



# Battle Town Council



MINUTES of the EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND TOWN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
held on TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 2017 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs A Ratcliffe (Chairman), G Favell, D Furness, R Jessop and A Russell.

**In attendance:** Carol Harris (Town Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr P Fisher.  
Cllr M Palmer was absent
2. **Disclosure of interest** – None.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2017. These were agreed by Members and duly signed by Cllr Ratcliffe.**
4. **Matters arising from previous minutes, not on this agenda**  
The Clerk reported:  
That Citycards have replaced the **Battle Cards** with the updated version; instigated increased publicity; and have requested a display table at the Parish Assembly. This was agreed;  
A response from Battle Memorial Hall requesting further information on the proposed **Civic Award board** prior to their meeting on 22 May. The Clerk was asked to provide the relevant information including the request that the board be placed in the first foyer.
5. **The minutes of the Events sub-Committee meeting held 21 March 2017** were presented by Cllr Russell and noted.
6. **Battle Heritage Trails Project (BHTP)**  
The minutes from the meeting of Battle Visual Arts Development Committee had been circulated to Members. Cllr Russell confirmed that the procurement strategy had been shared and agreed and that there are no concerns at present. The Clerk reported that there is a spreadsheet tally of payments made; all activities have a set budget. As Cllr Russell is unavailable on 4 May, Cllr Ratcliffe agreed to attend the next meeting. Cllr Russell suggested that a Finance sub Committee meeting, comprising Lesley Samms(LS) (Chairman of BVADC), himself and the Clerk should be arranged for June to carry out a quarterly check. The Clerk confirmed that LS will be attending the Parish Assembly and that publicity has been issued. Members asked that clarification be ascertained on any overlap of the existing trails and the Heritage Arts Trail.
7. **Tourist Information Point**  
Cllr Furness confirmed that only one business has expressed an informal interest in providing this service although there is concern as the funding availing and the space required. The (t)DTC was asked to seek funding sources for a TIP. It was suggested that the funds allocated for a TIP could provide for an extra person in the BTC office to deliver this service.
8. **SSALC Conference and Anti-scam**  
Cllr Favell reported on the disturbing reports from Trading Standards on the vast number of victims of scams/fraud actions and the endeavours to highlight the need to report all incidences without embarrassment. There was also presentations on Health and Rural Isolation; Planning Appeals and policing. **Cllr Favell proposed that an article be requested**

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from Action in Rural Sussex on the anti-scam scheme for the next Newsletter. This was agreed.

## 9. Armed Forces Covenant

The Clerk reported that a suitable civic event had been requested to join with the signing of the Covenant. Members agreed that the St Valery sur Somme Twinning would be an appropriate occasion.

## 10. Town Improvement ideas

Members discussed the background to the Town Improvement Group and last year's purchase of small tubs that were planted and placed outside premises that retailers had agreed to water regularly. Funding for this year's planting has been agreed by P&T. **Members agreed to recommend to F&GP that communication and relevant budgets with Beautiful Battle be included under this Committee's remit.** The Clerk was asked to invite the Chairman of Beautiful Battle to attend meetings prior to bulb ordering and at other pertinent times. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr Kiloh in relation to the position of the planters.

Members agreed to invite the new President of Battle Chamber of Commerce, Alan Deeprise to the next meeting to discuss ideas for partnership working.

## 11. "Battle Business Award"

Cllr Furness reported on the successful business awards scheme that Lewes Borough Council award and that Rother had confirmed no interest in taking forward. Members agreed to seek nominations from the Chamber for annual awards for the Best Start-up Business: retail and non-retail; to be presented at the Parish Assembly with effect from 2018.

## 12. Marketing groups

Cllr Ratcliffe confirmed there had been no meetings.

## 13. Financial matters

a. The **income and expenditure to 31 March 2017** was noted. The Clerk confirmed that there had been no response to the request for a contribution towards the circulation of the Annual Report/Parish Assembly information within the Newsletter. She was asked to issue a letter of concern regarding this. The Clerk was also asked to request a donation towards the Christmas lights.

b. The Clerk recommended, and Members agreed, additional **budget headings for 2017-18** as:

### Income

Advertising

Battle card

Beautiful Battle

Christmas lights

Heritage Lottery Fund

### Expenditure

Beautiful Battle

Christmas lights

Heritage Arts Trail

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## **14. Matters for information / future agenda items**

- Christmas lights
- Website
- Defibrillators: Netherfield; Marley Lane stores; Telham (the (t)DTC was asked to seek sources of funding for this

## **15. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25 April 2017**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

CLLR A RATCLIFFE  
Chairman