

HAILSHAM FORWARD CIC

STAKEHOLDER GROUP

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 10.00AM
ON 20TH JULY 2018 AT
THE DIPLOCKS HALL, THE DIPLOCKS, HAILSHAM

Attendees:

Cllr Gavin Blake-Coggins: Hailsham Town Council
Dermot Clarke: Department for Work & Pensions
Cllr Nick Collinson: Wealden District Council
Cllr Nigel Coltman: Hailsham Town Council
Richard Grocock: Environment Hailsham
John Harrison: Hailsham Town Council
Cllr Bob Bowdler: East Sussex County Council
Christian Letschka: Hailsham Town Council
Jan Townsend: Community Representative
Steve Wennington: Hailsham Active
Irit Meyer: representing St Marys Walk
Jeremy Shepherd: representing St Marys Walk
Mickey Caira: Hailsham Town Council
Cllr Chriss Triandafyllou: Hailsham Town Council
Robert Boxer: Representing Willow Gardens Residents

Also present:

Terry Hall: Hailsham Town Council

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr Blake-Coggins was proposed and seconded as Chairman, he was elected unanimously by the meeting.

2. Introductions and Apologies

The Chairman invited all the attendees to introduce themselves.

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Chris Jackets: Hellingly Parish Council
Jackie Akehurst: Department for Work and Pensions
Ben Pratt: Hailsham Farmers' Market
Peter Willson: Hailsham & District Chamber of Commerce
Marina Briggishaw: Wealden District Council
Rev David Farey: Hellingly Parish Church

Cllr Roy Galley: Wealden District Council
Ralph Olesen: The Link Hailsham
Nus Ghani: MP
Nigel Hannam: Wealden District Council
Phil Matthews: Hailsham Community College
Clive Soper: Federation of Small Businesses
Ron Lloyd: Representing Town Farm Residents Association

3. Minutes of meeting held on 20 April 2018

The notes of the meeting held on 20 April 2018 were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the following two amendments: Richard Grocock was listed as a Town Councillor he was representing Environment Hailsham. Steve Wennington highlighted an error on the action on item 4. This should read ***It was agreed therefore that the group should write to Cllr Bob Standley (WDC) to advise him how they feel about this.***

Mickey Caira will write to Cllr Bob Standley to express Hailsham Forward's view on the use of the old ambulance station as a site for the HCC 6th form.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Update Report on the work of the Executive Committee

The group noted the report given on the work of the Executive Committee and noted the following:

Hailsham Card: Christian Letschka reported that there is a competition being run by Hailsham News and Talk to find a new design for the 2019 version of the Hailsham Card.

Community Forum: Mickey Caira highlighted the success of the forum and acknowledged Cllr Nick Collinson's work to establish the forum. Steve Wennington stated that the forum has provided the opportunity to organise and establish the Hailsham Fun Day. In 2017 it was used to celebrate 100 years of the Lions Club, in 2018 it will be a bigger event with more local groups involved including the scouts and more attractions including a larger dog show and miniature railway.

Events: Cllr Collinson stated that there is a planning application submitted by Persimmon Homes to Wealden District Council for 35 flats off Reef Way. If this is agreed, then this will remove the ability of Hailsham Bonfire Society to provide their firework display. It was agreed by the meeting that Hailsham Forward will send a letter of objection to this application, on the grounds that it

will result in the loss of the event for the town and affect local businesses that are able to capitalise on the event taking place in the town centre.

Mickey Caira to write to WDC to object to this application

6. Confirmation of the membership of the Executive Team:

The group confirmed and noted the membership of the executive team with the following

Current Membership confirmed as:

Director and Chairman – Cllr Nick Collinson – Wealden District Council and owner of Chapter 12 Wine Bar

Director and Treasurer – Cllr Chriss Triandafyllou – Hailsham Town Council

Director – Cllr Gavin Blake-Coggins – Hailsham Town Council

Director – Jan Townsend – Community Representative

Secretary and Member – Mickey Caira – Deputy Town Clerk & Business Enterprise Manager

Member – Peter Willson - Chairman of Hailsham and District Chamber of Commerce

Member – Clive Soper – Federation of Small Businesses

Member – Cllr Chris Jackets – Hellingly Parish Council

Member – Phil Matthews – Principal Hailsham Community College

Member – Neil Povey – Hailsham FM

Member - Paul Gibson – Hailsham News & Talk

Member – Steve Wennington – Hailsham Active

Member – Christian Letschka – Business Enterprise Assistant

Co-opted Member – Cllr Nigel Coltman – Hailsham Town Council

7. Any Other Business

Cllr Coltman stated that Wealden District Council still have the site in Reef Way allocated for a 6th Form College. This was confirmed by a senior planning officer at a recent Hailsham Town Council meeting. East Sussex County Council are also looking at this site for a sixth form college.

The Chairman stated that the former Firstfields and ambulance station site could be adapted to create an educational building.

Steve Wennington stated that Hailsham Community College were under the impression that the reef Way site was no longer available for a sixth form. John Harrison stated that it would be good for the town centre if the new sixth form site was established in Reef Way as this is very close to the town centre.

Dermot Clarke stated that the DWP have started their outreach support in Hailsham again; visiting Wealden Offices every Thursday between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

Councillor Bowdler commented on the amount of litter uncovered on grass verges now that they have been cut and questioned whether it was possible to get the community to undertake a litter pick.

Councillor Collinson stated that it was important for the Executive Team to put forward projects to Hailsham Town Council that could be funded from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding. It was agreed that this will be a standing item on the agendas of both Executive Team and the Stakeholder Group.

Councillor Bowdler asked if something could be done by the community with the old mill in north Hailsham. Councillor Collinson stated that this has been look at but any potential redevelopment does not work financially, as the current owner is asking for a significant sum for the site.

Steve Wennington reminded the meeting of the Hailsham Fun Day taking place on Western Road Recreation Ground this Sunday (22nd July). It should be a successful event and it is hoped that young people will take an active part. He highlighted the successful Active Spaces Programme taking place every Saturday on the Recreation Ground and stated that a funding bid to Fields in Trust/London Marathon for a hard surface exercise area to be established on the Recreation Ground had not been successful. The judges were impressed with the bid and they are looking to see if they can fund this in another way. A decision on this is pending.

John Harrison reported that the Town Council has agreed to put an entry into the national High Street Awards, under the community category, the closing date for the application is 22nd August.

The Chairman commented on the lack of signage off the A22 Hailsham Bypass to direct traffic into Hailsham. John Harrison stated that this has been explored at length in the past and it was not something that can be resolved easily.

8. Future dates for meetings 2018: 19 October 2018.