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

**took place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th April 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

**Officer:** Sharon Hurr, Clerk

**Also Present:** Cllr G. McAra observed the meeting.

**CE/158/23 – Chairman’s Announcements:** None

**CE/159/23 – Apologies for Absence**: Apology received from Cllr Watts. Cllr Upjohn was absent without apology.

**CE/160/23 - 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/161/23 - Minutes of Last Meeting:** The minutes of meeting held on 13th February 2023 were agreed as an accurate record by all present.

**CE/162/23 - Matters Arising from the Minutes of 13th February 2023, to consider matters arising from the minutes that are not on the agenda:** None.

**CE/163/23 – Public Participation:** No members of the public were present.

Meeting Reconvened.

**CE/163/23 Events Update:** The Clerkreported that the Easter Egg Trail had gone very well with around 150 children taking part. ‘Test’ bunting had been ordered for the Coronation and as this was considered to be of appropriate quality, a further amount would now be ordered with the plan to place this on North Street between various posts and around the Market Square. The Clerk requested that Councillors volunteered to marshal and support the Coronation event which would take place alongside the monthly market with the ceremony being shown on a large public screen.

**CE/164/23** **Policing in Midhurst:** Cllr Yeo confirmed that poster had been displayed to warn residents about Catalytic Converters thefts. Cllr Merritt was also able to confirm that some of the machinery recently stolen from Midhurst Football Club had been located and an arrest made.

 **CE/165/23 – Civic Activities and Rural Amenities:**

1. Public Space Protection Order – Dog Control: The Clerk reported that Chichester District Council was reviewing its Public Space Protection Order – Dog Control, as the current order would lapse on 13th October 2023. A full formal public consultation would be carried out prior to the adoption of the new order, providing an opportunity for the Town Council to submit comments.
2. Banking Hub: Cllr Lintott explained that a number of banking hubs were being established which provided premises for the four main banks to each operate on different days from one location usually a currently empty building. Cllr Lintott suggested that the Town Council should aim to ensure the Town was listed as a potential location for such a hub.

**Action:** Cllr Yeo to research how Midhurst could be included on a list of future planned banking hubs.

1. Community Highway Partnership/Scheme: Prior to the meeting Cllr Lintott had circulated both a draft template and a list of items the Town Council could be empowered to carry out on the highway, under a Community Highway Scheme. Cllr Lintott explained such an agreement would for example allow the Midhurst Green Volunteers to undertake specific works without the need to seek permission on every occasion, as was currently the situation. An agreement would also provide the Town Council with the powers to remove posters from the highway. However, it was important to note that the Town Council would not be committed to undertake works. It was agreed that a draft agreement would be forwarded to the appropriate officer at West Sussex County Council for consideration.

**Action:** Cllr Yeo to forward draft agreement to West Sussex County Council.

**CE/166/23 -** **Actions – Committee to review the outstanding actions:**

* + Fairtrade Town Status – Cllr Merritt will seek to obtain contact details for Mr Culley who had suggested that this matter was considered by the Council.
	+ Relocation of bins – Cllr Yeo confirmed that there was no further update on this matter at this time.

**CE/167/23 - Matters of Report (**Note: Decisions cannot be made under this item; it is for information only): None.

**CE/168/23 - Date of Next Meeting**: To be confirmed.

There being no further business the Meeting was closed at 7.57pm.

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

Chairman