

Minutes of a meeting of **CROWBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall,
The Broadway, Crowborough on Tuesday 17th January 2012 at 7.30 pm

Present	Councillors	Paul Adams Quentin Burch Michael Cooke Peter Cowie Elizabeth Fermor Philip Fermor Beverley Johnstone George Moss Kay Moss Ron Reed Wendy Scrace * David Shaw Andrew Steen Matthew Street Sandra Timms Neil Waller	Deputy Mayor Town Mayor
Also present	Cllrs	Antony Quin Richard Stogdon Sylvia Tidy Philippa Hewes 1 member of the public 1 member of the press	Wealden District Council East Sussex County Council East Sussex County Council Town Clerk

* *Denotes non attendance*

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited them to stand for the opening Prayer.

APOLOGIES

Cllr Wendy Scrace due to attendance at another meeting
Canon Andrew Cornes
District Cllr Stephen Isted
District Cllr Di Phillips
District Cllr Mark Weaver

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

MINUTES

To resolve that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 12th December 2011 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

6371 **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council meeting held 12th December 2011 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE TOWN MAYOR MAY WISH TO LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL

District Cllr Di Phillips wished to record the thanks of the Friends of Crowborough CAB for the continuing support and generous grant from the Town Council.

The Crowborough Centenary Choir and Orchestra are to hold a gala concert on 25th February.

A letter of complaint had been received regarding the purchase of land at Palesgate Lane and 4 Cllrs had met with the complainant.

The Town Mayor's engagements

The list of the Mayor's engagements was noted.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Light up a Life service by Hospice in the Weald on 10th December.

Frank Humphrey's medals

Frank Humphrey's medals have kindly been donated to the Town Council by Rob Harman who was left the medals by his grandfather who was a colleague of Frank Humphrey. The medals will be framed and formally accepted at the Town Conference. Cllr Paul Adams was thanked for his help in securing the medals for the town.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

To note the acts and proceedings of the following committee meetings:

Planning and Development – 28th November 2011

- 6372** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 28th November 2011.

Environment – 29th November 2011

- 6373** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Environment Committee meeting held 29th November 2011.

Sport, Recreation and Cemetery – 5th December 2011

- 6374** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Sport, Recreation and Cemetery Committee meeting held 5th December 2011.

Personnel – 6th December 2011

- 6375** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Personnel Committee meeting held 6th December 2011.

Planning and Development – 19th December 2011

- 6376** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 19th December 2011.

Planning and Development – 9th January 2012

- 6377** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 9th January 2012.

Finance and General Purposes – 10th January 2012

- 6378** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held 10th January 2012.

TO RECEIVE RESOLUTIONS MOVED ON NOTICE

None.

TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Neil Waller reported that St Mary's Church will be celebrating 100 years in 2012 and requested that the Communications and Events Committee consider holding a civic service to mark the occasion.

TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF MEMBERS

Cllr George Moss advised that the Crowborough Partnership AGM will be held at the Town Hall on 21st February. A meeting is to be held with Simon Hughes, Assistant Chief Executive of East Sussex County Council, to discuss the views of the Partnership on the future of the Pine Grove Site; it is understood a representative from the Chamber of Commerce has been invited to attend.

- 6379** **RESOLVED** that Cllr George Moss will represent the views of Crowborough Town Council at the meeting with East Sussex County Council on the future of the Pine Grove site.

Cllr Peter Cowie reported that he had attended a meeting 10th January and signed the Alderbrook Neighbourhood Agreement on behalf of the Town Council.

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Wealden District Council

Cllr Antony Quin reported that the public consultation on the Strategic Sites Development Plan Document commenced 16th January and will run for 6 weeks. An exhibition, detailing the proposals for Crowborough, will be held at Pine Grove 4th February.

The proposal for redevelopment of the Rochester House site is progressing. There will be a consultation in March on the proposal for a mix of 22 housing units with the aim of completing the project in 2014.

East Sussex County Council

Cllr Sylvia Tidy reported that £254,000 had been received from Central Government to develop and implement a co-ordinated approach with other service providers to fuel poverty and emergency responses in cold weather.

The County Council's Fostering Service was marked as outstanding in a recent Ofsted inspection. A number of fostering/adoption information events are being held in the county.

It was reported that the Hookstead day care services will remain in Crowborough although the venue has not been finalised.

PROPOSAL FOR COMMUNITY PROJECT TO IMPROVE THE AREA NEAR CROWBOROUGH STATION (Vision aim no. 4)

Cllr Beverley Johnstone reported on a proposal for a community based project to improve the visual appearance of the approach to the station. Many community groups, organisations and local businesses will be involved in the project. It is expected that the Crowborough Partnership will represent the various partners in an agreement with the station authorities. There will be a competition for local people to submit designs for the improvements. Funds for projects supporting the aims of the Visioning document are included in the budget. Cllr Beverley Johnstone was thanked for her work on the project.

- 6380** **RESOLVED** that Crowborough Town Council supports a station partnership scheme to improve the environment of Crowborough Station forecourt, and makes an agreement in principle to commit funds from the Visioning budget.

TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2012/13

At the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee 10th January, it was recommended that the draft budget be reduced by £25,500 making a revised budget of £1,075,807 which equates to a rise of less than 1.4%.

- 6381** **RESOLVED** to approve the budget of £1,075,807 to be funded by a precept of £1,075,807.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Report on the progress of the community centre

Cllr George Moss reported that the community centre is on target for opening in mid-May and that expenditure continues to be monitored closely. The full feed-in tariff for connecting the PV system to the National Grid was achieved in December before the rates were reduced. The number of confirmed bookings exceeds the target within the 5 year plan.

TO AUTHORISE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTSGrants of Exclusive Rights of Burial

6382 **RESOLVED** to authorise the following grants of exclusive right of burial:

Certificate	Name	Grave space
881	R & D Bonnet	3141A
882	N & A Fitzgerald	3142A
883	L Leppard	3345
885	J & S Oates	3143A
884	J & S McChrystal	4428A
887	N Hulm	3353
888	E & J Millard	3347

6383 **RESOLVED** to approve the signing of JCT Sub-Contractor Collateral Warranties for Funder for the Crowborough Community Centre for:

- F Humphrey Heating Sussex Ltd
- G M Monk Ltd
- Burfield Ltd
- Schindler Ltd
- West Coast Window Systems Ltd
- DGT Structures Ltd
- Lowfield Timber Frames Ltd

6384 **RESOLVED** to approve the signing and sealing of the byelaws for the Country Park.

6385 **RESOLVED** to approve the signing and sealing of the Indemnity for the release of Section 106 funds.

6386 **RESOLVED** to approve the signing and sealing of the Transfer Deed and Deed of Covenant for land at Palesgate Lane.

TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE RECOVERY OF LAND AT ALDERBROOK PLAYING FIELD

An area of encroachment at Alderbrook Playing Field is still registered in the name of the National Playing Fields Association. It was considered that this boundary issue should have been addressed when the property was last sold.

6387 **RESOLVED** to authorise the Clerk to continue to investigate the encroachment and to seek recovery of the land.

OTHER MATTERS

Cllr Sylvia Tidy was asked to convey the Council's congratulations to her husband Bob Tidy on his recent MBE award.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm