

**HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING OF HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

**Councillors: Christopher Ash-Edwards**

**Richard Bates**

**Clare Cheney \*\***

**Rachel Cromie \*\***

**Sandy Ellis**

**Christopher Evans \*\***

**Howard Munding**

**Stephanie Inglesfield \*\***

**Matthew Jeffers**

**James Knight**

**Clive Laband \*\***

**Jack Langley**

**Alastair McPherson**

**Richard Nicholson \*\***

**Mike Pulfer**

**Sujan Wickremaratchi**

**Apologies\*\* Absent\***

**Also present - None.**

**64. Council Prayer**

Members stood for the Town Council prayer, which was read by Town Mayor Cllr Howard Munding.

**65. Statement on the Humanitarian Crisis in the Ukraine**

The Town Mayor read the following statement whilst Members reflected on the situation in the Ukraine;

*We, local and regional leaders across Europe, strongly condemn the multiple attacks and violations of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine. We express our full support and solidarity to the Ukrainian people and our peers in local and regional government. We will not accept that our European values and integrity be attacked again by the Russian Federation after the violation of Georgian territories by Russia in 2008. We are firmly opposed to the dismemberment of a free and democratic state in Europe.*

*The escalation of violence, repeated bombings and attacks on Ukrainian cities and territories are a serious threat to the preservation of peace and democracy across Europe. We call on the Federation of Russia to cease its attack, to leave the national territory of Ukraine, to respect all international treaties and fundamental principles of international law and to recognise the full sovereignty of Ukraine over all its territories, including Donbas and Crimea.*

*Firmly convinced of local democracy and city diplomacy, based on the values of peace that unite our municipalities across Europe since 1951, we stand by the Ukrainian municipalities, cities, hromadas, districts, raions and their representative associations. They are in the front line to protect the population and provide basic services to offer them good quality living conditions and daily survival. The destruction of infrastructure by the belligerents jeopardises the efficient and safe maintenance of basic public services provided by Ukrainian local and regional governments to their citizens.*

*As European local and regional governments, representing 60 national associations across 40 European countries, including Ukraine, we will continue to work to support them in their efforts. Not only are we ready to support our peers in the country with the materials and expertise they may need in the days and weeks to come. Municipalities and regions will probably have to face soon the human consequences of such a tragedy for Europe, probably resulting in a flow of humanitarian refugees. Coordination with our national governments will be essential.*

*As the European section of UCLG, let us hope that city diplomacy will soon unite us all again!*

Members **RESOLVED** to adopt the statement and instruct the Town Clerk to register the adoption on the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) European section of United Cities and Local Governments designated website.

## **66. Apologies**

Cllr Clare Cheney - Holiday  
Cllr Rachel Cromie - Ill Health  
Cllr Christopher Evans - Personal Matter  
Cllr Stephanie Inglesfield - Work Commitment  
Cllr Clive Laband - Ill Health  
Cllr Richard Nicholson - Ill Health

## **67. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022, without comment, were taken as read, confirmed as true record and were duly signed by the Town Mayor.

## **68. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Alastair McPherson – under item 9 (c) resolution 38 as a Director of the Mid Sussex Creative Mid Sussex CIC.

## **69. Public Forum**

None

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

None.

## **71. Mayor's Engagements and Announcements.**

The Town Mayor, addressed the Full Council making note of the following;  
All Councillors were urged to join the Mayor at his Mayor's Charity Fund Raising Event to be held at Bluebell Vineyard Estate on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022, which would be in aid of the development of a sensory and therapy garden for stroke rehabilitation. Furthermore, it was noted that the facility was much needed with the age group being affected by strokes becoming wider with more younger people experiencing such life changing conditions.

It was noted that the Laser and Firework show funded by the 'Welcome Back Fund' had been a great success with Victoria Park being very busy. At this point Cllrs McPherson and Wickremaratchi were thanked for their assistance on the evening with marshalling. Members were reminded that the Spring Festival was to be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and again all were asked to come along help out on the day.

The opening/launch event of the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Art Gallery at the Town Hall was noted along with the announcement that the Mayor would be planting a Walnut Tree on Muster Green as part of the Queen's Green Canopy, which forms part of the celebration for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee this June.

## **72. To receive and consider adoption of the Notes or Resolutions of the following Committees:**

- (i) Planning Committee **MINS 108 – 123**  
The reception and adoption of the resolutions of the Planning Committees dated 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 **108 - 115** and 7<sup>th</sup> March 202 **116 - 123** were moved, seconded and agreed by Council.
- (ii) Environment and General Purposes Committee **MINS 30 – 40**  
The reception and adoption of the resolutions of the Environment and General Purposes Committee dated 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 **30 - 40** were moved, seconded and agreed by Council.

At this point a matter of order was raised, concerning the resolutions being moved. The Town Clerk made reference to the Committees having delegated authority under Standing Orders and the reception of the resolutions were for noting. It was felt by the Town Clerk that the wording in the report was probably in need of review. The Town Clerk also stated the accuracy of the minutes were for the Committee to agree on how

the resolutions was made, which were tabled before Members. It was noted nothing was wrong, but the absence of the minute meant that Members could not see if officer's advice was being followed. It was acknowledged that minutes could be circulated more promptly, noting that the Policy and Finance meeting had only taken place the week before, and that the word 'noting' maybe better than resolving for each resolution. The Town Clerk committed to looking at the process again to see if it could be made clearer.

(iii) Policy & Finance Committee **MINS. 50 - 64**

The reception and adoption of the resolutions of the Policy and Finance Committee dated 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 **Mins 50 - 64** were moved, seconded and agreed by Council.

**73. Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct.**

Members noted without comment the revised Code of Conduct. Members were then also informed by the Town Clerk that the new code and its associated guidance notes would be circulated formally by email and that Member were asked to read and confirm that they accepted and understood personally understood the documents provided in writing, whilst checking that their Declaration of Interest Forms were up to date and met the provisions and guidance of the new Code of Conduct and;

Members **RESOLVED** to **adopt the Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct.**

**74. Date of the Town Meeting of Haywards Heath 2023**

Members noted the need to change the date of the Annual Town Meeting in 2023 and were content to change the date. It was noted that the revised proposed date fell on a Wednesday so it was asked that the Town Clerk see what meeting were being held at Mid Sussex District Council in case there was a clash with their Full Council of another meeting.

Members **RESOLVED** to **allow the Town Clerk to change the date of the Annual Town Meeting in 2023, but asked that the Town Clerk report back to the next meeting the most appropriate date as further investigation was needed.**

**75. Urgent Items**

None.

Meeting Closed at 7.50pm