

Minutes of the **COUNCIL** meeting held in the **ANZAC ROOM**, Meridian Centre, Peacehaven, on
Tuesday 25th July 2017 at 7:30pm.

Members

Councillors:	Wayne Botting	Jackie Harrison-Hicks
	Daryll Brindley	Andy Loraine
	Rachael Coles	Ron Maskell
	Jean Farmiloe	Dave Neave
	Reg Farmiloe (Vice Chair)	Amber Robertson
	Brian Gosling (Chair)	Robbie Robertson
	Lynda Hallett	Melvyn Simmons
	Job Harris	Andy Smith
	Ann Harrison	

Present:

Councillors:	Rachael Coles	Ann Harrison (7:30pm-10:00pm)
	Jean Farmiloe	Jackie Harrison-Hicks
	Reg Farmiloe (Vice Chair)	Andy Loraine
	Brian Gosling (Chair)	Ron Maskell (7:30pm-9:45pm)
	Lynda Hallett (7:30pm-9:45pm)	Dave Neave
	Job Harris	Robbie Robertson

ESCC Cllr's:

In Attendance

Claire Lacey – Town Manager
Louise Steele – Locum RFO
Campbell McBryer – Leisure & Amenities Manager
Sally Landers – Administration Officer

GENERAL BUSINESS

C244 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health and Safety

Welcome everyone and thank you for attending this evening, we are not expecting any emergency evacuations from the building if the alarms do go off please leave the building by the safest route possible and meet on the grassed area by the car park. Do not re-enter the building until you are informed that it is safe to do so

Please switch your mobile phones to silent during this meeting

Out of Courtesy we have to remind you that this meeting is being recorded, the definition of the right to record is on your seat.

Presentation of Military Covenant

This evening we have the pleasure of introducing you to Captain Jonathan Darrington-Slegg who will be presenting Peacehaven Town with its very own Military Covenant.

Captain Jonathan Darrington-Slegg delivered a presentation to the Council and thanked Officers and Councillors for their support. Peacehaven is the first town in Lewes District to receive such an honour.

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C244 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS continued

Cllr. B Gosling signed the pledge

Captain Jonathan Darrington-Slegg presented Cllr. B Gosling with the bronze award

Mayor's Announcements

I wish to thank everyone for making the Summer Fair such a great event this year. My wife Sandra, Officers of the Council and over 4,000 residents and a number of dignitaries had a wonderful day. We raised nearly £3,000 for worthy causes and I am looking forward to supporting more people through the rest of my Mayoral year.

We have further events planned, a race night on 4th August and on the 9th and 18th of August the Mayors Bingo, please come and support us.

The new website for Peacehaven Town Council is now live. The website address now complies with government legislation and can hold a significant amount of data. Thank you to the Officers who have all worked so hard on this project, we have had a brief look and it is spectacular.

Please look at www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Councillors will receive their new email addresses and a trial on the new site shortly.

C245 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Joan Goldrich – North Ward

The resident submitted the following questions in writing:-

Mayor's Appeal - I would like to know how much and to whom the funds were given

The Town Manager responded stating £8,000 was donated in cheques at the Annual Town Meeting on 9th May to the Mayors Chosen charities – Sussex Pet Rescue, Angels Walk, The Rotary Club and Peacehaven and Telscombe Scouts.

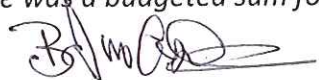
Through the Grants Committee cheques were also raised to the value of £5,000 plus additional resources under Section 137 of the Local Government Act in the way of room hire and amenity space, to support INAA, ABC Fund, Meridian Evening WI, Deans Senior Tea Club, Revitalise Respite Holidays, Peacehaven Girl Guides, Youth Taskforce, Peacehaven Taskforce, Sussex Wildlife Trust, Coastwatch, Targeted Youth Support.

£15,000 was also gifted to the CAB and £6,000 to the CTLA from the Town Council in the last financial year. We hope this will continue.

