



# Midhurst Town Council

**A Meeting of The Midhurst Town Council took place on  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 at 7:00pm at the Midhurst Town Council Office, Old  
Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst GU29 9DQ**

## **MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllr C. Lintott (Chairman), Cllr J. Travers, Cllr D. Coote, Cllr G. McAra, Cllr M. Richardson, Cllr R. Watts, Cllr N. Yeo, Cllr L. Jeffries and Cllr D. Fraser

**Officer:** Julian Quail, Assistant Town Clerk

**Also:** Sharon Hurr, Town Clerk and RFO

### **C/023/22 – Chairman’s Announcements**

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting. She announced the sad death of a previous councillor, Mark Whittaker. Condolences have been sent to his widow, Annie Whittaker.

**C/024/22 - Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Sutton and Cllr Procter. No apologies were received from Cllr Smallman.

### **C/025/22 – Declarations of Interest**

None.

Meeting halted for Public Participation Session

### **C/026/22 - Public Participation Session:**

None.

Meeting reconvened.

### **C/027/22 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

These were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting held on 17th January 2022.

Proposed Cllr Coote, seconded Cllr Richardson, all agreed.

*Cllr Yeo arrived at 19:04*

### **C/028/22 - Matters Arising from those Minutes**

None.

### **C/029/22 - Report from County and District Councillors**

West Sussex County Councillor Kate O’Kelly - Report previously circulated. County Cllr O’Kelly thanked Cllr Coote for his attendance and support at the Midhurst Greenway meeting at the Grange.

District Councillor Gordon McAra - Report previously circulated. Cllr McAra confirmed that the Government’s Levelling Up document was not just focused on the north of the country. He would provide more information as it becomes available. Cllr Coote noted that CDC had



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purchased two new electric refuse vehicles and hoped that they would, at some point, service Midhurst.

## **C/030/22 – Finance, Asset and Policy Committee**

Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed by Cllr Fraser, seconded by Cllr McAra, unanimously approved.

## **C/031/22 - Planning and Infrastructure Committee**

Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed Cllr McAra, seconded Cllr Watts, unanimously approved.

## **C/032/22 - Planning and Infrastructure Committee**

Minutes of 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed Cllr Upjohn, seconded Cllr Watts, unanimously approved.

## **C/033/22 – Community and Environment Committee**

Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed Cllr Jeffries, seconded Cllr Watts, unanimously approved.

**C/034/22 - Total Energies** – The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the gas meter had now been removed. With regards to the ongoing financial issue with Total Energies (formally Total Gas and Power) the Town Clerk explained that this was proving to be a challenging issue given the chaotic nature of the companies billing process. Money had been taken without a corresponding invoice. Conversely, there were invoices that had been issued by the company for which no money had been taken. A response to their e-mail will be sent after all the necessary checks have been completed.

## **C/035/22 – St Ann’s Hill Project**

A brief discussion took place regarding the naming and branding for ruins of the castle and surrounding area on St Ann’s Hill. Midhurst Castle at or on St Ann’s Hill has been suggested by the working group as an appropriate ‘brand’ for this historic site and this idea is being worked up by Hooli.

## **C/036/22 – Co-option**

The necessary process has been completed and Chichester District Council has given permission to co-opt a new councillor; it is hoped those candidates showing an interest can be invited to submit personal statements to council over the next few months. This will be promoted via various media.

Action: Events Officer to create social media and news items to spread the word.

## **C/037/22 - Actions**

The actions were provided to the committee before the meeting. All actions are now closed.

## **C/038/22 - Reports from Outside Meetings**



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All Parishes Meeting – Cllr Fraser represented MTC at the ‘All Parishes’ meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The meeting consisted of six presentations by various organisations. The presentations included CDC’s Housing Land Supply which will provide an indication of whether there are sufficient sites available to meet the Government’s housing requirement over the next five years. The next All Parishes meeting will take place in six months at East Pallant House.

Ognells Poor Charity – Cllr Upjohn provided a brief summary of the latest meeting. It was noted that Judy Fowler will be stepping down as chair. The issue of current and former councillors being trustees of various organisations will be discussed at the next meeting.

Monthly Grange Market – Cllr Watts and Cllr Fraser attended the monthly Grange Market and were pleased to report that a number of people engaged with them. The majority expressed concern about the proposed Midhurst Greenway. Concern was also raised about the state of the hoarding that delineates the area at the Grange for the new proposed care home. Cllr Fraser has agreed to attend the next market in April and will be joined by Cllr Smallman.

## **C/039/22 - Matters of Report**

Cllr Upjohn informed the meeting that he had received a complaint from a member of the public who found it difficult to pass as a vehicle was parked outside Marmaduke’s on Rumbold’s Hill. He also noted possible rough sleeping in the gas cabinet at Elmleigh. This was thought unlikely given the toxic nature of the cabinet.

Cllr McAra raised concern at the parking on the pavement at the beginning of Petersfield Road. He agreed to write to County Cllr O’Kelly on this issue.

Cllr Coote noted that the light at the entrance of the Grange is still not working and is dangerous at this time of year. Cllr Lintott commented that conversely the light behind the hoarding on the old grange site is permanently on. Cllr McAra agreed to write to CDC on this issue.

The Town Clerk confirmed that Philippa Harrison has taken all the cemetery books for scanning. She also drew the councillor’s attention to the Jubilee window display in the Old Library. All agreed it was well presented.

**C/040/22 - Date of Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7pm.

Signed:.....

Dated.....

Chairman