

## HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Environment and General Purposes Committee 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

Nick Chapman (Chair)  
Alison Rees (Vice Chair)  
Anne- Marie Cooke  
Sandy Ellis \*\*  
Stephanie Inglesfield \*\*  
Deanna Nicholson  
Duncan Pascoe  
Leila Wilson

Apologies\*\* Absent\*

Also present: Town Clerk, Committee Clerk

#### 64. Apologies

Member	Reason
Cllr Inglesfield	Holiday
Cllr Ellis	Ill health

#### 65. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

#### 66. Minutes

The minutes of the Environment & General Purposes Committee dated 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 were taken as read, confirmed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

#### 67. Substitutes

None.

#### 68. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

#### 69. Events and Community Officer's update (February 24- April 24)

The Clerk referred to the ECO's report.

He highlighted that the poppies made from recycled plastic bottles have had a good response. After use at the Town Councils event the poppies are to be shared with other local towns for reuse.

Plans were well under way for 'Spring into Summer' and the D Day anniversary events. The ECO and PO are working on the Towns Christmas event.

Cllr Nicholson advised the best time to engage with secondary schools and 6<sup>th</sup> form colleges was between June and July. This information will be passed onto the ECO and PO.

Members **NOTED** the report.

#### 70. Environmental Policy and associated action plan

The Clerk shared the policy and action plan explaining that it was a fluid document.

Cllr Wilson thought the policy suggestions were sensible.

Cllr Pascoe thanked the Project Officer for her work.

After a short discussion

**Members RESOLVED to take the Environmental Policy and action plan to the next Policy and Finance meeting for discussion.**

**71. Weald to Waves project**

Cllr Nicholson presented her motion, the Weald to Waves project.

The Weald to Waves project is a plan to create a 20,000 hectare, 100 mile long wildlife corridor stretching from the Ashdown Forrest to the south coast. Cllr Nicholson noted that although Haywards Heath was outside the area of the initial project the Town Council, along with neighbouring parishes could create a 'local branch', a connected local corridor.

The idea behind the project is that anyone can sign up and designate their own green space 'giving' 30% of their land to be a connected wild space.

Cllr Nicholson suggested that HHTC could identify suitable owned land for the project. The Weald to Waves project would fit in well with the Environmental policies. The Town Council could advertise the project on their social media and website, encouraging schools, organisations and local residents to sign up.

Cllr Pascoe thought the project could also be tied in the Neighbourhood Plan, where open and green spaces have been designated.

Members thought it would be useful to try to lobby the District Council and involve organisations such as Network Rail and other 3<sup>rd</sup> parties.

After the discussion:

**Members RESOLVED to form a working group and report back at the next E & GP meeting.**

**72. Active Haywards Heath**

The Clerk referred to his report saying both he and the ECO were concerned at the lack of engagement from members of Haywards Heath Active. The Clerk asked for members views on future arrangements and ideas for the Town Councils involvement.

After a short discussion:

**Members Resolved that the board should be approached to decide upon a chairman, with Active Haywards Heath becoming more community led.**

**73. South and South East in Bloom**

The Clerk and ECO had attended a meeting earlier in the day where promotion of the event had been discussed. The Town Council will be promoting dates via social media, press releases and other marketing.

The judging date for Britain in bloom will be 31<sup>st</sup> July, the Clerk reminded the committee that the Town has the honour of representing the whole region.

**Members RESOLVED to note the update.**

- 74. Urgent Items**  
There were none.

Meeting closed at 08.22pm