

**BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**

Held in the **BEXHILL SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB, EVERSLEY ROAD,**

**BEXHILL-ON-SEA**

On **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026** at **6:30pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Blagrove, Cllr Byrne, Cllr Crotty, Cllr Drayson, Cllr El, Cllr Goss, Cllr Huseyin, Cllr Lee, Cllr Peters, Cllr Plim, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Timpe, Cllr Wilson, Cllr Winter.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Adam Chugg, Town clerk; M Webber, RFO; L Muhilathithan; One Videographer, 6 members of public.

**00562 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*Cllr Lee entered the meeting at 18:31pm.*

The Chairman and founder of Bexhill Maritime spoke about their ongoing project of building a Maritime Centre on the lower car park at Galley Hill. The unexpected Local Government Reorganisation has led to this project no longer being a priority for Rother District Council. For the past 2 and half years Bexhill Maritime have been asking RDC for community asset transfer of the car park; this has been consistently deferred. Only recently they have conceded that Bexhill Maritime does qualify per the Local Government Act 1972, Section 1 2 3. However, their preference is for the Town Council to be the recipient. The consequence of these delays has been substantial, so we have been investigating contingency options for taking the project to an alternative town. Mr Chairman, the Charity needs to know the answers to these questions. One, Bexhill Maritime's vision for Galley Hill is clear, but what is the Town Council's vision for Galley Hill? Two, what is the current status of the Town Council accepting the Galley Hill Lower Car Park, if it is accepted on the green list?

**Response** - *email response has been sent to the resident.*

**00563 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve apologies for absence with reason from Cllr Hunt.

**00564 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Initial.....

Cllr Drayson declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council and member of Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club.

Cllr Timpe declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council and Old Town Occasions.

Cllr Winter declared an interest as a member of Rother District Council.

#### **00565 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Great pleasure to welcome the new Town Clerk.

#### **00566 MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the following meeting:

a) Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from the meeting of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

#### **00567 COMMUNITY GROUPS – CIL FUNDING**

a) To receive presentation from Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club on their application for funds from CIL Community Group Fund.

Standing Orders were closed at 18:36pm to enable Councillors to ask Egerton Indoor Bowls Club questions regarding their CIL Community Group fund application.

Cllr Drayson re-declared an interest as a member of Egerton Indoor Bowls Club; will not be taking part in the questioning.

The Chairman of Egerton Park Indoor Bowls Club provided further detail on their application for funds from CIL Community Group fund.

*Cllr Byrne entered the meeting at 18:39pm.*

Discussion ensued.

The standing orders were re-opened at 19:00pm.

#### **00568 MAYORS OFFICE**

- a) To receive an update on the work of Town Mayor. – Update received.

**00569 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES**

There was none.

**00570 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

External Councillors may report for three minutes. Written reports must be received three days before the meeting.

- a) To receive reports from Division County Councillors.

There was none.

- b) To receive reports from Ward District Councillors.

Cllr Timpe reported that, alongside Cllr Lee, they are working on having some sort of decking/accessibility installed opposite the Oceanside Café. Working with the Coastal Officer to try and enhance the area for those who struggle to access the beach.

Cllr Timpe noted that, regarding Bexhill Maritime, it has been an awful long process and hopes for a quick answer.

- c) To receive ward reports from Town Councillors.

Cllr Crotty reported that Buckhurst Road is still in a diabolical state.

Received an email about the Egerton Park gym equipment, two items have been cordoned off, the instructions on the equipment have peeled off and equipment is rusted, need lots of TLC. Going to see what can be done about this.

Cllr Timpe informed that the company who made the gym equipment is no longer in existence. Due to devolvement this is currently in no man's land.

Cllr Lee held a meet and greet at the Rose & Crown, met with loads of people who asked questions. Potholes and hedge cutting have been sorted. Will be talking with the Church to try and get a ramp into the Church Hall.

Cllr El re-stated the previous discussion regarding a Zebra Crossing for Buckhurst Road.

**00571 TOWN CLERK UPDATE**

- a) To receive update from Town Clerk. – Update received.

