

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

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd September 2024

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

Apologies Absent*
Also present: Town Clerk**

32. Moment of Reflection

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

33. Apologies

Members	Reason
Cllr A. Platts	Holiday

34. Public Forum

None

35. Minutes

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th July 2024, without comment, were taken as read, confirmed as true and duly signed by the Town Mayor.

36. Declarations of Interest.

None.

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

Members noted an update from the Town Clerk on minute 30 of the last Full Council meeting dated 15th July 2023 regarding the future of Clair Hall. It was noted that the letter to Mid Sussex District Council, as instructed by the Town Council, had been sent to and subsequently the Town Clerk had met with the Kathryn Hall CEO to discuss the matter and give her an understanding of where the Town Council was coming from. The CEO thanked the Town Council for its interest and explained that the procurement process for a new building would be undertaken in the Autumn and that the Town Council would be kept up

to date with developments. Further to this, the Town Clerk, Leader and Deputy Mayor had a meeting with the Save Clair Hall Group to update them as they showed interest in the Town Council's letter. It was agreed that an ongoing dialogue would continue.

38. Mayor's Engagements and Announcements.

The Town Mayor opened her address to the Council by announcing that Councillor Ellis had been nominated for a Community Champion Award by Britain Bloom, which would, if selected, be formally announced and awarded at the Britain In Bloom Awards to be held in Manchester. The Town Mayor congratulated Cllr Ellis along with the whole Town Council and asked her to share some exciting news she had. Cllr Ellis stated she was honoured to be nominated and if successful with her nomination said she would take the award on behalf of the Council, Groundstaff, Environment and General Purposes Committee, officers and the In Bloom Committee as it was a team effort. Cllr Ellis went on to announce that the Town had surpassed the previous year's result in South East in Bloom by receiving Gold for the Town, Muster Green and the Cemetery at Western Road which was an amazing achievement for the Town. The Town Clerk added that the Town actually won the best large Town category outright. The Town Clerk made special comment of Brenda Gulliver for her administration of the entry and her work to put together the portfolios for each award. Cllr Pascoe echoed the thanks of the Council to Cllr Ellis and felt it was important that the awards were displayed where residents can see them.

The Town Mayor then announced a clean bill of health from the annual External Auditor report and thanked Andrew Sturgeon and Brenda Gulliver for keeping the Town Council's finances in good order.

Members were reminded of the Town Council's Christmas Event to be held 23rd November 2024 on South Road and asked that Councillors could make time to attend and help.

It was noted that the Town Council would be again celebrating Silver Sunday by delivering goody bags to the Town's Car Homes and some delivery assistance would be greatly appreciated.

It was noted that the Council had, under Imogen Wilson's leadership, been awarded a Big Lottery Grant of £3,442 for the Leave No One Behind Campaign, which would broaden the scope of recipients and be added to the commitment of funding made by the Town Council. It was noted due to popularity that the Mayors Quiz Night on the 20th November 2024 night was sold out.

The Deputy Mayor Cllr Pascoe then thanked the Town Hall staff for supporting him at the new Dame Vera Lynn Trust offices in Chailey by helping with painting during a volunteering day. Thanks were given to the Town Clerk, Karen Wallis, Tracy Cruickshank, Imogen Wilson, Maria Horne who attend with Cllr Pascoe.

The Town Mayor then turned to her list of engagements as presented in the agenda and made special mention of her visit to the Hayward's Heath Horticultural Society's edible garden, meeting the Chelsea Pensioners at Haywards Heath Bowls Club and visits to Pauline Quirck Academy, South East Ambulance Trust AGM and Sussex Dementia Forum AGM. Finally, huge congratulations were made to Imogen Wilson the Events and Community Officer for another successful Town Day.

39. To receive resolutions of the following Committees:

- (i) Planning Committee - **MINS. 32 - 61**
The resolutions of the Planning Committee held on the 29th July 2024 - **Minutes 32 - 41**, Planning Committee held on the 19th August 2024 - **Minutes 42 - 51**, and Planning Committee held on the 9th September - **Minutes 52 - 61** were noted without discussion by the Council.

- (ii) Environment & General Purposes Committee – no meeting held.
- (iii) Policy & Finance Committee **MINS. 20 - 31**
The resolutions of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held 17th September 2024 - Minutes 20 – 31 were noted with amendment of the amount of the grant award to Cuckfield Evening Flower Club to read £100.

40. Police and Crime Commissioners Survey.

Members were referred to questions 1 and 3 in the survey for comment at the meeting and/or by email by the 31st October 2024. It was noted that representatives from the Town Council would be joining representative form Burgess Hill Town Council and East Grinstead for a meeting with Chief Constable of Susses Police on the 31st October 2024. It was noted that the survey was limited to the issue that Sussex Police felt were pertinent and di not offer the opportunity to present local issues. Nevertheless, it was felty business crime was important as the Town Council sat on the Safer Business Partnership via the Town Clerk and helped administered the Disc Retail Platform and has the Community Warden on the ground in the Town Centre.

Members **RESOLVED** to **note the survey and feed any issues into the Town Clerk to enable a representation.**

41. Revised Financial Regulations.

Members noted the new Revised Financial Regulations as presented and adopted them with out comment apart from a request to amend the word Chairman to 'Chair throughout the document.

Members **RESOLVED** to **adopt the Town Council's revised Financial Regulations as presented.**

42. To consider any urgent items, the Mayor has received.

None.

Meeting Closed at 7.31pm