

HAILSHAM FORWARD

Stakeholder Group Meeting

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 10.00AM ON 28TH OCTOBER 2016 AT
THE DIPLOCKS HALL, THE DIPLOCKS, HAILSHAM

Attendees:

Suzanne Collins: Hellingly Parish Council
Michelle Hagger: Hailsham Town Council
Mickey Caira: Hailsham Town Council
Ben Pratt: Hailsham Farmers' Market
Dermot Clarke: DWP
Jackie Akehurst: DWP
Michelle Gray: Wealden District Council
Ralph Olesen: The Link Hailsham
Terry Hall: Hailsham Town Council
Derek Carter: CH2M
Jackie Harris: Environment Hailsham
Joshua Still: Representing Nus Ghani MP
Rev Phil Edell: Hellingly and Upper Dicker Churches

1. Introductions and Apologies:

Mickey Caira chaired the meeting in the absence of Councillor Coltman. He thanked everyone for attending and invited all those present to introduce themselves to the meeting.

Apologies were received from:

Jan Townsend: Community Representative
Cllr Chriss Triandafyllou: Hailsham Town Council
Cllr Nigel Coltman: Hailsham Town Councillor
Cllr Roy Galley: Wealden District Councillor
Cllr Bill Bentley: East Sussex County Council
Steve Wennington: Hailsham Active
Cllr Nick Collinson: Wealden District Councillor
Richard Grocock: Environment Hailsham
John Harrison: Hailsham Town Council
Nigel Hannam: Wealden District Council
Alice Matthews: Sussex Community Development Association
Cllr Barby Dashwood-Morris: Hellingly Parish Councillor
Nus Ghani: Member of Parliament
Phil Matthews: Hailsham Community College
Irit Meyer: representing St Marys Walk
Jeremy Shepherd: representing St Marys Walk

Cllr Amanda O'Rawe: Hailsham Town Councillor
Trina Mayson: The Now! Charity Group Ltd
Carolyn Fogg: Tomorrows People
Rev David Farey: Vicar of Hellingly and Upper Dicker

2. Notes of meeting held on 29th July 2016:

The notes of the meeting held on 29th July 2016 were agreed as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising:

An update on the establishment of a pop-up shop was requested. Mickey Caira agreed to request an update from the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has since confirmed that they are currently in the lease stage of securing a shop premises. Jackie Harris asked if the pop-up shop would be available to everyone i.e Community groups/Charities, It was stated that it would be for new businesses in the town and an opportunity for business on the industrial parks to promote their business in the town centre.

4. Hailsham Street Market:

It was agreed that Hailsham Street Market would restart again on the first Saturday in January 2017, so in effect only closing for one Saturday between Christmas and New Year. It would only require one member of staff to set up, as to help to reduce costs during this time, but the traders would like to continue as it takes time to rebuild business if the break is to long.

Discussions are underway to instruct an outside contractor to look at increasing traders at the Street Market, and to look to build a bigger market on the last Saturday of the month possibly with some entertainment.

5. Update on the Work of the Executive Team:

The Chairman went though the update report stating the state of shop fronts is an ongoing issue. There had been some major improvements being made recently to the Quintin's and Vicarage Field, but this will be looked at again after the High Street works are complete.

The Town and Shopping guide is looking to be update further with the industrial parks information; Dermot Clarke would be interested in getting the details held on Hailsham businesses; Mickey Caira agreed to forward this information to Dermot.

Rev. Phil Edell asked how the Hailsham Card is being promoted currently and he was advised that it was promoted though stickers displayed in shop windows.

Michelle Gray advised that it maybe possible to add the Hailsham Card promotion to the Wealden District Council weekly alerts to increase promotion.

The first draft of the Wealden Issues ad Options is due out mid November and no further update is available at this time.

The work relating to the business parks in still ongoing, the plan is to arrange a meeting with the landlords, property owners, businesses in the business parks and look at issues that they are experiencing and how working with ESCC these can be addressed.

Work has started on the legal status a draft of the memorandum and articles have been done and passed to the Executive committee for input and advice, further updates to follow.

Rev. Edell enquired if there was an update in relation to Street Pastors that were discussed at a previous meeting, he was advised that Hailsham Forward would be supportive of such project but not a project that the project are able to take on and run at this time.

6. Confirmation of the membership of the Executive Team:

The Chairman advised that Mr Steve Parmar-Greaves would like to join the Executive, Mr Parmar-Greaves runs his own recruitment business and like to help with understanding recruitment issues in the our local area.

The Stakeholder group where all in agreement with Steve's appointment.

7. Update on the MASHH Project:

Derek Carter from CH2M the company delivering the town centre improvement works and behalf of East Sussex County Council provided an update on the works.

The top end of the High Street took much longer than planned due to utility pipe issues, as some where only inches below the surface. However the next section is going well with cement coming in week commencing 31st October 2016 and Tarmac the following week.

All footpaths along the High Street and part of the roadway will be completed by 25th November 2016, along with the right footpath down George Street and site cleared and made safe for the festive period

The left hand footpath and roadway of George Street, The remaining section of the High Street and Vicarage Lane will commence Early 2017 with George Street being closed for 5-6 weeks.

All work is due to be completed by end of April 2017.

8. Future Dates for Meetings.

The Stakeholder Group all agreed the future dates of the meeting will be as follows: 27th January 2017, 28th April 2017 (AGM), 14th July 2017, 13th October 2017.

9. Any Other Business:

Michelle Gray advised the Street Ahead Christmas flyer promoting all Christmas events in the area will be out shortly.

They are running the Best Christmas shop window display again this year, and the Town Council communications officer will prepare a press release to help increase awareness.

Jackie Harris advised that Environment Hailsham have organised a Festive Fun event at Hailsham Parish Church on 26th November 2016 at 2.30pm with the opportunity to win Festive Flower arrangement done by Kevin Loveland. Tickets available from Hailsham Pavilion.

Meeting finished at 10.50am.