

A Meeting of The Midhurst Town Council took place on Monday 21st March 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/041/22 - Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting.

C/042/22 - Apologies for Absence - Cllr Yeo, Cllr Watts and Cllr Procter.

C/043/22 - Declarations of Interest

None.

Meeting halted for Public Participation Session

C/044/22 - Public Participation Session

Phillipa McCullough from the Midhurst Vision provided an update on progress to date. This focussed on the key aspects of the stage 2 work which is looking in more detail at the opportunities for urban planting, public realm and traffic improvements at various locations through the town. This will create a masterplan for the town centre and rural edges, which can be broken down into smaller projects and implemented when funding is available over a number of years. The full presentation was delivered to representatives from stakeholder groups on 17th March 2022 and will be shared with other members of those groups for feedback. The aim is that the masterplan should be endorsed and supported by all local authorities, South Downs National Park Authority, Cowdray Estate and hopefully local residents and the business community, so that any future projects in the town centre follow the design guidelines set out. Some of the work is more focussed on planting and signs and more readily achieved, but some areas also include the possibility of significant highways improvements which are likely to be more medium to longer term. For example, loading bays on North Street indicates that the current loading bays do not work, i.e. people park in them at all times. This is causing considerable stress/difficulty for business owners. A copy of the full presentation is at Annex A to these minutes.

Action: Assistant Clerk to forward the full Vision presentation to all councillors.

Meeting reconvened.

C/045/22 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting

These were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting held on 21st February 2022.



Proposed Cllr Smallman, seconded Cllr Richardson, all agreed.

C/046/22 - Matters Arising from those Minutes

None.

C/047/22 - Report from County and District Councillors

<u>West Sussex County Councillor Kate O'Kelly</u> - Report previously circulated. County Cllr O'Kelly did not attend and Cllr Lintott read the key points to meeting. Cllr Coote re-iterated the plan to reduce the speed from the junction with North Street and Knockhundred Row to the end of South Street and the junction with the Chichester Road,

District Councillor Gordon McAra - Report previously circulated.

C/048/22 – Finance, Asset and Policy Committee

Minutes of 24th January 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed by Cllr Travers, seconded by Cllr Fraser, unanimously approved.

C/049/22 - Planning and Infrastructure Committee

Minutes of 14th February 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed Cllr Fraser, seconded Cllr Upjohn, unanimously approved.

C/050/22 - Planning and Infrastructure Committee

Minutes of 28th February 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed Cllr Fraser, seconded Cllr Upjohn, unanimously approved.

C/051/22 – Community and Environment Committee

Minutes of 14th February 2022 were adopted by Council. Proposed Cllr Upjohn, seconded Cllr Jeffries, unanimously approved.

C/052/22 - Actions

The actions were provided to the committee before the meeting. A number were closed.

Action: Confirm with Cllr Yeo that a draft letter to the WSFRS has been completed.

C/053/22 – MTC Trustees on Local Charities

- a) It was confirmed that Steve Morley would continue as an MTC representative of the George Ognells Poor Charity.
- b) It was agreed that Judy Fowler would continue as one of the trustees of the George Ognells Poor Charity.
- c) It was agreed that Cllr Sutton would continue as one of the Pest House trustees.
- d) It was agreed that Cllr Travers would replace Nigel Cheshire as one of the trustees of the Pest House.
- f) It was agreed that Cllr Lintott continue as one of the Town Trust trustees.



C/054/22 – Replacement of Cllr Purves

- a) <u>Planning and Infrastructure</u>: It was agreed that it was unnecessary to replace Cllr Purves on the Planning and Infrastructure committee until co-option of a new councillor was complete. This would be reviewed in six months time.
- b) <u>Community and Environment</u>: It was agreed that it was unnecessary to replace Cllr Purves on the Community and Environment committee until co-option of a new councillor was complete. This would be reviewed in six months time.
- c) <u>Cemetery Sub-committee</u>: It was agreed that Cllr McAra and Cllr Smallman would join the cemetery sub-committee.

C/055/22 - Reports from Outside Meetings

Cllr Coote informed the committee that he had attended a meeting with SDNPA regarding the Government's response to Julian Glover's report into whether the protections for National Parks are still fit for purpose. This will be discussed at the next Planning meeting. A link to the Government's response is below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/landscapes-review-national-parks-andaonbs-government-response/landscapes-review-national-parks-and-aonbs-governmentresponse

Cllr Lintott and Cllr McAra attended a presentation from Midhurst Vision, which provided an update on progress to date. Also see C/044/22 - Public Participation Session and Annex A.

C/056/22 - Matters of Report

Cllr McAra has raised concerns about a red Volvo parked on Petersfield Road. Although this vehicle is legally parked, there are concerns that it is causing a traffic hazard at busy times.

C/057/22 - Grants 2022

It was agreed that for 2022 the current grants panel would be the same: Cllr Coote, Cllr Smallman and Cllr Travers. However, and pending the paper on a revised way forward for 2023, the panel would be reviewed at a later date. Should any changes be made to the grant process for those organisations currently receiving recurring grants, they would be notified well in advance of any requirement to apply for funding.

C/058/22 - Staff Matters

It was proposed and agreed that the meeting should to move to closed session to discuss staff matters.

C/059/22 - Date of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be Tuesday 19th April 2022 at 7pm.

| Signed: | Dated |
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| Chairman | |



Annex A

