on. Members welcomed the presentation and the approach that Mr Crump was taking and felt that the work could be a missing link for the South and South East in Bloom (SSEiB) entry and it was felt that the judges would enjoy being presented with such information and the manner in which Mr Crump was portraying. It was thought that the mapping would also ensure that no projects/initiatives would be left out of the 2023 entry. Member's response generally, to what they had been presented, was to commit to support Mr Crump with his work and most importantly would seek to ensure that everything within the mind map could

be delivered and/or approved of being undertaken by the Town Council. This would also apply to supporting third parties. Mention was made of the Grove Garden project and it was stated that Mr Crump would be sent supporting information on its development, clear links to the Green Flag for Muster Green and include information on ground breaking liaison with SWISH Fibre, who were working in the Town, would be noted as basis for future work with utilities companies who may need to enter planted land and the environment of the Town generally. Cllr Ellis thanked Mr Crump for his work and was thrilled by his enthusiasm and that of the Committee on which she and Mr Crump were members of, with this Mr Crump said that he would share his presentation with the Town Clerk,

Members **NOTED** the **presentation and support the development of the strategic work of the Haywards Heath in Bloom Committee.**

41. Events and Community Officer Report (ECO)

The ECO presented the update report as tabled in the agenda. Reference was made to the success of the Coat Exchange initiative, which had come to a conclusion. Members congratulated the ECO on a project that had supported around 400 people with new coats over the winter period. Concern was raised regarding the lack of interest in the Haywards Heath Dementia Forum and the potential loss of funding available, but it was agreed that the Town Council could only do so much to engage people in the Forum.

Members **NOTED** the report.

42. Haywards Heath Active

Members were enthused by the re-launching of Active Haywards Heath and shared officer's feeling that now it was up and running that the clubs and organisation should lead on future initiatives and subjects that Haywards Heath Active would concentrate on. These views supported by the suggested creation of an executive board. Members asked if disability sport/activities were being included. This was confirmed, as a number of umbrella organisation were involved such as the Dolphin Leisure Centre, Active Mid Sussex/Sussex and a representative of the schools from Mid Sussex who all provided for people with disabilities. It was noted that there was no longer an active disability forum in the South of the District but there was one in East Grinstead. This organisation had been approached before about other issues and there was a good link to the East Grinstead Sports Forum who sent representatives to the last meeting. It was also asked if the Pétanque Club at Beech Hurst had been involved to date. The answer to this was no at the present time. With Members noting that the Haywards Heath Sports Strategy needed updating later in the year and indeed rescoping,

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- a) **Notes the minutes of the Active Haywards Heath held on the 6th December 2022.**
- b) **Agree to the formation of an Executive Committee to lead upon the work of Active Haywards Heath and recommend to Full Council that it formally appoints Cllrs Evans and Jeffers to sit on the Committee for the rest of the Council term.**
- c) **Formally approve that the Executive Committee reports to the Environment and General Purposes Committee.**

d) That the Town Clerk engages a consultant to refresh the Haywards Heath (2016) Sports Strategy.

43. Fairfield Way Planting Licence

In line with previous requests to plant up areas of land in the Town Members were supportive of the move to adopt and plant up the land at the entrance to Fairfield Way. A local resident, who usually wished to remain nameless, was thanked for his support for the project and general help in the road, then,

Members **RESOLVED** that **the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to execute a planting licence agreement with West Sussex County for Fairfield Way, Haywards Heath.**

44. Management Plan for Muster Green.

The management plan was noted with mention of the progress of the placement of a GOBO projector on Muster Green. The Town Clerk outlined the unforeseen complications associated to the project. Members hoped that these would be overcome before the Coronation weekend as it was thought that its launch would be suitable with a projection of the Coronation logo. Without further comment noting the 2023 action plan outcomes and the action plan for 2023;

Members **RESOLVED** to **adopt the Muster Green Management Plan for 2023.**

45. Urgent Items

None.

Meeting closed at 8.22pm