



# Battle Town Council



MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING held on TUESDAY, 10 JANUARY 2017 in  
The Almonry, High Street, Battle, at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllrs D Furness (Chairman), C Davies, G Favell, P Fisher, J Gyngell, R Jessop, M Kiloh,  
M Palmer, A Ratcliffe, J Reeves and A Russell.

District Cllr Kathryn Field, 2 members of the public, Carol Harris (Town Clerk)

**1. Apologies for absence** – Received from Cllrs J Boryer and M Howell and District Cllr K Dixon.

**2. Disclosure of interest** – None.

**3. Minutes of the Council meeting** held on 22 November 2016. Cllr Jessop proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Russell and agreed unanimously. These were duly signed by Cllr Furness. Suggested amendments for clarification from Cllr Boryer were read to Members and noted.

**4. Report of County and District Councillor(s)**

Cllr Field reported that budget setting has been undertaken and the Cabinet papers will be available from 24 January. She confirmed that extra money for adult social care is permitted with a 2% increase this year and 1% for the next and following years. Whilst an improvement, Cllr Field confirmed that this will remain less than required. She advised that from April, ESCC social care will be working closely with the NHS to provide a better service at less cost.

**5. Correspondence and communications**

None.

**6. Minutes and recommendations from Committee meetings:**

Cllr Favell presented the minutes from the **Environment Committee** meeting on 6 December and these were noted.

Cllr Ratcliffe presented the minutes from the **External Relations & Town Development** meeting on 13 December and highlighted the recommendations in relation to **Battle Visual Arts Development Committee**:

- **the Town Clerk/RFO be invited to attend in an advisory capacity. This was agreed;**
- **3 representatives be nominated with any two attending each meeting. This was agreed;**
- **Cllr Reeves, Cllr Furness and Cllr Russell be proposed as Council representatives. As Cllr Furness had withdrawn from this recommendation Cllr Russell proposed that Cllr Ratcliffe be the third representative for the Council. This was seconded by Cllr Jessop and agreed unanimously.**

Cllr Ratcliffe proposed that Cllr Fisher be appointed as Council representative to the Battle Twinning Association. This was seconded by Cllr Furness and agreed unanimously.

Cllr Ratcliffe proposed that the Council take ownership of the Memorial Statue on the roundabout. This was seconded by Cllr Kiloh and agreed unanimously.

Cllr Furness presented the minutes of the **Finance & General Purposes Committee** meeting on 20 December and these were noted.

Cllr Jessop presented the minutes from the **Planning & Transport Committee** meetings on 30 November and 14 December and these were noted.

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## 7. Precept 2017/18

Cllr Furness reminded Members that budgets had been considered at individual Committee level and as a whole by F&GP in December. A document detailing the precept proposal had been circulated to all Members and Cllr Furness invited questions. Cllr Fisher highlighted the necessity for including funds to update the Almonry kitchen which is used by hirers of the facility and it was agreed to discuss this issue at the next F&GP Committee meeting. **Cllr Furness proposed precept of £340,762, which equates to a 60p per week rise to a Council Tax Band D equivalent property. This was seconded by Cllr Jessop and agreed unanimously.**

## 8. Rother District Council budget for 2017/18

Members acknowledged that the consultation period had now expired but discussed the issue of car parking charges in Battle. Councillors were united in feeling that Battle residents and businesses are not being treated fairly and agreed that the Council should make strong representation to RDC in support of parking concessions for Battle residents. Cllr Field supported this initiative and agreed to assist.

## 9. Payments and receipts

Members noted payments (including internal transfers) totalling £29,326.21 and receipts (including internal transfers) totalling £59,945.39 for the period 1 to 30 November 2016.

## 10. Reports from representatives of the Council

Cllr Jessop - had circulated his report to Members: South East Region Counties Association Forum to discuss membership options of the National Council of the Association of Local Counties; Chief Constable of Sussex at Lewes for an update on the targeted policing strategy; the 'Lights of Love' service at St Michael's church; Chaired a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Group with the key item being the suitability of possible development sites that have been notified to the Group; judging of the best dressed (most imaginative?) at the town's Gala Night.

Cllr Furness - had judged the best dress business on Gala Night.

Cllr Kiloh - had attended a Battle Museum Committee meeting.

Cllr Ratcliffe - had attended a meeting of the 1066 Executive Board: minutes to be circulated.

## 11. Matters for information / future items for agenda

None.

## 12. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 21 February 2017

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm