



Midhurst Town Council

**A Meeting of The Midhurst Town Council took place
on Monday 19th April 2021 at 7:00pm by video conference due to COVID-19**

MINUTES

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

Officer: Melanie Kite, Town Clerk

Also present: County Councillor K. O’Kelly, District Councillor J. Fowler, Mrs P. McCullough for Midhurst Vision, Mr. Don Fraser and the Press

C/48/21 – Chairman’s Announcements –

A one minutes silence was held in respect of the passing of HRH Duke of Edinburgh.

The Chairman read a statement on behalf of Midhurst Town Council which had been posted on the Council’s media pages and Members were informed that a message of condolence had been written in the book of condolence held at Chichester District Council.

The Chairman announced that Cllr Morley was standing down from public office as a councillor of Midhurst Town Council. Cllr Lintott acknowledged with gratitude the many years he had been a councillor, that he had given a great deal of his time and was a highly regarded member of the council. Members agreed that he would be greatly missed.

Councillors were reminded that the Code of Conduct and rules governing council meetings apply and that the meeting was being recorded.

C/49/21 - Apologies for Absence –, Cllr Morley, Cllr D. Smallman

C/50/21 - Declarations of Interest – None declared at this time.

C/51/21 - Public Participation Session:

Mrs McCullough representing Midhurst Vision – the group had had its first Sense of Place project meeting with four landscaping companies. A brief will be ready by the end of the week, which will incorporate the Wayfinding route. A copy will be sent to the Town Clerk for circulation to all Members. It is anticipated that all quotations will be in by the end of May.

Air quality issues were discussed, and the document is due to be adopted by CDC at the end of September. Following the adoption of the document a traffic consultant may be engaged.

It has been agreed by WSCC highways that Planters may be put in some of the parking spaces in North Street.

Cllr Lintott asked to see a copy of the meeting notes and the Sense of Place brief.

Meeting reconvened.



Midhurst Town Council

C/52/21 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting – These were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting held on 15th March 2021.

Proposed Cllr Purves, seconded Cllr Travers, all agreed.

C/53/21 - Matters Arising from those Minutes – None raised.

C/54/21 - Report from County and District Councillors –

West Sussex County Councillor Kate O’Kelly; report previously circulated and attached. County meetings have been suspended due to the County and District elections in May.

Cllr Lintott thanked Cllr O’Kelly for her help at Riverbank surgery helping on the COVID vaccinations. Cllr Coote noted the excellent job that the Rotary Club volunteers are doing and all the volunteers helping with the COVID vaccinations in all the centres in Midhurst.

An appropriate way to thank all the volunteers will be discussed at a later council meeting.

District Councillor Gordon McAra - report previously circulated and attached.

In addition, Cllr McAra mentioned that the new CEO of The Great Sussex Way (TGSW), formally Visit Chichester, Danielle Dunfield, had contacted him about discussing ways of promoting Midhurst as a major tourist destination within the TGSW area. She was keen to discuss things with the council and use any promotional materials and photos in the Great Sussex Way literature. Danielle Dunfield offered to set up a meeting and suggested May 4th.

The article by Andrew Chiverton in the travel section of the Guardian newspaper over the weekend was also mentioned.

C/55/21 - Co-option of Town Councillor – Mr. Don Fraser, a candidate for co-option was invited to speak and read a short statement. Following answering a few questions, he left the meeting whilst councillors considered his application. It was proposed to accept Mr. Fraser as a Town Councillor. Twelve members agreed, one Member abstained and one Member against. Vote carried.

Mr. Fraser was welcomed to the council but would not sit as a councillor until signing the Declaration of Acceptance.

C/56/21 - Finance, Asset and Policy Committee – The Minutes of 22nd February 2021 were adopted by Council.

Proposed Cllr McAra, seconded Cllr Travers, unanimously approved.

C/57/21 - Planning and Infrastructure Committee – The Minutes of 8th March 2021 were adopted by Council. Proposed Cllr McAra, seconded Cllr Purves all agreed.

Minutes of 22nd March – Approved by committee, Proposed Cllr Lintott, seconded Cllr Sutton all agreed. Adopted by Council, Proposed Cllr McAra, seconded Cllr Purves, all agreed.

Cllr Coote responded to a question saying that Cowdray Estate’s application for an events and alcohol licence had been withdrawn. Mr. Jonathan Russell and Mr. Neil Georges had attended a planning meeting to discuss the Estate’s plans for a Licence and that it will be submitting an amended application.

Mr. Don Fraser re-joined the meeting.



Midhurst Town Council

C/58/21 - Community and Environment Committee – the Full Council Agenda had the wrong date of the last C&E meeting which was 22nd March and not 8th March. The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2021

Proposed Cllr Sutton, seconded Cllr Yeo all agreed

C/59/21 - Fly tipping on the Holmbush Estate - Following correspondence from a visitor to Midhurst about the rubbish laying on open ground near the industrial estate. Cllrs Sutton and Smallman and the Events Officer had done a litter pick but there remain larger items.

Cllr Sutton asked for council approval to write to Hyde Housing. However, Councillors were not sure who owns the land, and this will be investigated.

It was agreed that once it had been established as to who owns the land a letter will be sent. Proposed Cllr Sutton, seconded Cllr Lintott all agreed.

C/60/21 - Reports from Outside Meetings – Cllr Upjohn mentioned that work had been done on Ognell's properties. He reported the sad news of the death of the caretaker and that another resident had offered to oversee the properties.

C/61/21– Civic calendar for 2012 – 2022 - noted

C/62/21 - Matters of Report -

Belloc Close; Cllr Sutton had noticed that the ambulance zigzag lines had been re-painted despite the ambulance not being there any longer.

Community Speed Watch, Cllr Travers reported that he and Cllr Morley had done a speed watch session on Petersfield Road which had proved very successful. The group will have the use of new equipment, on loan for six months, which will be used at the next speed watch session in town.

Cllr Travers reported that a school sign, at the town end of the Petersfield Road, has been put up. This is probably for the old Convent School. WSCC will be contacted to remove it.

The Town Clerk announced that the Events and Promotions Officer, Jess Brown-Fuller, having successfully completed her three-month probationary period, was now a permanent member of staff.

Cllr Purves asked if County Cllr O'Kelly could help the council in its efforts to get WSCC to repair the road at North Mill Bridge. Cllr O'Kelly said that she had recently received a holding email and that she would forward it to the Clerk on the latest development.

Cllr Upjohn asked if the council could consider contacting CDC and Stagecoach about getting digital information signs showing the estimated time of arrival for a bus at the Midhurst bus station. This will be on the next Planning agenda.

Cllr Jeffries requested that when matters are raised requiring an action, that the completed action is reported back to council.



Midhurst Town Council

C/63/21 - Date of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be Monday 17th May 2021 at 7pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 7:52pm.

Signed:..... Dated.....

Chairman