

Minutes of a meeting of **CROWBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall,  
The Broadway, Crowborough on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at 7.30 pm

---

|              |             |                            |                                 |
|--------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Present      | Councillors | Paul Adams *               |                                 |
|              |             | Peter Cowie                |                                 |
|              |             | Elizabeth Fermor           |                                 |
|              |             | Philip Fermor              | Deputy Mayor                    |
|              |             | Beverley Johnstone         |                                 |
|              |             | George Moss                |                                 |
|              |             | Kay Moss                   | Town Mayor                      |
|              |             | David Shaw                 |                                 |
|              |             | Matthew Street             |                                 |
|              |             | Sandra Timms               |                                 |
|              |             | Neil Waller                | (Wealden District Council)      |
|              |             | Quentin Burch              | (from 8pm)                      |
|              |             | Michael Cooke              | (from 8pm)                      |
|              |             | Wendy Scrace               | (from 8pm)                      |
| Andrew Steen | (from 8pm)  |                            |                                 |
| Also present | Cllrs       | Stephen Isted              | Wealden District Council        |
|              |             | Antony Quin                | Wealden District Council        |
|              |             | Richard Stogdon            | East Sussex County Council      |
|              |             | Sylvia Tidy                | East Sussex County Council      |
|              |             | Philippa Hewes             | Town Clerk                      |
|              |             | Sandra Rouse               | Crowborough Town Council        |
|              |             |                            |                                 |
|              |             | 10 prospective councillors |                                 |
|              |             | 3 members of the public    |                                 |
|              |             | 1 member of the press      |                                 |
|              |             | Peter Turner               | Gideons, Tunbridge Wells branch |

\* *Denotes non attendance*

---

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited them to stand for the opening Prayer. This was followed by one minute of silence in respect of Dr Duncan Watney and Denis Emery, who had received civic awards in recognition of community work, and who had recently died.

Peter Turner of the Tunbridge Wells branch of Gideons presented the Mayor with a copy of the New Testament.

There were no questions from members of the public.

### **APOLOGIES**

Cllr Paul Adams due to a family commitment  
Canon Andrew Cornes  
District Cllr Di Phillips

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Peter Cowie declared a Personal Interest as a member of CCA2010.  
Cllr George Moss declared a Personal Interest as a Director of CCA2010.

## **MINUTES**

To resolve that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

- 6199** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

## **TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION TO FILL THE CASUAL VACANCIES**

- 6200** **RESOLVED** to elect Andrew Steen to East Ward.
- 6201** **RESOLVED** to elect Ronald Reed to North Ward.
- 6202** **RESOLVED** to elect Quentin Burch to West Ward.
- 6203** **RESOLVED** to elect Michael Cooke to West Ward.
- 6204** **RESOLVED** to elect Wendy Scrace to West Ward.

There followed a short recess whilst Declarations of Acceptance of Office were signed by the new members. It was agreed that Ronald Reed will sign his form prior to the next meeting as he was away on business.

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

The list of the Mayor's engagements was noted. The Mayor reported on the presentation of swimming certificates to a team of 4 girls who had represented St John's School and achieved 7<sup>th</sup> place in the country.

- 6205** **RESOLVED** to write to the school and girls to congratulate them on the swimming achievement.

## **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

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

Planning and Development – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011

- 6206** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011.

Environment – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2011

- 6207** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Environment Committee meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

Sport, Recreation and Cemetery – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011

- 6208** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Sport, Recreation and Cemetery Committee meeting held 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011.

Personnel – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011

- 6209** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Personnel Committee meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

Planning and Development – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011

- 6210** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

Planning and Development – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011

- 6211** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

Finance and General Purposes – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011

- 6212** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

Communications and Events – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011

- 6213** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Communications and Events Committee meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

**TO RECEIVE RESOLUTIONS MOVED ON NOTICE**

None.

**TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Neil Waller noted that a number of developers were seeking meetings with the council regarding proposed housing schemes in Crowborough and reminded members of the need to be aware of the rules of predetermination. It was requested that a summary of meetings with developers/agents is forwarded to all members for information.

Cllr Peter Cowie reported on recent street meetings and the useful forum they provide for communication between various members of the community.

Cllr Sandra Timms advised that she had attended a meeting of WDALC. Parish/town councils have been asked to consider possible subjects for inclusion at the annual District/Parish Conference.

Cllr George Moss reported on Delivering the Vision. He has been appointed as Chairman of the Crowborough Partnership and the resources within the organisation will be used for delivering the aims of the Vision.

