



Midhurst Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Midhurst Town Council held at The Old Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst on 13th May 2019 at 7pm

MEMBERS

Mr M Purves Chairman of the Council	✓ Rev. D Coote
✓ Mrs Laura Jeffries	✓ Mr Duncan Knight
✓ Ms C Lintott Vice Chairman of the Council	✓ Mr G McAra
✓ Mr S Morley Vice Chairman of the Council	✓ Mrs Debbie Smallman
✓ Mrs J Sutton	✓ Mr John Travers
✓ Mr M Whittaker	✓ Mr G Upjohn

✓ = Present

In attendance: Mr Julian Quail (Assistant Town Clerk)
One member of the press attended.
Councillor Dr Kate O'Kelly was present from agenda item 10

13. Election of Chairman

Mr McAra proposed Mark Purves for the post of Chairman of the Council. Seconded by Mrs Sutton. All in favour. Mr Purves was elected as the Chairman for the forthcoming year.

14. Election of Vice Chairman(s)

Mr McAra proposed Ms Lintott and Mr Morley for the two Vice Chairman posts of the Council. Seconded by Mr Upjohn. All in favour. Ms Lintott and Mr Morley were elected as Vice Chairmen for the forthcoming year

15. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received from Mr Purves.

16. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

17. Representations from the Public, County and District Councillors

Public

There were none.

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WSCC Councillor

Cllr O’Kelly had provided a written report which was read by Mr Quail:

Ofsted Report on Children’s Services

Cllr O’Kelly was very disappointed to hear the results of the Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills) report on children’s services in West Sussex. The inspection took place in the spring and looked at three areas.

1. The impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families.
2. The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection
3. The experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers.

In all three areas inspectors found services to be inadequate and as a result the overall effectiveness was judged to be inadequate. WSCC are extremely concerned and working to improve the service, they have already added an extra £5 million to the children’s services budget. One of the challenges is the workload of staff, as the number of vulnerable children and families has increased considerably over the last 5 years. The number of Looked after Children who are not able to stay with their birth families, has risen from 602 to 706 in this period. Cllr O’Kelly is extremely concerned about these findings as the impact of a poor service can be lifelong.

Mr Morley echoed this concern and proposed that MTC write to the Leader of WSCC noting the concerns of the Council. Mr Morley proposed the following form of words: *This Council notes that the report of WSCC’s care service was considered inadequate. We find this totally unacceptable and look forward to hearing that this important service to residents in our area is improved as a matter of urgency.* This was supported by a unanimous vote and consequently MTC would appreciate being kept informed on measures being taken by WSCC to improve the situation. Mr Quail was asked to prepare a headed letter to Louise Goldsmith, Leader of WSCC, as well as the portfolio holder for this department and the officer in charge for signature by Mr Purves.

Your Energy West Sussex

On a more cheerful note there is good news about people’s energy supplier options. Your Energy Sussex has just launched two new tariffs available to people living in Sussex, which offers 100% renewable electricity. It is a not-for-profit supplier, any profits they make go toward building a fund to help local people who are struggling to pay their bills. You can go to www.yourenergysussex.org.uk to get a quote or you can speak to a Customer Advisor by calling 0800 952 0001.

Ambulance use of Fire Station

Confirmation has been received from the Chair of HASC (Health and Adult Social Care) at WSCC that he has had a response from SECAMB about the use of the fire station in Midhurst by ambulances. They now have made the necessary agreement, which is to



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be signed shortly. In the meantime, SECAmb will have access to the station under a verbal agreement.

Bus Update

There is a meeting with Stagecoach and WSCC officers 8th May 2019, while the local bus group is meeting 25th June 2019. With regards to the promotion of all local buses, Stagecoach have committed to a marketing plan, which will include paper copies of the timetable. Cllr O’Kelly is on the TFG at WSCC which is looking at mitigating cuts. One agenda item is to develop framework for partnership so that parishes have option of contribution to save their local bus services rather than lose them. One parish will need to lead on this in terms of setting up the partnership with WSCC.

Drop Ins

Milland: 23rd May – Milland Stores – 10.30-12.30, Harting: 6th June – White Hart – 10.30-12.30 and Rogate: 1st July – Village Shop – 10.30-12.30

District Councillor

Mr McAra, District Councillor for the Midhurst Ward, reported that there had been little activity since the elections. He looks forward to working with Ms Fowler.

18. To adopt the Minutes of the Meeting of 15th April 2019

The minutes were approved as a true record and received by the Council.

19. To adopt the Minutes of the Community & Environment Committee of 23rd April 2019

The minutes were approved as a true record and received by the Council.

20. Confirmation of Committee Remits

It was agreed that committee remits are as follows:

Finance, Asset and Policy Committee

The overall objective of this committee will be to manage the budget, provide financial scrutiny, write and review council policies and manage all Council assets. This includes:

- The Old Library Building
- Cemetery Lodge
- Caron Lane Cemetery
- Carron Lane Recreation Ground

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- Policies
- Budget/Precept/Accounts
- Management of work contracts (St Ann's Hill, South Pond and Church Yard)
- Staff/HR
- Auditing

Community and Environment Committee

This committee will have the responsibility for dealing with any issues within the community, promoting community cohesion and enriching life within our town. This includes:

- Community Events, such as the Midhurst Carnival and Christmas Street Party.
- Tourism
- Trade and Town Team Co-ordination
- Floral Collars
- Street Furniture
- Community Group Engagement (RVT, South Pond, Youth Trust, Ognells, Pest House)
- Communications (MTC Website and Midhurst Matters)
- Grants
- Winter Plans
- Street Cleaning
- Community Transport
- Midhurst in Bloom
- Christmas Lights

Planning and Infrastructure Committee

This committee will have responsibility for responding to planning and right of way applications and items that have potential impact on the town and its function. This includes:

- Planning Applications
- Right of Way
- TROs
- Parking
- Highways
- Streetscape
- Local Plans
- SHLAA
- Housing provision



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21. Committee Membership

Committee Membership for the year was agreed as follows:

Name	FAP	C&E	Planning
David Coote		✓	✓
Laura Jefferies	✓		
Duncan Knight		✓	✓
Carol Lintott	✓	✓	✓
Gordon McAra	✓		✓
Steve Morley	✓	✓	✓
Mark Purves	✓	✓	✓
Debbie Smallman		✓	
Jeanette Sutton	✓	✓	
John Travers	✓		
Glyn Upjohn		✓	✓
Mark Whittaker		✓	✓
TOTAL	7	9	8

22. MTC Representation – revision of groups and appointments

Representation on local groups was agreed as per the attached document.

23. SDNPA Parish Member Nomination

Ms Lintott explained that SALC had written to MTC advising them of arrangements for SDNPA parish member nominations following the May elections when the appointments of four Parish Members expired. Two members would represent West Sussex. Mr McAra recommended that MTC support the nomination of Andrew Shaxson. All agreed. Mr McAra agreed to action this decision.

24. Drop-in Session Report Back

Mrs Sutton reported that, there was little activity at the April drop-in session. The May drop-in session will be attended by Ms Lintott and Mrs Sutton.

25. Councillor Vacancy Co-Option

With three vacancies it was proposed by Mr Upjohn and seconded by Rev Coote that the Town Clerk be asked to begin the process of co-option. Mr Morley noted that if MTC were unsuccessful and councillor numbers were deemed to be too low, there was a possibility that CDC could impose somebody.

26. Reports on Documents Received / Meetings Attended

Mr Morley attended the Pendean Sand Quarry Liaison Group. There was nothing to report.



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27. Matters of Report

- 27.1** Mr Morley reported that he had been thanked by local residents for arranging for the cycle rack and bollard to be inserted at the corner of North Street and Lambert's Lane, which has stopped vans and cars from parking there and obstructing the view of motorists exiting Lambert's Lane.
- 27.2** Mr Quail reported that the junction with West Street and just north of the Swann Inn will be closed between 10th June and 21st June 2019. Scaffolding will be placed in the carriageway for repairs to the Swan Inn. The work will be conducted by Harvey and Son (Lewes) Ltd.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.



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MTC Representatives on Local Groups 2019/20

Group	Administrator	MTC Nominees
Community Transport Group	Lesley Gilbert	Rev David Coote
MADHURST	Jess Brown-Fuller	John Travers
Crime Reduction Forum	Piers Taylor	Glyn Upjohn Laura Jeffries
Midhurst Area Cycling	Jane Crawford	Gordon McAra Debbie Smallman
Midhurst Museum	Peter Nightingale	Gordon McAra Glyn Upjohn
Midhurst Tourism Partnership	Phillipa McCullough	Gordon McAra
North Chichester County Local Committee	Piers Taylor	Steve Morley David Coote
Rother Valley Together	Margaret Guest	Glyn Upjohn
South Pond Group	Barbara Coote	Debbie Smallman
Town Team CIC	Steve Hill	Laura Jeffries
Midhurst Vision Group	Steve Hill	Mark Purves Gordon McAra Steve Morley
Midhurst Youth Trust	Anne Murphy	Carol Lintott Mark Purves
Pendean Sand Quarry Liaison Group	Inert Limited	Steve Morley

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TRUSTEES ON LOCAL CHARITIES

Charity	Clerk	MTC Representative	Term of Office	Nomination Date	Terms of Office Ends	
GEORGE OGNELL POOR CHARITY	Patrick Wolfe 01730 812492 p.wolfe213@btinternet.com					
		Glyn Upjohn	4 Years	15.02.2016	15.02.2020	Nominated at Full Council Feb 2016
		Steve Morley	4 Years	18.06.2012	16.05.2020	Nominated at Full Council May 2016
		Judy Fowler	4 Years	2017	2021	Unknown
PEST HOUSE	Julian Quail 01730 812572 thebearsinthemill@btinternet.com					
		Jeanette Sutton	4 Years	09.10.2017	09.10.2021	Unknown
		Nigel Cheshire	4 Years	18.05.2015	18.05.2019	Nominated at Full Council May 2019
		Carol Lintott	4 Years	18.02.2008	16.05.2020	Nominated for further term of office at Full Council in 2012 sand 2016
		Margaret Guest	4 Years	16.05.2016	16.05.2020	Nominated at Full Council May 2016

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TOWN TRUST	Hazel Morley 01730 814535 hazelmorley@hotmail.com					
	Mark Purves	4 Years	15.02.2016	15.02.2020	Nominated at Full Council Feb 2016	
	Carol Lintott	4 Years	21.01.2014	20.01.2022	Nominated at Full Council May 2018	
	Debbie Smallman	4 Years	13.05.2019	12.05.2023	Nominated at Full Council on 13th May 2019	

Notes

- (a) The Term of Office runs from the date when the Charity's Declaration of Office was signed
- (b) It is the responsibility of the Clerk of the Charity to advise the Council when nominations fall due
- (c) The Town Council nominee does not have to be a member of Midhurst Town Council
- (d) On the retirement from the Board of Trustees or in the event of the death of a Council nominee the Council will nominate a replacement
- (e) If the Town Council nominee ceases to be a Town Councillor during the period of service as a Trustee this does not affect his or her term of office as a Trustee.

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