

Minutes of a Meeting of **CROWBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall,
The Broadway, Crowborough on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 7.30 pm

Present	Councillors	Margaret Brain	
		Quentin Burch	Deputy Mayor
		Peter Ellefsen	
		Martyn Garrett	
		David Larkin	
		George Moss	
		Kay Moss	(Wealden District Council)
		David Neeves	
		Alan Penney *	
		Ron Reed	Town Mayor (Wealden District Council)
		Heather Rogers	
		Greg Rose	(Wealden District Council)
		Wendy Scrace	
Matthew Street			
Sandra Timms			
Neil Waller	(Wealden District Council)		
Also present		Philippa Hewes	Town Clerk
		Sylvia Tidy	East Sussex County Council
		Revd Mark Ashworth	
		2 members of the public	

* *Denotes non attendance*

APOLOGIES

Cllr Alan Penney	
Richard Stogdon	East Sussex County Council
Jim Hollins	Wealden District Council
Jeannette Towey	Wealden District Council

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Peter Ellefsen declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, the Community Centre and Bluebell Wood, due to being the Town Council's representative and Director of Crowborough Community Association.

Cllr David Larkin declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, the Community Centre and Bluebell Wood, due to being a Director of Crowborough Community Association.

Cllr George Moss declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, the Community Centre and Bluebell Wood, as his wife, Cllr Kay Moss, is a Wealden District Councillor.

Cllr Kay Moss declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, the Community Centre and Bluebell Wood, due to her position as a Wealden District Councillor.

Cllr Ron Reed declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, the Community Centre and Bluebell Wood, due to his position as a Wealden District Councillor.

Cllr Greg Rose declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, the Community Centre and Bluebell Wood, due to his position as a Wealden District Councillor.

Cllr Neil Waller declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Pine Grove, the Community Centre and Bluebell Wood, due to his position as a Wealden District Councillor.

Dispensations

As reported at Council meetings 18th June, 14th July, 8th September and 29th September 2015, dispensations have been granted to the following Councillors to participate and vote in matters relating to Pine Grove offices and the freeholds of the Crowborough Community Centre and the Bluebell Wood:

Cllr Peter Ellefsen
Cllr David Larkin
Cllr George Moss
Cllr Kay Moss
Cllr Ron Reed
Cllr Greg Rose
Cllr Neil Waller

MINUTES

To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2015 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

7573 **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held 19th October 2015 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

UPDATE ON MATERS OUTSTANDING

Electronic Communication with Councillors

Information on the Modern.gov committee management system, as used by Wealden District Council, was reviewed. The cost of installation is £18,000 to £20,000, with further costs for providing restricted access, maintenance and support. There are plans to work on a reduced system for the parish sector. Information on the existing costs for postage/photocopying was requested.

Neighbourhood Plan

A meeting has been arranged for 18th November to consider the future of a Neighbourhood Plan.

At a SALC meeting, information was provided on a free toolkit for creating a Neighbourhood Plan at www.bimby.org.uk.

TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE TOWN MAYOR MAY WISH TO LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The list of the Mayor's engagements was noted.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

To note the acts and proceedings of the following committee meetings:

Personnel – 22nd September 2015

7574 **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Personnel Committee meeting held 22th September 2015.

Planning and Development – 28th September 2015

7575 **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 28th September 2015.

Environment – 29th September 2015

7576 **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Environment Committee meeting held 29th September 2015.

Sport, Recreation and Cemetery – 6th October 2015

7577 **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Sport, Recreation and Cemetery Committee meeting held 6th October 2015.

Planning and Development – 19th October 2015

7578 **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held 19th October 2015.

Communications and Events – 20th October 2015

7579 **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Communications and Events meeting held 20th October 2015.

Finance and General Purposes – 3rd November 2015

7580 **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held 3rd November 2015.

TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

A question was raised regarding the offer of members' interests training from Wealden District Council and this will be followed up.

TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF MEMBERS

Cllr Sandra Timms reported on changes to the Police force. The role of PCSOs is to be amended and the option for Town/Parish Councils to sponsor a PCSO will not be available. There is a proposal to introduce a scheme of Community Wardens (CW) and the role/scope of CWs is being considered. A CW would be employed directly by a Town/Parish Council or a group of councils.

There was a discussion on the implications of employing a CW. The Town Council already has a staff presence working outside in the community.

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Wealden District Council

Cllr Kay Moss advised that she is involved in a working party looking at the opportunities provided for disabled members.

Cllr Greg Rose advised that he is involved in the boundary/electoral review.

East Sussex County Council

Cllr Sylvia Tidy reported that there is a consultation on the County Council budget. As part of the boundary/electoral review, it is proposed to divide wards with two members in to separate wards.

Residents in Beeches Road are concerned about speeding issues and a meeting is to be arranged with Beacon Academy.

ROAD SAFETY

Report on 'How Can We Make Wealden's Roads Safer?'

Cllr Kay Moss reported on a presentation given by a Maresfield Parish Councillor at a recent WDALC meeting. Speeding traffic and road accidents continue to be a major issue in the district. There are two levels of average speed cameras; one of which is enforceable. Whilst there may be an opportunity for Town/Parish Councils to fund non-enforceable cameras, it is not expected that the Police will progress any speeding issues identified.

To authorise Wealden Roads Watch Team to conduct Speed Watch sessions in Crowborough

Wealden Roads Watch has been established by East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service using a team of community volunteers. Permission is being sought to operate Wealden Roads Watch within each parish.

7581 **RESOLVED** to allow Wealden Roads Watch to operate within the boundary of Crowborough.

TO CONSIDER EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ADULT SOCIAL CARE SAVINGS PROPOSAL CONSULTATION

The consultation identifies proposed savings of £40 million over the next three years. It was agreed that members would forward any comments by 17th November for a Town Council response to be drawn up.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION

To consider proposals under the electoral review of East Sussex County Council and Districts

Under the review, it is recommended to reduce the number of District Cllrs from 55 to 45 and increase the number of County Cllrs by one to 16. Crowborough would have six District Cllrs and two County Cllrs.

TO AUTHORISE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Grants of Exclusive Burial Right

7582 **RESOLVED** to authorise the following grants of exclusive right of burial:

Grants of Exclusive Burial Right

Certificate	Name	Grave space
988	C & M Bourner	3501
989	P Gaterell	GRH97
990	A Gjertsen	3602
991	M Elliott	1837
992	S & E Lucas	4568

Forms DS1 to remove Charge from ESX321627 Scaland Wood Pond, Hadlow Down Road

The charge is to be removed following the repayment of the loan by Crowborough & District Anglers Association.

7583 **RESOLVED** to remove the Charge from ESX321627.

TO CONSIDER DISPOSAL OF OLD COMMUNITY HALL, PARK ROAD

It was agreed to refer to Wealden District Council regarding the disposal of the old community centre and report back to Full Council.

PINE GROVE

It was agreed to change the order of the agenda.

Application for Business Incubator Fund

7584 **RESOLVED** to apply to Locate for Business Incubator funding.

It was agreed to forward to members a copy of the submission papers.

To consider process for selection of professionals for refurbishment

It was agreed that Cllrs Margaret Brain, Quentin Burch, David Larkin, George Moss, Ron Reed and Sandra Timms would form a working party to consider the process for the selection of professionals.

- 7585** **RESOLVED** that this Council excludes the public and press from this meeting on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. This is in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section1.

To consider the Heads of Terms

- 7586** **RESOLVED** to exclude items 7 and 8 from the Draft Heads of Terms.

Information on the implications of the library lease and clarification on the VAT position for the purchase was requested.

To delegate authority to the Town Clerk to sign contracts and to execute transfer documents for the purchase of Pine Grove

- 7587** **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to sign contracts and to execute transfer documents for the purchase of Pine Grove.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm