



Midhurst Town Council

**A MEETING OF THE MIDHURST TOWN COUNCIL
TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY 15th JULY 2019 AT 7:00pm
IN THE MIDHURST TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE, THE OLD LIBRARY,
KNOCKHUNDRED ROW, MIDHURST**

MINUTES

Present: Cllr D. Coote, Cllr C. Lintott (Chairman), Cllr G. McAra, Cllr S. Morley, Cllr D. Smallman, Cllr J. Sutton, Cllr J. Travers, Cllr G. Upjohn, Cllr M. Whittaker

Also present: Melanie Kite, Town Clerk
No member of the public attended.

C/46/19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting was chaired by Cllr C. Lintott.
She requested that mobile phones be turned off, and advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of the Clerk only.

C/47/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr L. Jefferies, Cllr D. Knight, Cllr M. Purves

C/48/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made at this time.

C/49/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolution - The Minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed Cllr Coote, seconded Cllr Smallman, unanimously approved.

C/50/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Cllr Sutton enquired if the new bank signatories had been approved by NatWest Bank. The Clerk replied that the mandate had been returned as two of the electronic signatures were 'unclear'. The form would have to be re-submitted.

Cllr Morley clarified that the Midhurst Vision promotional material and residents' questionnaire was launched 8th July, a week later than originally stated.

C/51/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

There being no members of the public, the meeting was not adjourned.



Midhurst Town Council

C/52/19 REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Councillor Judy Fowler and County Council Kate O'Kelly did not attend.

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

District Cllr McAra reported:

- Fly tipping: This is of growing concern. £350,000 per year is spent by Chichester County Council on removing waste due to fly tipping.
- On a similar subject, District Cllr McAra has been looking into the possibility of the closure of waste depots. There are eleven across the district and County is looking at the possibility of closing two of them. Midhurst's waste depot is not only one of the smallest but the site and adjacent land to it has potential for redevelopment. Removing the entrance would also improve the outlook on the road. This requires close monitoring by the Town Council.
- Westhampnett recycling site is slowly beginning to get back to normal working but it will a long time before it is fully operational; waste is still being taken down to Ford. He commended all concerned for the continuous household refuse collections under difficult circumstances.
- Retail vacancy rate in Midhurst is 6.36% against Chichester at 8.2% and national average around 10%.
- Minsted Sand quarry – SDNPA has produced a public consultation document on planning consent for the operational site and adjoining field.

C/53/19 FINANCE ASSET AND POLICY COMMITTEE.

There being no questions it was resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting of 8th July 2019 and were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Minutes were adopted.

Proposed Cllr Morley, seconded Cllr McAra all in favour.

C/54/19 FUTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE RECREATION GROUND (Cllr G. McAra)

Cllr McAra's document had been circulated with the agenda.

Following a brief overview and clarification on questions about financing and the design of the ground with the additional MUGA equipment, the Members agreed to endorse his proposals for the recreation ground.

C/55/19 PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting of 24th June 2019 were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Minutes were formally adopted by the Council.

Proposed Cllr Whittaker, seconded Cllr Upjohn, all agreed.

Questions from the Minutes:

Cllr McAra spoke about the need for a good and modern supermarket in town. It gives the town an economic advantage and helps to keep people in town.

His proposal is to approach Tesco and discuss the possibility of it moving from North Street into the current Budgens' site. Tesco is the holding company for Bookers and Budgens, although Budgens in Midhurst remains a franchise. He asked that Members support his idea to write to Tesco.

The council unanimously agreed.

C/56/19 COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



Midhurst Town Council

The Minutes of the meeting of 24th June 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Minutes were formally adopted by the Council.

Proposed Cllr Whittaker, seconded Cllr Upjohn, all agreed.

Northern Gateway - An item to convene a meeting to discuss the Northern Gateway will be tabled at the next C&E meeting.

C/57/19 HMICFRS INSPECTORS REPORT – WEST SUSSEX FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (Cllr Morley)

Cllr Morley proposed the Town Council write to West Sussex County Council registering its concern over the inadequate findings as stated in the report from HMICFRS. He felt that West Sussex County Council should be made aware that the Town Council deems its management skills unacceptable in the main key areas and wish to be kept informed of future developments.

Cllr McAra supported the proposal but felt that the town council should be mindful of the heavy financial cut backs having an impact on their management's time. Further discussion surrounding the government's cap on raising the Precept ensued.

It was agreed that Cllr Morley would draft the letter for the Clerk.

C/58/19 SPEED INDICATION DEVICE (Cllr Morley)

The revised proposal to be part of a Speed Watch group and not to have a SID had been discussed at the Community and Environment Committee meeting. The salient points were mentioned as:

- The Police can use the data collected
- The equipment is provided
- Training is given and
- Insurance covered under a general policy

The council endorsed Cllr Morley's proposal to register with a Speed Watch Group.

C/59/19 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE MEETINGS

Cllr Upjohn had attended the Sussex Police and Crime Meeting. He will give a full report when the Minutes have been received.

C/60/19 MATTERS OF REPORT

Cllr Coote reported on the successful day the South Pond Group had had last Saturday. A number of people from outside Midhurst had attended and had been very complimentary.

Cllr Sutton reminded councillors that the Saturday market was taking place this coming Saturday. Volunteers were required.

Cllr Lintott asked for members for the Asset sub-committee. Cllr McAra will lead on this and the first meeting will be held on Monday 29th July at 7pm.

C/61/19 EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

To consider personnel matters in closed session.

Proposed Cllr Lintott, seconded Cllr Sutton all agreed



Midhurst Town Council

There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Date:

Signed:.....

Chairman