Dog Bins – can the procedure for dog bins be explained, I thought they were the responsibility of Peacehaven Town Council (PTC) but in the budget of 03/07/17 the costing seems rather high for town work

The Town Manager responded stating some bins around the town are owned and emptied by PTC Grounds team. Some are still owned and emptied by Lewes District. We are in the process of taking back the responsibility for emptying all of them in the town, once the staffing budget allows. In the last financial year, there was a budgeted sum for emptying dog waste bins of £1,500 although it was 'overspent' by

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£1,116 due to having to purchase a new wooden bin for Centenary Park due to an arson attack, the Council are awaiting reimbursement via an insurance claim.

The Leisure & Amenities Manager responded stating PTC is responsible for the dual waste bins and Lewes District is responsible for single use dog bins. The Council needs to explore taking on all the dog bins in Peacehaven.

Mike Gatti – North Ward & Peacehaven Focus Group

The resident read the following:-

Filming Council Meetings

On the 14th June 2013, Eric Pickles published a new guide for local residents, explaining how they can attend and report their local Council meetings. The new guidance explicitly states that Councils should allow the public to film, blog and tweet council meetings. This new legislation applies to all Councils in England, to give the press and public new rights to film and report Council meetings.

The new laws are part of the Local Audit Accountability Bill so that the entire Council Tax bill is fully accountable to local taxpayers.

A recent report by the Taxpayers Alliance revealed an alarming number of Councils who are still keeping democracy behind closed doors. My Pickles said: And I quote "The independent local press and robust public scrutiny is essential for a healthy local democracy. We have given Councils more power, but local people need to be able to hold their Councils to account".

He said the Government is taking action against Town Councils for undermining the free press. He stated that it was Mrs Thatcher who introduced the right to attend Council meetings in 1960. It is right that we should now bring her legacy up to date with the digital age. Councillors should not be shy about the good work they do. Having Council meetings webcast or at least available to view on the Council website I feel is essential.

This would enable the public, who for whatever reason, cannot attend to be kept informed of their Councils decisions and procedures, and may help in encouraging residents to engage more with their Council and Councillors. As it now appears standard practice at both Lewes District and East Sussex County Councils to display meetings on their website, I do hope that Peacehaven will follow their example.

Planning Applications – New Developments

I shall ask this on behalf of Peacehaven Focus Group.

At the Planning and Highways Committee on the 18th July, it was discussed by the Members, that they may be considering amending the resolution made at the Extra Ordinary Full Council meeting of the 19th April, in which all Councillors present agreed to object to the planning application in respect of Lower Hoddern Farm for reasons of insufficient infrastructure.

They also agreed to object to all new – build planning applications until the infrastructure and associated problems are properly addressed.

Signature: 

C245 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME continued

Whilst this may not be viewed as sensible by the Planning Authority, Peacehaven residents feel that where Cil and Section 106 monies collected by the District and County Councils has not previously been allocated to the Town, the infrastructure problems are worsening.

Any single new home in Peacehaven will add to an increase in traffic, plus the need for more school places, and the additional pressure on existing overstretched Doctors surgeries cannot be tolerated.

The cumulative effect of not refusing these planning applications warrants serious consideration.

We would therefore urge Councillors to think very carefully about this decision. This was decided by the majority of Councillors – 12 of the 17 who make up this Council, and was applauded and supported by over 200 plus residents who attended, as well as numerous likes and comments on social media.

Any attempt to amend or change this resolution may well be seen as Councillors doing a U turn, going back on their word, and yielding to the will of Lewes District Council and indeed East Sussex County Council.

