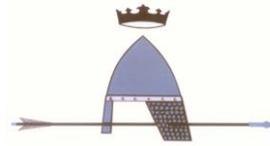




Battle Town Council



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

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

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

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr I Williams.

2. **Disclosure of interest** – Cllr V Cook declared an interest in item 9, as a member of St Mary's Church PCC. Cllr M Dass declared an interest in item 10 as a close relative of a Battle Abbey School employee. Cllr G Favell declared an interest in item 6 as a personal proposer for a Community Award.

3. **Minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 February 2018** were agreed and duly signed by Cllr Furness.

4. **Reports from County Councillor and District Councillors**

County

Cllr Field reported that the closing of 2 **residential homes in Eastbourne** is being considered.

District

Cllr Field confirmed that the Council's **Governance Review** has been started. It had been suggested that Netherfield Hill should be part of the Battle ward which had highlighted the complicated procedure to alter boundaries.

Cllr Dixon reported that there will be an Extra General Meeting to discuss the **Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan** which has been approved by its parishioners and that there is a recommendation for a 2% **salary increase** for staff.

5. **Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting (not elsewhere on the agenda)**

The Clerk reported:

- that communication with the **ATC's** is ongoing;
- the signed Agreement with **Beautiful Battle** had been received;
- that speakers for the **Parish Assembly** had been advised of a 5 minute limit.

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

- Minutes of the **External Relations & Town Development** meeting on 27 March 2018 were presented by Cllr Ratcliffe and noted. Cllr Ratcliffe asked the Clerk to circulate the report from the **Battle Visual Arts Development Committee**. Cllr Kiloh agreed to speak with the proprietor of Marley Stores about the installation of a **defibrillator** at this site.
- Minutes of the **Environment** meeting on 3 April 2018 together with the 6 monthly report, as attached, were presented by Cllr Favell and noted. Members congratulated the Committee on the enormous amount of work that has been undertaken and continues to be progressed.
- Minutes of the **Planning & Transport** meeting on 10 April were presented by Cllr Gyngell and noted. Members agreed that the **Community Infrastructure Levy** monies should be accounted for by the F&GP Committee.

8. **Armistice Event**

Cllr Cook repeated her interest in this item

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A chronological report of discussions and meetings had been circulated, as attached. Members discussed proposals as suggested at the Events sub Committee meeting on 6 March and expected that concerns raised by the St Mary's PCC could be easily addressed. It was noted that an Annual meeting of St Mary's PCC was to take place the following evening. Following extensive dialogue **Members agreed by a majority that:**

- **the suggestion that a grand parade form at the War Memorial for the 2 minutes silence and wreath laying prior to a personal choice of church service or other activity should be presented to the Parish Assembly;**
- **Cllrs Furness and Brown should attend the PCC meeting to reassure members of the desire to have a whole community involvement in the act of remembrance;**
- **if the PCC do not agree to the 2minutes silence at the War Memorial prior to the church service, an alternative option of the Abbey Green should be made.**

Cllr Russell had circulated a document produced by the National Association of Local Council for a national tribute "Battle's over" which promoted the lighting of a beacon at 7pm on 11 November. He suggested that the Armistice event, as previously proposed, could take place in the Memorial Hall prior to the lighting of a beacon on the Abbey Green at 7pm. **Members agreed unanimously that the "Battle's Over" and Armistice Event should be proposed to the Parish Assembly and, if approved, taken forward with other partners in the town.**

9. Council's assets

Members were reminded that proposals from organisations had been made in 2014 to erect buildings on Council land; either at George Meadow or the recreation ground. At that time, it was agreed that no further structures should be permitted. One of those groups had been Battle Abbey School who remain determined to provide a sports facility for their pupils. They have reiterated their willingness to share the facility with the community and other groups eg the Battle 88 Squadron Air Training Corp. It was suggested that the town benefit from the school's presence and it was agreed that the Bursar be asked to provide statistics of Battle students, teachers etc. It was noted that, at present, the Council do not have Power of Competence and would not have the required legislation to take any proposal forward.

10. Battle Local Action Plan Group

An **update on activities** received from the Chairman of BLAP, Bev Marks had been circulated, as attached. He highlighted the low number of members now available to take forward the projects. It was agreed that a call for **additional members** could be made at the forthcoming Parish Assembly and that further Council representatives be nominated at the Annual Meeting.

11. Payments and receipts for March 2017

The income and expenditure report, as attached, had been circulated. Members noted income of £5,729.00 and expenditure £37,280.43; both net of account transfers.

Cllr Furness proposed the following item be discussed under Standing Order 3a as a confidential matter. This was agreed.

County and District Cllrs Field and Dixon and Bev Marks left the meeting.

6. Correspondence and communications

Cllr Favell repeated her interest in this item.

Three nominations for **Community Award** had been received. Following discussion it was agreed that, on this occasion, it would be appropriate to present 2 Awards. The Clerk was asked to purchase engraved pewter goblets and appropriate Certificates.

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12. To receive reports from representatives of the Council

- Cllr Furness - represented the Council in the recent Marbles match;
- attended a meeting at **Battle Abbey School**;
- Cllr Boryer - attended a **Beautiful Battle** meeting: the minutes had been circulated. He highlighted the concern raised at the cost of watering requested by Council;
- represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;
- Cllr Ratcliffe - represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match and recommended that a fancy dress costume is agreed for next year;
- attended a **1066 Battle Marketing** meeting: minutes would be circulated shortly;
- Cllr Gyngell - represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;
- attended the **Memorial Hall Committee** meeting at which it had been proposed that a link could be made with the Council for the proposed Almonry Wedding venue. It was suggested that JG join the WG to discuss this;
- Cllr Favell - attended the pre-opening **Museum** event;
- represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;
- attended a **Battle Health Pathway** meeting;
- attended the **Chamber of Commerce** meeting, of which Helen Baker is now President and it was agreed that Mike Dawes carry out any work as Town Crier;
- Cllr Fisher - on behalf of the **Twining Association** had attended the Battle Abbey Explanatory Board meeting at which it had been reported that N Williams is now responsible for several sites and that the walled garden will be maintained as a wildflower area;
- Cllr Russell - reported that there had been no formal **Neighbourhood Plan** meeting;
- advised that he is awaiting a final meeting of the **Battle Visual Arts Development Committee** and its Finance sub Group;
- confirmed that he will be seeking interested people to join the newly agreed **Heritage Policy Working Group**;
- represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;
- Cllr Howell - represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;
- attended a special meeting of the **Neighbourhood Plan** group at which the Chairman had announced his resignation;
- Cllr Kiloh - represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;
- attended a meeting with the **Museum** Committee to discuss the Almonry Community Heritage Centre proposals. She had also met with other interested groups including the TIME WG who will now disband and merge with other groups as appropriate;
- Cllr Brown - represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;
- attended the opening of the **Coronation Gardens play equipment**;
- attended the special meeting of the **Neighbourhood Plan** group at which it was agreed that additional resources are required;
- Cllr Davies - represented the Council in the recent **Marbles** match;

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- attended the pre-opening gathering of Battle **Museum**. She also thanked the Council for the use of amenities whilst their toilet facility is out of use.

13. Matters for information / future items for agenda

The Chairman reported on the positive response from the **Mayor of Bayeux** advising that, whilst Bayeux cannot take the decision of the possible loan of the Tapestry, he would be delighted to welcome the Town Council to discuss in greater detail. A visit to both Bayeux and St Valery could now be arranged, as previously agreed.

Cllr Furness relayed the extremely sad news of the **tragic death of a former Councillor's son**. The Clerk was asked to circulate the details of how donations may be made to the benefit of the young man's baby son.

14. Date of next meeting: Annual Council Meeting; Tuesday, 15 May 2018

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

CLLR D FURNESS
CHAIRMAN