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Community House,
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Minutes of the meeting of the Council held in the Anzac Room, Community House on Tuesday 7th July 2026 at 7.30pm.

Town Councillors Present: Cllr Ian Alexander, Cllr Paul Davies, Cllr Debbie Donovan, Cllr Nikki Fabry, Cllr Cathy Gallagher, Cllr Kiera Gordon-Garrett, Cllr Sue Griffiths, Cllr Amber Hart, Cllr Phil Mills, Cllr Sherral Wood, Cllr Max Rosser, Cllr Wendy Veck, Cllr Mary Campbell, Cllr Simon Studd, Cllr Claude Cheta.

Officers: George Dyson (Town Clerk), Kevin Bray (Parks Officer), Zoe Malone (Responsible Financial Officer).

Also Present: Cllr Stephen Chapman (ESCC), Kiera (Work Experience)

There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

C1587 MAYOR/CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair opened the meeting at 19:34, welcomed everyone, made a statement on Civility & Respect, briefly ran through the building fire procedures, asked that phones be put onto silent, advised that the meeting was being recorded, and reminded everyone of the 3-minute speaking rule.

The Chair also informed Council that Cllr Harman would like to invite all Councillors to attend a photo opportunity at the Sutton Avenue roundabout on Friday 10th July at 7pm.

C1588 PUBLIC SESSION. ***Members of the public may ask questions on any relevant Council matter.***

a. Public Questions

Cllr Wood raised a query about the reporting of dates and purpose of allotment liaison visits and that this be reported to Committee. The Chair advised that this shouldn't be a problem.

b. Updates from District & County Councillors

Cllr Gallagher spoke about how District Councillors are working towards the District Council no longer existing after May 2028. The Local Control Transfer process is progressing, as is work towards Devolution and a Mayoral authority.

The District Council has published its budget on time and is in a strong position. Renovation of the Newhaven Town centre has commenced and are looking at culture in Newhaven.

Cllr Alexander further updated that there is an issue with bus services for students at Lewes Priory School coming back from school to Peacehaven that is being looked into.

Cllr Davies highlighted that the Local Control Transfers are coming to PPAC this week and will be going to Cabinet following this.

ESCC Cllr Chapman commented that PTC seems to have a good process in place for managing complaints and supports continuing the existing system, but the Government has reduced funding, meaning there is now insufficient to maintain them.

Cllr Chapman also raised concerns about the way in which data regarding submissions to the Local Government Reorganisation consultation has been undertaken, and what data the Government will release in relation to this.

Regarding the rehabilitation unit on South Coast Road, Cllr Chapman has established an issue with the planning consent for the building, that the ground floor should be commercial space, and is following up through District Councillors to look at enforcement of this.

Cllr Fabry and Cllr Davies raised concerns with inaccuracies about the comments made by Cllr Chapman, specifically Highways funding and the rehabilitation unit.

ESCC Cllr Chapman left at this point (19:56)

C1589 TO APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Harman and Sharkey. Cllr Cheta was also absent.

C1590 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

C1591 TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 27TH MAY 2026

Proposed by: Cllr Mills **Seconded by:** Cllr Fabry
The minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 27th May 2026 were **agreed** and **adopted**.

C1592 TO RECEIVE MINUTES, RATIFY ACTIONS & RECEIVE REPORTS ON URGENT MATTERS:-

a. **Planning Committee:-**
   i. **To receive the meeting minutes of the 28th April 2026**
   ii. **To receive the meeting minutes of the 19th May 2026**
   iii. **To receive the meeting minutes of the 9th June 2026**

   Proposed by: Cllr Gordon-Garrett **Seconded by:** Cllr Campbell
   The meeting minutes were **agreed** and **adopted.**

   iv. **To note the draft meeting minutes of the 30th June 2026**

   The draft meeting minutes were **noted**.

   v. **To agree recommendations on a parking review consultation report**

   Cllr Campbell expressed disappointment that our requests have mostly not been progressed, and asked that Council should put in requests for particular reviews, and also suggested that signatures on a petition does have some weight.

   Cllr Veck and Alexander asked about the use of the wording ‘did not rank high enough’, and how this ranking system is applied. Cllr Gallagher confirmed that the ranking system is quite well known, and that safety is the top priority.

   Cllr Fabry suggested that we need to be very clear about our priorities, and that we should involve the County Councillors in this.

   The Meetings & Projects Officer confirmed that the ranking system is available online, and gave some examples of the prioritization criteria.

   It was proposed that Peacehaven Town Council not respond at this time, but that a report go back to the Planning Committee, and that PTC write to request an extension for responding to the current consultation, particularly given that we have not received a response to our already posed questions.

   Proposed by: Cllr Gallagher **Seconded by:** Cllr Hart
   Council **resolved** to **agree** to this proposal.

b. <u>**Policy & Finance Committee:-**</u>

i. **To receive the financial report, authorise payments and signing of Bank Reconciliation statements**

Proposed by: Cllr Alexander **Seconded by:** Cllr Fabry
Council **resolved** to **agree** the financial report, to authorise payments and signing of bank reconciliation statements.

ii. **To receive the meeting minutes of the 5th May 2026**

Proposed by: Cllr Alexander **Seconded by:** Cllr Griffiths
The meeting minutes were **agreed** and **adopted.**

iii. **To note the draft meeting minutes of the 23rd June 2026**

The draft meeting minutes were **noted**.

c. <u>**Personnel Committee:-**</u>

i. **To note the draft meeting minutes of 14th April 2026**

The draft meeting minutes were **noted**.

d. <u>**Leisure & Amenities Committee;-**</u>

i. **To receive the meeting minutes of the 24th March 2026**

Proposed by: Cllr Gallagher **Seconded by:** Cllr Donovan
The meeting minutes were **agreed** and **adopted.**

ii. **To note the draft meeting minutes of the 19th May 2026**

The draft meeting minutes were **noted**.

iii. **To ratify the decision to purchase a replacement Utility Task Vehicle**

Proposed by: Cllr Gallagher **Seconded by:** Cllr Griffiths
Council **resolved** to **agree** to this proposal

e. <u>**Community Engagement Committee:-**</u>

i. **To receive the meeting minutes of the 7th April 2026**

Proposed by: Cllr Wood **Seconded by:** Cllr Mils
The meeting minutes were **agreed** and **adopted.**

ii. **To note the draft meeting minutes of the 2nd June 2026**

The draft meeting minutes were **noted**.

iii. **To appoint members to the Mayors Working Group**

Cllr Hart is to join this Working Group.

iv. **To appoint members to a Mayor's Handbook review TFG**

It was proposed that Cllr Fabry, Griffiths, Gallagher, and the Civic & Events Officer form this TFG.

Proposed by: Cllr Wood **Seconded by:** Cllr Gordon-Garrett
Council **resolved** to **agree** to this proposal.

v. **To note the date of the Mayor's Civic Service**

The date of the Mayor's Civic Service was **noted**.

f. **Environment & Sustainability Committee:-**

i. **To receive the meeting minutes of the 10th March 2026**

Proposed by: Cllr Griffiths **Seconded by:** Cllr Mills
The meeting minutes were **agreed** and **adopted.**

ii. **To note the draft meeting minutes of the 30th June 2026**

The draft meeting minutes were **noted**.

C1593 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE CLOSURE OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP

It was proposed that Council receive the report, and note a vote of thanks to everyone who has been involved with the group, and with particular thanks to Cllr Gallagher as Chair of the Steering Group.

Proposed by: Cllr Mills **Seconded by**: Cllr Alexander
Council **resolved** to **agree** to this proposal..

C1594 TO NOTE AN UPDATE ON LOCAL CONTROL TRANSFERS

The Clerk outlined the details in the report and the process. Cllr Davies thanked the Officer for their work on this.

The matter is to remain with the District Councillors at this time, pending more information.

Council **noted** the report.

A member of the public left at this point (20:36).

C1595 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON COMMUNITY COHESION

Cllr Gallagher introduced and summarised the report, Cllr Fabry and Cllr Davies also added their comments around the importance of this.

Cllr Griffiths raised that a related discussion was had recently at the Environment & Sustainability Committee.

It was proposed that PTC supports & promotes Social Cohesion, and that.Council set up a TFG to report back to the Policy & Finance Committee to create a Policy relating to this

TFG to be formed of Cllrs Hart, Gallagher, Griffiths, Fabry, Mills, Rosser.

Proposed by: Cllr Veck **Seconded by:** Cllr Hart
Council **resolved** to **agree** to this proposal.

C1596 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODY REPRESENTATIVES AND REVIEW OUTSIDE BODY REPRESENTATION

The Clerk reminded Council about the importance of submitting written contact reports for Outside Bodies.

Cllr Gordon-Garrett attended a SDNPA online meeting last week, which was speaking about rural housing.

Cllr Gallagher updated that she will be attending the PTFC AGM tomorrow.

Cllr Alexander reported that the Community Speedwatch has been out 10 times already this year, but have only caught 4 cars that were speeding, but have received a lot of positive comments from residents.

Cllr Griffiths advised that there was a PPG meeting last night, and that the Rowe Avenue surgery is now closed.

Cllr Donovan confirmed that she is still in contact with all of her Outside bodies, attended a Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting today, and has helped to design the Horticultural Society show brochure.

C1597 TO NOTE OVERVIEW OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

The Clerk summarised the overview.

Council **noted** the overview of complaints received.

C1598 TO NOTE THE COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE RECORD

Council **noted** the Councillor attendance record.

C1599 TO RECEIVE VERBAL UPDATES FROM THE FOLLOWING TASK AND FINISH GROUPS (TFGs):

a. Meridian Centre Liaison

The Clerk highlighted that there is a meeting on Friday morning with an LDC Planning Officer.

b. Public Rights of Way

Cllr Gordon-Garrett updated Council that there is a consultation on the PTC website underway, but that responses have been slow. Cllr Campbell added that map records still show a particular Public Right of Way, which provides some documentary evidence for this.

c. Public Safety

Cllr Alexander updated that there is a meeting planned for next week, but there has been a change in the chairing of the group.

d. Sussex Nature Recovery

Cllr Gordon-Garrett advised that the Parks Officer is keeping on top of updates.

C1600 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.30PM.

The next meeting was **confirmed** as 6th October 2026.

C1601 TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE PRESS AND PUBLIC FROM THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

Proposed by: Cllr Griffiths **Seconded by:** Cllr Gordon-Garrett
Council **resolved** to **exclude** press and public from the remaining agenda items.

NOTE: In accordance with Standing Order No. 3(d) and the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 1, in view of the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted, the public and press are excluded from the rest of the meeting.

C1602 TO AGREE THE ONGOING ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS TO PROGRESS THE HUB PHASE ONE PROJECT

The Clerk introduced and summarised the report. Cllr Donovan asked some questions about the progress, which the Clerk responded to.

Cllr Alexander and Cllr Gallagher expressed support for this, and highlighted the positive work done so far.

It was proposed to proceed with the recommendation in the report.

Proposed by: Cllr Davies **Seconded by:** Cllr Donovan
Council **resolved** to **agree** to this proposal.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21:17