Action: Town Manager to respond in writing to Mike Gatti with regards to filming Council meetings and new developments in Peacehaven

Peter Seed – West Ward

The resident queried if Claremont Planning had consulted with PTC with regards to the development of land at Telscombe Road

C Lacey confirmed an email from Claremont Planning had been received today and will be an agenda item at the next Planning & Highways meeting on 8th August 2017

Cllr. R Farmiloe reiterated the resolution of 19/04/17 whereby it was agreed there should be no more building in Peacehaven due to the lack of infrastructure

C246 TO CONSIDER APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. W Botting – noted (stuck in traffic)
Cllr. D Brindley – noted (annual leave)
Cllr. A Robertson - noted (annual leave)
Cllr. M Simmons – noted (prior commitment)
Cllr. A Smith – noted (prior commitment)

C247 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

Any information included in this agenda or reports, is provided to Councillors as Members of Peacehaven Town Council although they reserve the right to change their mind, subject to any further information being provided if they are representatives on any other Council

No declarations submitted

Signature:



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Annual Council 16th May 2017

Cllr. R Maskell proposed

Cllr. A Loraine seconded

Approved

Debate:-

Cllr. R Robertson queried the timings recorded on the minutes

S Landers confirmed the closed session commenced at 7pm followed by the public meeting at 7:30pm

Cllr. R Robertson queried page 7/110 and questioned what was approved at the Extra Ordinary Council meeting on 19th April as this has not been recorded in the minutes

C Lacey informed Members that this is a record of the minutes being signed off for 19th April; the detail would have been published in the agenda for 16th May 2017 and will show on the website

Special Motion presented by Cllr. D Neave

With reference to the resolution at the Extra Ordinary Council meeting of 19th April 2017, the Town Manager referred to Standing Orders 7A and 7B with regards to any amendment

Cllr. D Neave brought forward the following as a personal statement for Council to discuss. Any views are not those of the Council until resolved by Council.

Amendment to the resolution agreed at the Extra Ordinary Council meeting of 19th April 2017:-

“Full Council meeting July 25th 2017 - with the Mayor’s agreement to allow me to raise a motion and reverse the statement of ‘no further development’ being put on all planning applications. Councillors do not remember it being agreed in the first place and voted on thereon. I am unable to find the motion in various minutes but found various statements from extracts of the Extra Ordinary meeting to discuss Lower Hodder Farm. Councillors are under the impression that it was for the one major application and not all as it states. This wording has put this Council and its Councillors in a difficult position; it has caused more damage to our credibility. My advice was not to hold an Extra Ordinary meeting but to have a public meeting and to listen to members of the public and to collect comments and to debate at the next Planning & Highways meeting. I have been told I need six signatures:-

- Cllr. R Robertson
- Cllr. D Neave
- Cllr. A Loraine
- Cllr. A Harrison
- Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks
- Cllr. J Harris”

C Lacey informed Members that the resolution of 19th April can be amended but not overturned until October 2017 due to the six month rule and therefore a motion could be tabled at the next Council meeting scheduled for 24th October

Signature: 

Cllr. D Neave re-iterated that he wished to bring forward the special motion at this meeting

C Lacey informed Members that Standing Orders state seven days' written notice is required to bring forward a special motion

Cllr. D Neave stated the special motion could be brought to this meeting by way of the Mayor's discretion

C Lacey re-iterated that Standing Orders state seven days' written notice is required to bring forward a special motion and if Members proposed to vote on this amendment this would be contradicting Standing Orders 2013 7A and 7B

Cllr. D Neave proposed the removal of the statement 'no further development' on all planning applications as previously agreed at the Extra Ordinary Council meeting of 19th April 2017

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks seconded

Majority Agreed

Cllr. J Farmiloe against

Cllr. R Farmiloe against

Cllr. L Hallett against

Annual Return 6th June 2017

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks proposed

Cllr. A Loraine seconded

With a disclaimer stating Standing Orders 2013, 12D:-

"The Chairman of this meeting does not believe that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2017 in respect of the Annual Return (page 169 & 170) were a correct record but his view was not upheld by the meeting and the minutes are confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting (with exception to page 169 & 170 only not signed)

Approved with the exception of pages 169 and 170 which are required to be resubmitted following further information

Debate:-


Cllr. J Farmiloe objected to page 21/110 (page 170), stating she had not contacted the auditor as referred to in the minutes and they should be corrected

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks objected to page 20/110 (page 169), stating the paragraph including the sentence 'she had contacted Littlejohns External Auditors' had not been said and that the minutes should be corrected and an apology was required

