

**0HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MEETING OF HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Councillors:** Abdul Bashar  
Nick Chapman  
Anne-Marie Cooke  
Rachel Cromie  
Sandy Ellis  
Stephanie Inglesfield  
Barbara King  
Anne-Marie Lucraft  
Paul Lucraft  
Alan Murray  
Deanna Nicholson  
Alison Rees  
Duncan Pascoe  
Anthony Platts \*\*  
Sinead Walsh  
Leila Wilson

**Apologies\*\* Absent\***  
**Also present: None**

**54. Moment of Reflection**

The Town Mayor lead Members in a moment of reflection before the meeting commenced.

**55. Apologies**

A. Platts – Ill Health,

**56. Public Forum**

None.

**57. Minutes**

The Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023, were taken as read, confirmed as true and duly signed by the Mayor.

**58. Declarations of Interest.**

None.

**59. To Dispose of any Business Outstanding from the Last Meeting.**

It was noted that the process to recruit the positions of Project Officer and Committee Clerk had been advertised with a view to appointments being made before Christmas, for New Year starts.

**60. Mayor's Engagements and Announcements.**

The Town Mayor, Cllr Inglesfield presented her list of engagements which were noted by the Council. Cllr Pascoe, Deputy Mayor was thanked for supporting the Mayor and Cllr Chapman who had also filled in for her at an event. Furthermore, the Mayor thanked Maria Horne her PA for her professionalism and great sense of humour even during a period when she was unwell. The Mayor went onto outline the highlights from the list of engagements presented to the Council.

- Age UK Bus Tour and lunch.

- Russettings Care Home, where Masterchef finalist Daksha prepared a delicious curry for residents.
- Goldbridge Care Home Dementia event, where there was music, dancing and food for residents.
- Baldwins Travel store opening, where it was nice to see a new business open in the Town.
- Bondues 25<sup>th</sup> Twinning Anniversary celebration event in Bondues. The Mayor stayed with a host family and had a wonderful welcome alongside a busy visit. The Mayor was sad to report the unexpected passing of Cllr Pierre Zimmerman (Deputy Mayor) since the visit. A letter had been sent to convey the Town Council's condolences.
- Cllr Bashar was thanked for organising a Haywards Heath Mosque visit with Cllr Pascoe, during which round the table discussions were held on the future of the Town and the burial ground.

Furthermore,

- Members were reminded of the 7<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Carols, which were to be held at 6pm at the Town Hall. All were encouraged to attend.
- Haywards Heath had been invited to enter Britain in Bloom, which was the culmination of years of hard work by the Town Council and the community as a whole. Cllr Ellis was thanked for her leadership of the Haywards Heath in Bloom Committee.

#### **61. To receive resolutions of the following Committees:**

- (i) Planning Committee - **MINS. 59 - 84**  
The resolutions of the Planning Committees, dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - **Mins 59 – 66**, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - **Mins 67 – 76**, and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - **Mins 77 – 84** were noted without discussion by the Council.
- (ii) Environment & General Purposes Committee - **MINS. 27 - 39**  
The resolutions of the Environment & General Purposes Committee, dated 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - **Mins 27 – 39** were noted without discussion by the Council.
- (iii) Policy & Finance Committee  
The resolutions of the Policy & Finance Committee, dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - **Mins 36 – 49** were noted without discussion by the Council.

#### **62. Haywards Heath Foodbank Van**

Members, where appreciating the aim of the Foodbank in purchasing a new van to enable cost savings, they were not comfortable with the proposal from the Foodbank as presented. This was on the grounds that there was no funding from other providers across Mid Sussex stated in the request. Therefore, it was felt that the Foodbank should be encouraged to approach Mid Sussex District Council and other funding agencies including the Parish Councils the Foodbank also serve because the scope of delivery was now across the District, as it was stated by the Foodbank that their demographic had changed since lockdown towards those who were socially isolated. It was also felt that business sponsorship should be looked into as it was felt that there were many companies willing to help such a worthy cause. With this Members felt that of course it was a worthy cause and much smarter to own a van than spend money in hiring costs, but more information was required.

Members **RESOLVED** to **defer the matter to seek further information.**

**63. Internal Audit Mid-Year Review**

It was noted that the audit had been completed by Mulberry and Co with Cllr AM Cooke as Chair of the Policy and Finance present along with the Deputy Clerk/RFO and Town Clerk. The Leader of the Town Council congratulated the Deputy Clerk/RFO Andrew Sturgeon as the audit read as an exemplar report that showed best practice in the way with Town Council was being managed.

Members **RESOLVED** to **adopt the mid-year Internal Audit report as presented.**

**64. To consider any urgent items, the Mayor has received.**

The Town Clerk explained that Christmas Arrangements for 2024 would be considered in due course but he outlined concerns about a lack of marshals this current year was a concern. It was noted that the Town Council had been let down by a third party, but Members needed to be aware as staff and Councillor family members had to step in at the last minute. It was also noted that the Christmas Light display was being re-organised as the contractor had let the Town Council down with the initial installation. So, if Councillors were asked, they could update residents.

**65. Members RESOLVED to enter into Exempt Business to discuss the Heads of Terms and Section 106 Agreement for Hurst Farm.**

Members considered the clauses that related to the Town Council's interest in the Hurst Farm development for the provision of a new Cemetery, Allotments and County Park and that the Town Clerk had been in negotiations with Homes England and Mid Sussex District Council. These were all agreed. During debate it was suggested that the technical reports already undertaken by the Town Council, especially the underground water flows would need to be revisited at the time the Reserved Matters is submitted. The Town Clerk stated that this work would be undertaken by an appointed consultant at the appropriate time so they would advise what was required to enable a successful application.

Members **RESOLVED** to **agree the clauses of the Draft Section 106 Agreement for Hurst Farm as presented.**

Meeting Closed at 8.24pm