## **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

### Wealden District Council

Cllr Stephen Isted reported on the following items:

- Training for new councillors is being undertaken.
- The Local Development Framework is progressing with the enquiry phase expected to commence in October. The areas marked for housing development in the Core Strategy may change.
- Wealden District Council is to build 64 new houses/flats in the district. 22 dwellings are scheduled for the site at Rochester House, Crowborough.
- A review of the location/suitability of Polling Stations is being undertaken.

District Cllr Neil Waller reported that he has examined the financial information for a single site headquarters and confirmed the projected cost savings.

The Town Council has been asked to provide key points of information about the town for inclusion in the district council's website.

### East Sussex County Council

Cllr Sylvia Tidy reported on a consultation for the proposed merging of East and West Sussex Fire & Rescue Services. Any financial cuts will be achieved from management with front line services being retained.

## **CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO CLOSE HOOKSTEAD**

A member of the public spoke of the many benefits provided by Hookstead and concern that alternative facilities may not provide the same level of care. The journey to Uckfield for day care facilities may not be suitable for dementia patients.

Cllr Sylvia Tidy reported on changes to the provision and finance of healthcare. Funding for Adult Social Care has been cut and the County Council is moving away from directly provided service provision.

Following a discussion on the proposal, it was generally considered that closing Hookstead would be a loss to a town the size of Crowborough and that further information should be sought. It was agreed that any additional information will be forwarded to members to enable them to complete the consultation on an individual basis.

## **CLOSED CHURCHYARD – ALL SAINTS**

### To consider the process and funding of closed churchyards

Wealden District Council is considering the funding of the 9 closed churchyards in the district, possibly by use of a Special Expense. There are no costs available yet for All Saints churchyard as the maintenance responsibility is in the process of being transferred. Parish/town councils are being asked to consider taking over the grass cutting requirements under an agency agreement; this approach will still leave the unknown liability of trees, walls and monuments with the district council. It was agreed that an activity based costing for using the

ground staff for the grass cutting should be provided before considering the matter further.

## **CROWBOROUGH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION HALL, PARK ROAD, CROWBOROUGH**

### Proposed transfer of ownership

The working party has had an initial meeting. Additional information is required before a report can be made to the Full Council. It is not known if an approach has been made to the Charity Commission regarding the sale.

### Report on the progress of the community centre

Cllr George Moss talked through his written report on the community centre. Work is progressing well and on budget. An application for the second stage Section 61 certificate has been submitted.

Chantal Wilson, Chairman of CCA2010, provided a background report on the project and explained that whilst funding for the construction and fitting out was in place, any fundraising would be used for the provision of additional items. Volunteers to provide specialist help for the project are still required. Bookings from 1.07.12 are being taken for the new community centre.

### To note the latest cashflow for the project

The latest cashflow from CCA2010 was reviewed and noted.

### To agree the arrangements for the loan

Borrowing approval for an initial £1 million has been received from the Department of Communities & Local Government. A further submission will be required for the remaining sum later in the project. Information was provided on the cost of drawing a loan on an EIP or annuity basis for 20 and 25 years.

- 6214** **RESOLVED** that as permitted under the terms of the borrowing approval received from the Department of Communities & Local Government, an initial loan of £1 million be drawn down from the Public Works Loan Board for 20 years on an annuity basis, in order to meet the approved funding arrangements for the Crowborough Community Centre.

## **TO AUTHORISE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

### Grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial

- 6215** **RESOLVED** to authorise the following grants of exclusive right of burial:

| Certificate | Name           | Section | Grave space |
|-------------|----------------|---------|-------------|
| 869         | Mrs B Andrew   | N       | 3184A       |
| 870         | Mrs M Taylor   | P       | 3337        |
| 871         | Mr G Johnson   | P       | 3338        |
| 872         | Mrs E Mc Court | P       | 3339        |
| 873         | Mr B Baker     | P       | 3340        |
| 874         | Mr R De-Berry  | P       | 3341        |
| 875         | Mrs L Hollands | GR      | 497         |

To sign the Licence between Crowborough Town Council and Jacqueline Dear for land at 20 Glebelands.

- 6216** **RESOLVED** to sign the Licence between Crowborough Town Council and Jacqueline Dear for land at 20 Glebelands.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME REGULATIONS**

- 6217** **RESOLVED** to include Caroline Miles in the Local Government Pension Scheme as operated by East Sussex County Council on behalf of Crowborough Town Council.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm