



# Midhurst Town Council

**A Meeting of The Midhurst Town Council, took place  
on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7:00pm by video conference due to COVID-19**

## MINUTES

**Present:** Cllr C. Lintott (Chairman), Cllr D. Coote, Cllr L. Jeffries, Cllr Morley, Cllr G. McAra, Cllr A. Procter, Cllr M Purves, Cllr M. Richardson, Cllr Smallman, Cllr J. Sutton, Cllr J. Travers, Cllr Upjohn, Cllr R. Watts, Cllr N. Yeo

**Officer:** Melanie Kite, Town Clerk

Also present: County Councillor K. O’Kelly, District Councillor J. Fowler, Mrs P. McCullough and Mr. J. Russell representing Midhurst Vision, and Mr. D. Fraser

**C/141/20 – Chairman’s Announcements** – The Chairman reminded Members that the meeting was being recorded for the sole purpose of the Clerk’s Minutes, and that normal code of conduct applies.

**C/142/20 - Apologies for Absence** – None received

**C/143/20 - Declarations of Interest** – None declared at this time.

**C/143/20 - Public Participation Session** -Adjournment of the meeting for public questions.

Update from Midhurst Vision Group; Mrs P. McCullough, the Vision’s short-term strategy has been sent to the key stakeholders. They have been advised to start small.

The first project it will be undertaking is o create a pedestrian link from the Grange Centre to the old town and through to North Street. They will use a consultant for this. Chichester District Council has contributed £10,000 towards this.

The group will concentrate on business support and fund raising.

Mr. Jonathan Russell was introduced as the third founding director of the CIC.

Mr. Jonathan Russell – introduced himself. He has been involved with the group for twelve months and is pleased to be involved in, what he feels, is a very rewarding a group. From a Cowdray perspective he has known that the Estate has not always been fully integrated in what the town is doing and his involvement should help.

The chairman thanked both Mrs McCullough and Mr. Russell.

Meeting reconvened.

**C/144/20 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting** – These were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

Proposed Cllr Sutton, seconded Cllr Richardson. Cllrs Procter and Yeo abstained as they had not attended the meeting. Twelve agreed, Motion carried.

**C/145/20 - Matters Arising from those Minutes** – No matters were raised.

19:12 Cllr Morley joined the meeting having had technical issues

**C/146/20 - Report from County and District Councillors**



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West Sussex County Councillor Kate O'Kelly; report previously circulated, and attached. Points emphasised:

Community hub – continues to be first port of call for vulnerable residents and families during this second lockdown. More information is on the [Community Hub webpages](#). And the phone number is: 033 022 27980.

At recent Full Council cabinet member announced setting up a Local Track and Trace response.

WSCC reset – priorities – climate change overarching theme.

The County Council's current budget gap for 2021/22 is £43.6million. This gap represents the difference between what funding the council expects to receive, versus what it expects to spend.

To date the Council has identified £20.2m efficiencies and savings leaving a further £23.4m to find.

WSCC have released cabinet papers on strategic decisions to fill their £23.4m budget gap for 2021/22

Chichester District Councillor Gordon McAra. Report previously circulated and attached. Additional points mentioned:

The District Council's 'Countdown to Christmas' campaign has been launched. This strongly promotes and supports shopping locally.

Self-employed people who do not qualify for the Government aid should contact Mrs Melanie Burgoyne at Chichester District Council.

**C/147/20 - Finance, Asset and Policy Committee** – Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were approved by the committee. Adopted by Council.  
Proposed Cllr Sutton, seconded Cllr Travers, all agreed.

**C/148/20 - Planning and Infrastructure Committee** – The Minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> October were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.  
Proposed Cllr Watts, seconded Cllr Lintott, unanimously approved.  
Adopted by Council.

**C/149/20 - Community and Environment Committee** – The Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Adopted by council.  
Proposed Cllr Morley, seconded Cllr Watts all committee agreed. Adopted by council

Cemetery: Cllr Purves gave a brief update from the cemetery working party. Cllr Watts had liaised with the local funeral directors and received their opinions on the cemetery which had been very useful. He had also research charges levied by other cemeteries in the area. Following a site visit back in the summer with a cemetery design, development and planning company, various areas of vegetation, hedging and trees were identified for removal.

There will be a meeting on Wednesday to discuss these and other issues and to decide on the next strategic steps.

**C/150/20 – Northern Gateway** – Cllr Sutton had circulated three artist's impressions and the council were asked for their opinion on each of the designs.  
The preferred option was the simple cortens steel design, in a similar style to that of the South Downs National Park's. Cllr Sutton will use this as the basis for a professional design to be drawn up.  
Planting on the site was discussed and having it as a wildflower meadow was put forward.



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**C/151/20 – Annual Awards – Cllr Lintott**

It was agreed that an awards ‘ceremony’ should take place this year in a socially distancing way. Winners will be videoed individually receiving their award and this will then be posted on Face Book. This will take place over the first two weeks of December. Nominations to be received by Cllr Lintott by end of November

**C/152/20 - Reports from Outside Meetings** – Cllr Procter had attended a seminar on Hidden Disabilities in our Communities. Her report had been previously circulated along with a NALC document on Dementia Friendly Communities.

**C/153/20 – Matters of Report –**

The clerk will put up notices to inform residents that the Christmas street party is cancelled.

**C/154/20 - Date of Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020 at 7pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8:09pm.

Signed:.....

Dated.....

Chairman