*Cllr Lee left the meeting at 19:13pm.*

*Cllr Lee re-entered the meeting at 19:15pm.*

Cllr Plim requested more detail on what the Freedom of Information request entailed.

**Response** – *Town clerk will confirm what further information can be shared.*

**00572 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**

- a) To note there are regular Officer meetings with the Devolution Lead and other Officers at Rother District Council regarding the transfer of assets.

**00573 PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) To receive update on the Neighbourhood Plan. – update received.

Discussion ensued regarding LNT Developments plan to build a 66 room care home off Pages Lane.

*To note the planning reference is RR/2026/0059/FUL.*

Cllr Wilson noted that Rother District Council want to reduce the amount of car parking and move the position of it.

Cllr Wilson proposed that the details of the planning development are sent out to all Councillors to then provide any adverse comments by Monday; if none are received, then the Town Council will support the application proposed by the Developers.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to send all details of the planning development to all Councillors to then provide any adverse comments by

Monday; if none are received then the Town Council will support the application proposed by the Developers.

**00574 ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL LIAISON**

- a) To receive update on Pebsham Recreation Ground.

To note we have received a Memorandum of Understanding, this is being checked by our solicitors. Plan for this Memorandum of Understanding to be signed off in our May meeting.

**00575 EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- a) Neighbourhood Board - To consider appointing Cllr Lee as an external representative for the Bexhill Neighbourhood Board Rail Exit Working Group. It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Lee as an external representative for the Bexhill Neighbourhood Board Rail Exit Working Group.
- b) To receive updates from external representatives. – update received.

**00576 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- a) Cllr Lee

For the Town Council to investigate the possibility and costs of installing Modular self-cleaning toilets in the town.

Cllr Lee gave further information regarding the benefits of installing these toilets.

*Cllr Crotty left the meeting at 19:46pm.*

*Cllr Crotty re-entered the meeting at 19:48pm.*

Discussion ensued.

Cllr Plim proposed the amendment to change Town Council to Town Clerk, to investigate the possibility.

Cllr Drayson proposed the amendment to replace possibility with viability.

Cllr Lee suggested adding the amendment to around the Town and one on the beach front.

Cllr Wilson proposed to instead change the motion to say in Bexhill.

The amended motion is for the Clerk to investigate the viability and cost of installing modular self-cleaning toilets in Bexhill.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the motion for the Clerk to investigate the viability and cost of installing modular self-cleaning toilets in Bexhill.

c) Cllr Wilson

Bexhill-on-Sea Town council agreed to have Sidley Cricket Club as it's chosen charity for the year 2025/2026.

It is my wish that the balance of the mayoral budget be transferred to the Mayors charity.

The year-end balance of the Mayor's Expenses is £2,486.07.

Cllr Wilson proposed adding to the motion to have a sign installed on St Marys, which says in recognition of donations from Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the motion for the mayoral budget to be transferred to the Mayor's charity (Sidley Cricket Club) and install a sign on St Mary's, which says in recognition of donations from Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council.

#### **00577 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

a) Persimmon Homes – To consider request to suggest 14 street names for development application on Fryatts Way.

*Cllr Lee left the meeting at 20:07pm.*

Discussion ensued.

Cllr Wilson proposed giving the Ellerslie Area Resident Association an opportunity to voice their opinions.

Cllr Plim proposed that the Council submit both suggestions with the amendment of Gate to Gate and for the Clerk to contact Persimmon Homes to see how to progress with Ellerslie Area Residents Association.

Cllr Huseyin suggests that we inform Persimmon Homes that Cllr Plim has come up with these name suggestions.

Cllr Plim declared an interest as a Postman.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit both suggestions with the amendment from Grate to Gate to Persimmon Homes and for the Clerk to contact Persimmon Homes regarding how to proceed with involving Ellerslie Area Road Association.

*Cllr Lee re-entered the meeting 20:12pm.*

**00578 RISK REGISTER**

- a) To consider any new risks to be added to the risk register.  
There was none

**00579 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026 ANNUAL STATUTORY MEETING**

*The meeting was closed at 20:15pm.*

*Date.....*

*Signed.....*