

MEETING OF HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th March 2023

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 – Margaret Baker, Penny Blake and Marion Wilcock (part of meeting).

Penny Blake and Marion Wilcock attended the meeting to present the work of the Haywards Heath Community Arts CIC (CIC) and their future plans. They also thanked the Town Council for the award of a grant, which has supported the purchase of display/information boards for use by the CIC.

Before the meeting formally commenced, in the absence of the Town Mayor Cllr Howard Munding, it was proposed and seconded that Cllr James Knight be appointed as Vice Chair for the evening's proceedings.

73. Council Prayer

The Town Council prayer was read by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Alastair McPherson.

74. Apologies

Cllr Howard Munding - Personal Matter
Cllr Christopher Evans - Personal Matter
Cllr Jack Langley - Ill Health
Cllr Christopher Ash-Edwards - Ill Health

75. Minutes

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 30th January 2023, without comment, were taken as read, confirmed as true record and were duly signed by the Town Mayor.

76. Declarations of Interest

None

77. Public Forum

None

78. To Dispose of any Business Outstanding from the Last Meeting.

It was noted that the Town Council's agreed precept for the 2023/2024 had been submitted to Mid Sussex District Council

79. Mayor's Engagements and Announcements.

The Deputy Town Mayor, addressed the Full Council and presented the Town Mayor's activities since the last meeting of the Town Council as presented in the agenda. The Deputy Mayor made reference to the Holocaust Memorial ceremony he attended with the Mayor and expressed what poignant and wonderful an event it was hosted at the Town Hall and at the War Memorial on Muster Green by Amnesty International Haywards Heath branch.

80. To receive and consider adoption of the Notes or Resolutions of the following Committees:

- (i) Planning Committee **MINS 110 – 126**
The reception and adoption of the resolutions of the Planning Committees dated 13th February 2023 **110 - 117** and 6th March 202 **118 - 126** were moved, seconded and agreed by Council.
- (ii) Environment and General Purposes Committee **MINS 36 – 45**
The reception and adoption of the resolutions of the Environment and General Purposes Committee dated 27th February 2023 **36 - 45** were moved, seconded and agreed by Council.
- (iii) Policy & Finance Committee **MINS. 47 - 54**
The reception and adoption of the resolutions of the Policy and Finance Committee dated 13th March 2023 **Mins 47 - 54** were moved, seconded and agreed by Council.

81. Martyn's Law

Members without comment **NOTED** the report, awaited updates on the matter as it went through its legislative process for being made law and then consideration of the subsequent effects of the law on the Town Council events and services.

82. Warmer Spaces Town Council Grant Update

Members were presented with the data received from the beneficiaries of the Town Council's cost-of-living grants specifically relating to the provision of Warm Spaces. Members stated the Town Council showed its flexibility and well managed finances, which allowed the release of funds to support the Community. Special note was made of the Warm Space at the Bentswood Hub as the benefit went much further than a warm space as it promoted social interaction and the provision of hot meals for those in need during difficult time.

Members **noted the update.**

83. Urgent Items

The leader of the Town Council, on the basis it was the last Full Council of Members' term of Office, congratulated the Town Mayor on the impressive manner in which he had disposed of his duties alongside his consort. In addition, he praised the Town Council for its work over the last four years by making reference to the coverage of salt

bins in the Town, the Leave No One Behind campaign during the Covid 19 Pandemic that continues presently reborn to help those in need at Christmas led by the Deputy Mayor, the Council's support for Ukraine, the Cost of Living Crisis grants to name just a few, whilst maintaining its core services. It was suggested that the Town Council was punching well above its weight supporting the Community and thanks were conveyed to all Town Council staff for their efforts in delivering Town Council policies and initiatives. The Leader wished the new Council that will sit after the May elections well. The praise regarding the Town Mayor, Council staff and the excellent work of the Council was echoed by a number of other Councillors with unanimous agreement from all those present.

Meeting Closed at 8.21pm