

Minutes of an Extraordinary meeting of **CROWBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL**
held in the Town Hall, The Broadway, Crowborough on
Tuesday 14th June 2016 at 7.30pm

Present	Councillors	Margaret Brain	
		Quentin Burch	Deputy Mayor
		Peter Ellefsen	
		Martyn Garrett	
		David Larkin	
		George Moss	
		Kay Moss	(Wealden District Council)
		David Neeves	
		Alan Penney *	
		Ron Reed	Town Mayor (Wealden District Council)
		Greg Rose	(Wealden District Council)
		Wendy Scrace	
		Matthew Street	
Sandra Timms			
Neil Waller	(Wealden District Council)		
Also present		Philippa Hewes	Town Clerk
		Phillip Lunn	Wealden District Council
		1 member of the public	

* *Denotes non attendance*

APOLOGIES

Cllr Alan Penney – personal reason
District Cllr Jeannette Towey

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Peter Ellefsen declared a personal interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, due to being the Town Council's representative and Director of Crowborough Community Association.

Cllr David Larkin declared a personal interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, due to being a Director of Crowborough Community Association.

Cllr Kay Moss declared a personal interest in SALC as a Director.

Cllr Sandra Timms declared a personal interest as Linda Burcher is known to her.

MINUTES

To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2016 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

It was noted that Cllr Sandra Timms is on the Sports, Recreation and Cemetery Committee and sits on the Pine Grove Working Group.

- 7765** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held 17th May 2016 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

APPOINTMENT OF LOCUM TOWN CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 7766** **RESOLVED** that this Council excludes the public and press from this meeting on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. This is in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section1.

There was a discussion on possible options for an interim Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and how to provide cover for operations.

The meeting was suspended at 7.45 pm.

The meeting resumed at 8.14 pm.

Cllr Sandra Timms left the room at 8.15pm.

- 7767** **RESOLVED** to appoint Linda Butcher as locum Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer until a new Town Clerk has been appointed.

Cllr Sandra Timms returned at 8.20pm.

- 7768** **RESOLVED** to appoint David Carden as a temporary Project Manager until the staff structure review has been completed and staff appointed.

A proposal to reduce the delegated spending limit to £3000 for the locum Town Clerk, and for the new Town Clerk during the probationary period, was not carried.

EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW TOWN CLERK

There was a discussion on the draft person specification for the Town Clerk which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

- 7769** **RESOLVED** to appoint Sussex Association of Local Councils to assist with the recruitment of a Town Clerk.

- 7770** **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Kay Moss, Ron Reed, Sandra Timms and Neil Waller will be members of the interview panel for the appointment of a Town Clerk, with Cllr Martyn Garrett as a reserve panel member.

DEPARTURE OF OPERATIONS CONTRACTOR

This item was dealt with under resolution 7768.

PINE GROVE – TO CONSIDER AN EMPTY BUILDING RATES MITIGATION SCHEME

As the operator for the building may be able to assist with a rates mitigation scheme, it was agreed to defer this item.

LAND REPORT

To agree the purchase of land adjacent to Crowborough Ghyll

7771 **RESOLVED** to purchase the land adjacent to the Ghyll identified as Area 3 for the amount specified in the report for the meeting 14th June, and to cover the seller's reasonable legal costs. All costs associated with the purchase to be funded from general reserve. To accept a clause to cover the increase in value for any resale of the land, and to authorise the Town Clerk to agree the terms of the clause.

7772 **RESOLVED** to purchase the land adjacent to the Ghyll identified as Area 2 for the amount specified in the report for the meeting 14th June, and to cover the seller's reasonable legal costs. All costs associated with the purchase to be funded from general reserve.

To agree the purchase of land adjacent to Crowborough Ghyll

7773 **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to sign contracts and execute transfer documents for the purchase of land adjacent to the Crowborough Ghyll.

URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND/OR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA

It was reported that there may be a by-election for the councillor vacancy in St John's ward.

Thanks were recorded to the Town Clerk for her work at the council.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm