



Midhurst Town Council

**A MEETING OF THE MIDHURST TOWN COUNCIL
TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY 17TH JUNE 2019 AT 7:00pm
IN THE MIDHURST TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE, THE OLD LIBRARY,
KNOCKHUNDRED ROW, MIDHURST**

MINUTES

Present: Cllr M. Purves (Chairman), Cllr D. Coote, Cllr L. Jefferies, Cllr D. Knight, Cllr C. Lintott, Cllr S. Morley, Cllr D. Smallman, Cllr J. Travers, Cllr G. Upjohn, Cllr M. Whittaker

Officer: Melanie Kite, Town Clerk

No member of the public attended.

C/28/19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone and introduced the new Clerk, Melanie Kite.

He requested that mobile phones should be turned off, and advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of the Clerk only. He pointed out the fire escape route.

C/29/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr G. McAra, Cllr J. Sutton, County Cllr K. O'Kelly, District Cllr J. Fowler

C/30/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 13 – Grant applications.

Cllr J. Travers declared an interest as a member of the Midhurst Royal British Legion.

C/31/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolution - The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed Cllr Smallman, seconded Cllr Knight, unanimously approved.

C/32/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters raised.

C/33/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public attended.

C/34/19 REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr O'Kelly had sent her report in which was read by the Chairman. Report attached.

C/35/19 MIDHURST VISION



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This item was moved to the end of the agenda. Mrs Philippa McCullough was unable to attend, Mr. Steve Hill attended in her place.

C/36/19 ANNUAL RETURN SECTION 1 – GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2018/19

The Council considered the Annual Governance Statement regarding the responsibility for ensuring a sound system of internal control, for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. Each individual statement was read out, considered and confirmed verbally by councillors.

Statements 1-8 All agreed, stated as 'yes'. Statement 9 – Not applicable

It was resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement for the year 2018/19 (Appendix 1) and authorise the Chairman and Town Clerk to sign on behalf of the Council.

C/37/19 ANNUAL RETURN SECTION 2 – ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2018/19

The Council considered the Accounting Statement figures, derived from the financial accounts and Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2019.

It was resolved to approve the Accounting Statements 2018/19. (Appendix 2)

C/38/19 FINANCE ASSET AND POLICY COMMITTEE.

The Minutes of the meeting of 20th May 2019 had been approved and adopted at the Council meeting in May.

C/39/19 BANK SIGNATORIES

It was resolved to approve Cllr Sutton and the Clerk, Melanie Kite to the list of authorised bank signatories.

Proposed Cllr Lintott, seconded Cllr Whittaker all agreed.

It was noted that due to the resignation of Cllr Guest as a councillor she will be removed from the list of approved signatories.

C/40/19 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Following a question from Cllr Lintott about how many Midhurst youths attend the Easebourne Guides, Cllr Coote confirmed that the majority do come from Midhurst.

Resolution – It was resolved to accept the grants panel recommendations as follows:

MADhurst £500.00, Easebourne Guides £800.00, 4 Sight Vision £300.00, Royal British Legion £100.00 and Midhurst Community Bus £350.00. The total of grants awarded in the first tranche of 2019 is £2,050.00

Proposed Cllr Upjohn, seconded Cllr Travers, all agreed.

C/41/19 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting of 28th May 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Minutes were formally adopted by the Council.

Proposed Cllr Lintott, seconded Cllr Upjohn, all agreed.

C/42/19 COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



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There were two amendments:

Minute CE/02/19 Election of Vice-chairman. 2nd line should read 'Resolved – *Cllr Sutton* was appointed Vice-chair'.

Minute CE/03/19 - Apologies for absence. Cllr Whittaker had sent his apologies in prior to the meeting. Following these amendments, the Minutes of the meeting of 28th May 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Minutes were formally adopted by the Council.

Proposed Cllr Knight, seconded Cllr Purves, all agreed.

C/43/19 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE MEETINGS

There were no reports.

C/44/19 MIDHURST VISION

Presentation from Mr. Steve Hill, CDC Rural Towns Co-ordinator.

Midhurst Vision is a group of local people from various organisations, traders and the Town Council. The Vision was set-up to enable local residents, traders and visitors to voice their views and aspirations for Midhurst.

A 6 week consultation period will start on 1st July 2019. A questionnaire will be available via most social media to be completed and it hoped that all ages will take part. A website and Instagram will be set up for Midhurst Vision and will remain 'live' after the initial consultation period. Following this first consultation a workshop will be formed to look at the responses and take it forward.

Cllr Lintott mentioned that she had been approached by a member of Midhurst Vision asking about financial support from the town council. It was decided that as the Town Council is keen to collaborate with Midhurst Vision this will be discussed as an agenda item on FAP.

C/45/19 MATTERS TO REPORT

Cllr Morley commented that overgrown and overhanging foliage is obscuring many road signs. WSCC highways needs to be contacted to get them to attend to this. An email from the council, and not via the general online form, was suggested as being more appropriate.

Cllr Jefferies asked how Midhurst was going to promote its news now that there was no longer a Press Officer attending meetings. Draft Minutes would be sent to The Observer newspaper via email. This topic could be discussed as an agenda item later on.

Cllr Whittaker thought that a letter should be sent to the Trustees of the Clock on the Clockhouse building as it is still showing the wrong time. Clerk to write to the Trustees.

Cllr Smallman commented on the number of empty retail properties on the High Street. This will be discussed as a Planning agenda item. Midhurst Vision should also be involved.

Cllr Smallman commented on the amount of drug-related detritus around Midhurst. She felt that this requires attention and needs to be discussed as to how to control the level of drugs in the town. This should be fed back to the Crime Reduction Forum and advice should be sought from it. This will be on the Community and Environment agenda to discuss later.



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Cllr Coote gave an update on South Pond saying that the work over the past 3 years is now paying off well with a lot of good 'pond life' in it. Funding from CDC and The Grange for a new boat house and storage facility is to go ahead and this will be sited behind the Grange.

Meeting closed at 8:34pm.

Date:

Signed:.....

Chairman