



Midhurst Town Council

**A MEETING OF THE MIDHURST TOWN COUNCIL
TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY 16th DECEMBER 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 D. Knight, Cllr C. Lintott, Cllr G. McAra, Cllr S. Morley, Cllr M. Richardson, Cllr J. Sutton, Cllr J. Travers, Cllr G. Upjohn, Cllr M. Whittaker

Melanie Kite, Town Clerk

West Sussex County Councillor K. O’Kelly and 6 members of the public were present.

C/110/19 - Chairman’s Announcements

Councillors were advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of the Clerk only.

C/111/19 - Apologies For Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr L. Jeffries, Cllr A. Procter, and Cllr D. Smallman

C/112/19 - Declarations Of Interest

There were no declarations made at this time.

C/113/19 - Public Participation – Meeting adjourned

There were two presentations.

A presentation, ‘Stabilisation and Restoration Works at Pendean Sand Quarry’ (Copy attached) was given by Mr. Stuart Austin and Mr. Andy Crosswell of INERT Recycling

INERT Recycling had submitted a planning application in June 2019 for an extension of five years, to 2025, to complete the stabilisation work at Pendean Quarry. Midhurst Town Council invited the company to speak at Full Council on the application, asking for specific information on the movement and number of HGV lorries coming through Midhurst town.

Questions from councillors were taken.

Majority of HGV traffic uses A3/A272, and A27/A286.

Distribution of 2019 importation showed 35% from Chichester area and 28% from Havant and Portsmouth

CEMEX will continue to own the site after 2025 and will be kept as an area for recreation with approximately 3km of permissive pathways and the creation of suitable habitat for Sand Martins.

Midhurst Vision. (presentation attached).

Four members of the Midhurst Vision updated councillors on the ‘Midhurst Vision Statement’, formed from the results from the public consultation and survey for - Vision for Midhurst in 2030.

Four key words epitomise the future – Innovative, Vibrant, Green and The Place To Be.



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Midhurst Vision will hold a consultation with community on Vision Statement in January with an exhibition at The Grange and further workshops will be held in February.

Meeting reconvened.

C/114/19 - Minutes Of The Previous Meeting

Resolution - The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed Cllr Upjohn, seconded Cllr Whittaker, unanimously approved.

C/115/19 - Matters Arising From Those Minutes

Cllr Lintott asked how the council's Face Book page was progressing.

Action: Clerk to speak to Events Officer

C/116/19 – Report From County And District Councillors

County Council Cllr Kate O'Kelly's report attached.

- WSCC future of small Schools - Decision to be made in Jan 2019
- Transport - The County are considering no longer funding the free senior railcard Our local cross parish bus steering group met last week and plans for promotion in the Spring were discussed
- Grants - a Microfund for grants for up to £750. so far this year there have been no bids to this fund from the North Chichester area.
- Highways Service Levels - There is a significant reduction – new contract in Jan 2020 with a new way of working more proactively with communities and parishes. Winter maintenance reduced salting from 41% to 28% of the network – decision has been now been reversed. Reduction in grass cuts – urban from 7- 5 and rural from two 1m swath cuts and one full cut to one 1m swath cut and one full cut.

Report from District Councillor G. McAra

- Southern Gateway in Chichester has been given approval and a developer is now being sought.
- Countdown for Christmas campaign was a great success.
- Retail vacancy rates – Chichester 7.7% and 5.4% in Midhurst. Both below the national average of 10%.
- Cyber protection seminar will be held on 28th January at 6pm in Chichester.
- Hyde-Martlett have a new director who will be taking comments and complaints directly. Previously, people had to go through CDC.
- Grants – CDC still have £175.000 in the grant pool. Applications close 14th February for resolution end of March.
- Christmas waste collection – calendar of collection dates on CDC website
- A Government report on planning regulations has concluded that they are too complex, too expensive, too time consuming and unproductive.
- A review on National Parks by Julian Glover, calls for parks to have a clear national mission to reverse environmental decline.



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C/117/19 - Finance Asset and Policy

Resolution: The Minutes were adopted and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 9th December 2019.

Proposed Cllr McAra, seconded Cllr Richardson all agreed.

No questions raised.

C/118/19 – Finance Budget 2020/21 and Precept

It was resolved to approve the budget for 2020/21.

Proposed Cllr Sutton, seconded Cllr Morley, unanimously approved.

It was resolved to approve the Precept of £185,125.65 for the financial year 2020/21, equating to a Band D annual council tax of £80.28, an increase of £0.34pence per household per week.

Proposed Cllr Sutton, seconded Cllr Morley, unanimously approved.

C/119/19 – Carron Lane Improvement Working Group

Cllr McAra gave a short presentation, showing an architect's drawings, to Members of Council of the group's vision for a lido.

During a discussion Cllr Lintott expressed her concern about having a public consultation and promotional materials before going for pre-planning. Cllr Coote also felt that specific, key people should be consulted on the idea before the general public.

The Finance, Asset and Policy Committee presented the details for a feasibility study for the Lido to council for approval and adoption.

It was resolved to approve the feasibility study for the Lido.

Proposed Cllr Purves, seconded Cllr Whittaker all agreed.

Members of the working group will be: Cllrs Sutton, McAra, Coote, Upjohn, Travers and Lintott.

C/120/19 - Planning Committee

Resolution: The Minutes were adopted and signed by Cllr McAra as a true and accurate record of the meetings held on 25th November and 9th December 2019.

Proposed Cllr Whittaker seconded Cllr Upjohn, all agreed.

C/121/19 – Community and Environment

Resolution: The Minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 25th November 2019.

Proposed Cllr Sutton, seconded Cllr Lintott, all agreed.

Cllr Coote reported on a successful hedge planting morning around the fire station area.

The problem with the Christmas lights especially the stag and tree lights still need to be resolved

C/122/19 – Reports from Outside Meetings

No reports.

C/123/19 – Councillor training dates



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Action: Clerk to speak to SSALC regarding dates in new year.

C/124/19 - Matters of Report

Cllr Knight enquired about getting the crumbling wall along the Chichester Road by Taylor's Field repaired. Clerk to research who owns it.

Councillor emails go live January 2nd.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8:35pm.

Date:

Signed:.....

Chairman