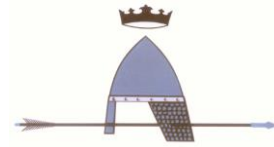




Battle Town Council



Minutes of the COUNCIL MEETING held on TUESDAY, 17 JULY 2018 at
The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs D Furness (Chairman), J Boryer, A Brown, M Dass, C Davies, G Favell, P Fisher, J Gyngell, M Kiloh, A Ratcliffe and D Wheeler.

In Attendance: District/County Cllr K Field, C Harris (Town Clerk)

Public Question Time

None.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllrs V Cook, M Howell, A Russell and I Williams.
2. **Disclosure of interest** – None.
3. **Minutes of the Council meeting held on 19 June 2018** were agreed and duly signed by Cllr Furness.
4. **Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting (not elsewhere on the agenda)**
The Clerk reported that research into the ATM issue is ongoing.

5. Reports from County Councillor and District Councillors

County

Cllr Field reported that:

- £10m has been cut from the **adult social care** budget;
- cuts have also been made to the **music service** offered at schools;
- a feasibility study into a **pedestrian crossing at Battle Hill** has been agreed.

District

Cllr Dixon had submitted his apologies for this meeting.

Cllr Field confirmed that there was nothing to report.

6. Correspondence and communications

- The Clerk reported a copy of a letter advising of a severe burn caused to the hand of a toddler touching the **skate ramp**. This was noted.
- An offer of a **presentation** on a production of a locally written play to be opened at **Abbey Road Studios** in December was reported. Council did not feel that this was necessary.

7. To receive draft minutes and agree any recommendations from Committee meetings:

- Cllr Kiloh presented the minutes of the **External Relations & Town Development** meeting on 3 July 2018. These were noted.
- Cllr Gyngell presented the minutes of the **Planning & Transportation** meeting on 10 July 2018. These were noted.

8. Darvel Down

Cllr Boryer confirmed his recommendation to incorporate the bottom end of Darvel Down as a **wildflower meadow**. He highlighted ESCC's confirmation that unsuccessful sites can be returned to the usual cutting regime, or be enhanced with seeding or planting. ESCC had also advised that, subject to health and safety considerations, volunteers could assist with the maintenance of these areas. Cllr Boryer offered to assist with the cutting of areas when appropriate. Members agreed to support ESCC proposal to incorporate the Darvel Down area into their wildflower meadow scheme.

Battle Town Council

9. Judas tree

A local resident had successfully grown a cutting from the Almonry Judas tree. This is now approx 46cm high and has been offered to the Council for planting. It was recommended that research into its care should be obtained prior to planting. It was agreed that Jempsons should be asked for it to be the replacement for the dead Silver Birch adjacent to the Almonry wall in the Market Square.

10. Convener/member for Resilience Plan Working Group

Cllr Favell confirmed that an additional Council Member, willing to act as Convener, was required to assist the existing 2 Members to complete this task. Cllr Fisher agreed to take on this role.

11. Payments and receipts for June 2018

The income and expenditure report, as attached, had been circulated. Members noted income of £5,597.64 and expenditure £36,117.70; both net of account transfers.

12. Reports from representatives of the Council

- Cllr Kiloh - **1066 Marketing Group:** a rebranding strategy is being developed with presentations and training available to take this forward for the whole area;
- Cllr Gyngell - handed out **Almonry Project** questionnaires at the Big Weekend Event;
- delivered **Writing Competition** information to local schools;
- **Battle Memorial Hall:** confirmed that the Tea Concert had been a great success and further events will be held;
- Battle Festival meetings: programme almost complete; Scarecrow Festival commences Friday;
- Cllr Ratcliffe - **1066 Executive Board:** minutes will be circulated for recording by ER&TD shortly. There are funding concerns being discussed although members remain hopeful. He confirmed that he will now undertake the Vice Chairmanship position;
- **Battle Neighbourhood Plan:** he is now Chairman; next meeting this week;
- Cllr Wheeler - a fundraising event for Battle Health Pathway;
- Cllr Fisher - **Battle Area Sports Centre:** a good year had been reported, particularly with the 3G pitch; prices will be increased;
- **Battle Twinning Association:** are preparing for the visit to St Valery sur Somme in August; have a summer BBQ this weekend;
- St Michael's Tree of Remembrance event;
- Battle Memorial Hall's Tea Concert;
- Cllr Brown - **Battle Neighbourhood Plan** meeting;
- Cllr Boryer - **Wildflower Meadow Working Group** meeting;
- **SLR:** notes to be circulated shortly;
- Cllr Davies - delivered **Writing Competition** information to local schools;
- Battle Festival meetings;
- Cllr Favell - delivered **Writing Competition** information to local schools;
- Battle Memorial Hall's Tea Concert;

Battle Town Council

- **Beautiful Battle Committee** meeting, minutes to go to ER&TD, but are available from Town Clerk if desired;
- handed out **Almonry Project** questionnaires at the Big Weekend Event;
- **SSALC Chairs Networking Day:** Katy Bourne (Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner) noted that the Police have been working proactively:
 - o to interrupt antisocial behaviour (e.g. drug dealing and associated crime)
 - o to react to the threat of terrorism and increased the number of firearms officers
 - o to protect the public, particularly from abuse (slavery/stalking/domestic abuse etc.)

Encourages Councillors to go out on a shift with the Police/Community Officer/Contact office. The Clerk and Chairman of Council should have a telephone number to contact the Police. Air Ambulance presentation was interesting, but not directly relevant to Council. The Council as an Employer – highlighted many of the important issues that are covered by the SSALC HR training, but was a good reminder of good practice. Also presentations about Speed Awareness and the Rural Housing Trust. SSALC has published a Planning Protocol which is available on the website, so can be requested from the Town Clerk.

- **Chamber of Commerce** - Presented on the Battle Heritage Initiative on behalf of Cllr Kiloh. The members agreed that the Chamber will write a letter of support to endorse the Almonry Heritage Project. Parking discussed. Chamber will write to RDC to agree to the reduction of Councillors on BTC.
- **Recreation Ground Working Group:** notes to go to Environment Committee, but are available from Town Clerk if desired;
- **Senlac Allotment Association:** Minutes to go to Environment Committee, but are available from Town Clerk if desired;
- Meeting with Cllr Kiloh (Convenor of **Almonry Heritage Project**), Town Clerk and Malcolm Johnson: to be reported to F&GP

Cllr Furness - SLR: confirmation that lines in Mount Street are on the schedule for repainting;
- Wildflower Meadow WG;
- Battle Festival meetings.

13. Matters for information / future items for agenda

The Clerk reminded Members that the:

- **Battle in Bloom Awards Evening** is on Thursday at 6pm in the Almonry Garden;
- **Councillor Training** for everybody is on Tuesday 24 July at 9am in the Ceremonies Room at the Cemetery.

14. Date of next meeting: Tuesday, 21 August 2018

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm

CLLR D FURNESS
CHAIRMAN