Cllr. B Gosling signed the minutes with the exception of pages 169 and 170

Cllr. R Coles informed Members that it was her understanding that some Councillors had sought advice from T Leggo (SALC) and then Cllr. B Gosling had contacted the external auditor

Signature:



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Action: Town Manager to refer to video recording of 06/06/17 to confirm content of minutes page 169 & 170 and clarify at next Council meeting on 24/10/17

C249 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING NON CONFIDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Policy & Finance 25th April 2017

The CHAIR asked that the Minutes of the above meeting be **ACCEPTED** and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Cllr. A Loraine proposed
Cllr. R Robertson seconded

Accepted

Debate:-

Members noted that the Committee had agreed payment to the contractor for the refurbishment of the Firle Road play area and questioned if work had started

C McBryer confirmed work had not started as Lewes District Council had not as yet forwarded the Section 106 monies allocated to this project however the park was safe to use in its current state

Members questioned why the Section 106 monies were still outstanding and suggested funding the project from reserves

C Lacey confirmed she had been in contact with Lewes District Council and had been informed the monies were not available as yet

L Steele informed Members that it was not advisable to fund this project from reserves as it may not be possible to reimburse reserves if Section 106 monies are not forthcoming

Members again questioned the safety of the Firle Road play area in its current state

C McBryer confirmed the park met the required standard and was not unsafe

Members agreed to postpone the refurbishment of the Firle Road play area until Section 106 monies had been received and Cllr. R Maskell agreed to chase Lewes District Council on this matter

Cllr. D Neave queried page 29/110 with reference to the cost of a mileage claim for £137.25

C Lacey confirmed the mileage claim referred to staff training in Swindon and was the most cost effective means of travel

Signature:



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Planning & Highways 23rd May 2017 & 20th June 2017

The **VICE CHAIR** asked that the Minutes of the above meeting be **ACCEPTED** and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Cllr. J Harris proposed
Cllr. A Harrison seconded

Accepted

Debate:-

Cllr. A Harrison noted, with reference to the special motion earlier, that the Committee had passed four out of the six applications as recorded on page 40/110

Leisure & Amenities 30th May 2017 & 4th July 2017

The **CHAIR** asked that the Minutes of the above meeting be **ACCEPTED** and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Cllr. D Neave proposed
Cllr. R Robertson seconded

Accepted

Debate:-

Cllr. L Hallett queried why the minutes of 4th July 2017 had not been signed

The Town Manager reiterated relevant legislation stating minutes may be signed at the proceeding or another meeting (ref: letter from Monitoring Officer 19/04/17)

Cllr. D Neave (Chair of Leisure & Amenities) signed the minutes of 4th July 2017

REPORTS

C250 REPORT FROM EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCILLORS

None

C251 REPORT FROM LEWES DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. R Maskell informed Members of the following:-

- The work to develop 22 garage sites into housing is complete
- There is a cap on how much can be borrowed for housing however LDC have negotiated a good rate
- Intend to build more housing for the homeless
- 'One bin' recycling to be brought in, this will be rolled out across the district starting with Peacehaven and Telscombe

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C252 REPORT FROM COUNCILLORS ON ASSOCIATIONS

Cllr. A Harrison informed Members that the Peacehaven Forum group is well attended

C Lacey requested Members nominate a Councillor to represent the Access Group who monitors DDA compliance in the area

No nominations were received

C253 WATER LEAK – SPORTS PARK

The Council **AGREES** to instruct **DMH Contractors Ltd** for the sum of **£35,625.00 (Fixed Cost)** to complete the work to run a new water main in the area of the bowls club. The main will be connected to the Gateway Café and the Bowls Club directly and for **EMCOR to Project Manage** the works for a sum of **£1,500.00**.

Cllr. R Robertson proposed

Cllr. R Coles seconded

Majority Agreed

Cllr. R Farmiloe against

Cllr. J Farmiloe abstained

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks abstained

Cllr. A Loraine abstained

Cllr. D Neave abstained

Debate:-

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks queried if this work is guaranteed to stop the leak

C McBryer informed Members that there is no guarantee that this work will solve the problem of the leak

Cllr. D Neave presented Members with a map of the area which identifies where the water mains are currently sited noting that the Bowls Club House is built over the existing water main which is not good practice.


