**A Meeting of the Community and Environment Committee**

**took place at 7.30pm on Monday 13th February 2023**

**in the Midhurst Town Council offices,**

**The Old Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst**

**MINUTES**

**Present** Cllr N. Yeo (Chairman), Cllr C. Lintott, Cllr D. Merritt, Cllr J. Sutton and Cllr R. Watts.

**Officer:** Sharon Hurr, Clerk

**CE/147/23 – Chairman’s Announcements:** None

**CE/148/23 – Apologies for Absence**: Cllr D Smallman. Cllr G Upjohn was absent without apology.

**CE/149/23 - Declarations of Interest - To receive from Member’s declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary interests in relation to any items included on the agenda for this meeting in accordance with The Localism Act 2011 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012:** None

**CE/150/23 - Minutes of Last Meeting:** The minutes of meeting held on 9th January 2023 were agreed as an accurate record by all present.

**CE/150/23 - Matters Arising from the Minutes of 9th January 2023, to consider matters arising from the minutes that are not on the agenda:** None.

**CE/151/23 – Public Participation:** No members of the public were present.

Meeting Reconvened.

**CE/152/23 Events Update:** The Events and Promotions Officer reported that a guided walk with activities would take place on 15th February 2023 as this half-term’s free family activity. The market was going well, and a butcher may be joining the market going forward. The Artisan element of the market had been limited for the last two markets, but there would be more stalls at the March market. A request for Councillors to volunteer to run the Councillor surgery was also made. Plans for the Coronation were progressing well and a large public screen has been booked for the Market Square. The church would also be running craft activities during the ceremony and a road closure had been requested.

**CE/153/23** **Policing in Midhurst:** The Chairman reported that a meeting of the Midhurst and Easebourne Police Liaison Forum took place on 25th January 2023. A number of matters were discussed including Hyde Housing reporting that Holmbush had been tided and work was being undertaken to provide outdoor exercise equipment, although residents were fly-tipping which required resolution, and organising a litter pick by the Midhurst Youth Trust was mooted**.** There were currently a high number of thefts of agricultural equipment, and with regards to e-bikes, the perpetrators were currently being processed within the judicial system. A separate operation had now been established to resolve the issue of catalytic converter thefts.

**CE/154/23 – Civic Activities and Rural Amenities:**

* **Community Highway Partnership:** The Chairman explained that this would allow the Town Council to give permission for particular pieces of work to be undertaken, for example verge cutting by the Midhurst Green Volunteers. Cllr Lintott advised that the Council needed to consider which services it wished to include within the agreement. The Chairman requested that this item was added for discussion at the next meeting of the Committee in March.

**Action:** Cllr Lintott to provide her Community Highway Partnership paper for the Clerk to re-circulate.

* **Christmas Lights:** The Events and Promotions Officer had provided a short paper prior to the meeting detailing the scope of a new contract and the current contract had come to an end. Following a discussion, it was agreed that quotations should be sought.

**Action:** The Events and Promotions Officer and the Clerk to seek quotations for a new Christmas Lights contract.

* **Dante:** The Clerk reported that maps of the all the individual utilities within the location of the proposed site had been obtained. Quotations were currently being sought for the requisite structural engineer calculations and directives and the planning application was partially completed. A very supportive letter regarding the project had also been received from Friends of Ravenna, a group based in Chichester with twinning links to Ravenna, Dante’s place of birth in Italy.

**CE/155/23 – Actions**

* Fairtrade Town Status: Cllr Yeo reported that traders within the town were happy with progressing this initiative and Cllr Merritt confirmed that he would shortly have contact details for Mr Culley who had suggested this matter was considered by the Council.
* Relocation of Bins: Cllr Yeo reported that moving the South Pond bin would not be progressed until the exact location for Dante was identified. Cllr Watts reported that he had received a request from the owners of the new opened florists for the bin to be relocated a few feet away from the front of the shop.

**Action:** Cllr Yeo to submit a request to Chichester District Council to relocate the June Lane bin.

**CE/156/23 - Matters of Report: (Note: Decisions cannot be made under this item; it is for information only):**

The Clerk that samples had been taken from the roof on the Carron Lane shed, and the laboratory report had confirmed no asbestos was found.

**CE/157/23 – Date of Next Meeting –** 7.30pm, Monday 13th March 2023

There being no further business the Meeting was closed at 8.25pm.

Signed:…………………………...........…...........…. Date..................................

Chairman