Cllr. D Neave suggested capping the water main within the grounds of the Bowls Club and temporarily diverting it around the Bowls Club above ground or by burying the pipe underground if possible

C Lacey informed Members that the cost of this suggestion would be approximately £9,000 and would only be a temporary solution as the mains pipe could only legally remain over ground for four weeks and recommended Councillors accept the advice given by Emcor

Members questioned if going with the cheapest quote was advisable

C McBryer informed Members that if agreed, Emcor would project manage this contract and they have worked with this contractor previously

C Lacey informed Members that this option was the most cost effective way forward

Signature: 

C253 WATER LEAK – SPORTS PARK continued

Members questioned if any costs could be recovered from insurance and that further information was required to make a decision

C McBryer informed Members that an insurance claim was not possible as fault could not be determined however Officers had obtained a reduction of £3,000 in the cost of the project management fee

C McBryer read the following which had been received from Emcor with regards to the suggested temporary solution:-

'My recommendation is that this is a waste of time and tax payers money, as this would need to be replaced again within one month of doing it as we cannot have 50mm water main above ground level. Also option 2 was to replace the current water main around the Bowls Club and make a connection within the carpark with the option to replace the other older pipe at a later date, so I cannot understand why we would run in a temporary supply if the long term goal was to replace all the pipe work.'

Members queried what action has been taken to find the water leak

C McBryer informed Members that 65% of the water mains had been capped in order to identify the leak without success. The project had been researched for in excess of nine months with significant attempts to source and repair pipes under Centenary Park and this was the only permanent solution.

C254 WAVE LEISURE SUMMER ACTIVITIES GRANT

The Council **AGREES** to award a grant of **£2,800** to **Wave Leisure** in support of their summer activities programme

Cllr. A Loraine proposed
Cllr. R Maskell seconded

Majority Agreed

Cllr. J Harrison-Hicks against
Cllr. R Robertson against

Debate:-

Members queried why this had not been brought to Council before and if it was to support activities this year or next

C Lacey informed Members that Officers had only just received the email requesting support from WAVE Leisure

C McBryer confirmed the grant will support activities this year

Members agreed the WAVE Leisure Summer Activities Programme is beneficial to children in Peacehaven

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C255 BARCLAYS BANK CLOSURE

The Council **AGREES** to the recommendation presented by the Locum RFO to open a Post Office account that can be managed remotely on line in the short term and for a report to be presented to Policy & Finance to review the Councils long term banking options

Cllr. D Neave proposed
Cllr. L Hallett seconded

Agreed

Debate:-

L Steele informed Members that it may be advisable to opt for a short term solution to the closure of Barclays Bank and to present long term banking options once further information is available

Action: RFO to contact Post Office re: banking income and provide report for long term solution to P&F

C256 DISTRIBUTION OF CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS

The Council **AGREES** to receive confidential papers at the relevant meeting for a trial period of six months

Cllr. L Hallett proposed
Cllr. D Neave seconded

Majority Agreed

Cllr. R Coles against
Cllr. A Harrison against
Cllr. R Maskell against
Cllr. R Robertson against

Debate:-

Cllr. D Neave stated he was against the proposal however he was prepared to support the Mayor, Cllr. B Gosling with his suggestion for a trial period of six months

C257 PENSION AUTO ENROLMENT

The Council **AGREES** the Town Manager and RFO offer Pensions Auto Enrolment to all members of staff.

Cllr. A Harrison proposed
Cllr. L Hallett seconded

Agreed

Debate:-

L Steele informed Members of the financial risk of an increase in employer costs if all staff take up the pension option and do not opt out

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C257 PENSION AUTO ENROLMENT continued

Cllr. D Neave queried if Peacehaven Town Council had received a fine for not acting sooner on this matter

L Steele confirmed the Council had received a fine

C258 INFORMATION TO NOTE

Noted

NEXT MEETING

C259 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 24th October 2017 at 7:30pm

Noted

Signature:



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