

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES AND REPORTS OF A TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT TENTERDEN TOWN HALL ON 19th DECEMBER 2016

Councillors Present: M. Carter, Mrs J. Curteis, H. Edwards, Miss N. Gooch, R. Isworth, Dr. L. Lovelidge, R. Lusty, M. Hickmott, C Knowles, K. Mulholland, J. Nelson (Deputy Town Mayor) and A. Sugden.

Officers Present: Town Clerk Mr. P. Burgess and Deputy Town Clerk Mr. R. Parham.

Others Present: Sergeant-at-Mace Mr. M. Winter, Reverend Canon L. Hammond, Community Warden Mrs. J. Vos, Ms. C. Shaw (of the NHS Social Care Partnership Trust) and two members of the public.

The Deputy Town Mayor was in the chair.

Reverend Hammond said prayers.

3011 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllrs. Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Smith and Thorpe.

3012 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None.

3013 **MINUTES.** The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2016 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3014 **MATTERS ARISING.** None.

3015 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS.** None.

3016 **HIGHWAYS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.** Cllr. Mulholland proposed that Cllr. Mrs. Smith be appointed to chair the committee, and this was seconded by Cllr. Miss Gooch, and **RESOLVED** by a show of hands.

3017 **COMMITTEE REPORTS.** Subject to any specific questions or objections, the Minutes and Reports of the under-mentioned Committees were taken as read and, being duly seconded, were approved and **ADOPTED** as part of the proceedings of the Town Council subject to the following recommendations which were voted upon by a show of hands;

Finance & General Purposes: 28th November 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Nelson.

Committee recommendation: Minute 3584 (b)- May Fayre. It was **RESOLVED** to allocate £1,500.00 per year for the May Fayre. Only £900.00 would be allocated in 2017 in light of £600.00 remaining from the 2016 event.

Highways & Amenities: 7th & 28th November 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Hickmott.

Committee recommendation: Minute 3097 – Street Furniture. It was **RESOLVED** to install litter bins at the junction of East Hill and Appledore Road and the junction of Coombe Lane with Station Road.

Planning: 7th & 28th November 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Lusty.

Public Buildings: 28th November 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Carter.

Committee recommendation: Minute 2793 – Toilet Cleaning Contract. It was **RESOLVED** to extend the contract with the cleaning company responsible for the public toilets for a period of three years, and review it at the end of this period.

Tourism & Business: 7th November 2016.

Presented by Cllr. Carter.

- 3018 **COMMUNITY WARDEN.** Mrs. Vos reported that in the past month she had continued to work with both sufferers of dementia and troubled young people, and had attended “gangs awareness” training; this was especially useful as gang culture was seen to be spreading from urban centres to more rural areas. The training had been passed on to Homewood School and Sixth Form Centre which was best placed to notice the signs of indoctrination. She had been dealing with issues of inconsiderate parking outside Homewood. She had helped with the Christmas lights switch-on events in Tenterden and St. Michaels, singing Silent Night in German at both events. Cllr. Edwards complimented her on this, to which she said “danke schoen”.
Cllr. Carter asked whether Mrs. Vos was satisfied with the consultation process as carried out by the Lipton Group. She felt that the questions in the survey were leading, which gave a distorted outcome in the feedback.
- 3019 **KENT POLICE.** PCSO O. Welch was unable to attend due to paternity leave, but had submitted a written report. The Christmas market had not caused a rise in crime, and there had been no complaints about traffic and parking. There had been some incidents of criminal damage, with graffiti tags being painted on street furniture along the High Street; this was being investigated. A shed had been broken into at the allotments at Bells Lane, and tools stolen. Mr. Welch reminded members of the importance of properly securing outbuildings. The next police surgery would be held at the Zion Baptist Church on Friday 13th January 2017, between 9.30 and 10.30am.
- 3020 **NHS SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP TRUST – MENTAL HEALTH.** Mrs. C. Shaw introduced a scheme by the Kent & Medway NHS Partnership Trust to address growing cases of mental health problems. Key to preventing mental health problems was listening. Unfortunately, there was a lack of resources in the community to deal with the high number of people experiencing mental health problems. An online consultation process had been launched to make it easier for people with mental health problems to find the help they needed. Town

Councillors could assist by sharing information on the scheme as widely as possible.

3021 **REPORTS FROM APPOINTED TRUSTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.**

- (a) Citizens Advice Bureau. Cllr. Mulholland reported that he had attended a meeting of the Ashford & Tenterden CAB at which the 2016 accounts had been approved. The CAB had managed to make significant savings in spite of rising costs, and currently had a balance of £230,000. They were resistant to the possibility of moving over to an online system which would significantly reduce face-to-face contact.
- (b) Kent Association of Local Councils. Cllr. Mrs. Curteis reported that she and Cllr. Lusty had attended an Ashford area KALC meeting at which presentations were given by ABC outlining plans to replace litter and dog bins in some parts of the borough with single bins for all waste; financial preparations for 2017/2018; and an update on the success of the scheme to fine people for dropping litter; so far 305 fines had been issued and 74% of these had been paid (those that were unpaid would lead to prosecution).
- (c) St. Michaels Village Community Group. Cllr. Mulholland reported on the St. Michaels Christmas lights switch-on event, which was followed by refreshments and a children's disco at the village hall. He felt that this pointed to the value of local village halls.
- (d) Tenterden & District Day Centre. Cllr. Isworth reported that restructuring of the management of the Day Centre was well underway. A new bus had recently been added to the fleet, thanks to a grant from central government. Rev. Hammond had been elected as a trustee. News of a grant from KCC was awaited, but an annual grant from central government was questionable from 2018 onwards. Thanks to the work of volunteers, the Day Centre's deficit had been reduced by £7,000.00.
- (e) Tenterden & District Residents' Association. Cllr. Carter reported that he had attended an interesting meeting of the TDRA. He felt that the TDRA should be brought into the council process more, as there was some degree of disconnection between the two organisations.
- (f) Tenterden & District Twinning Association. Cllr. Mulholland reported that the chairman of Avallon's Comité de Jumelage had made a personal visit to Tenterden and was gratified by the renewed interest in the twinning scheme. It was hoped that a date would be fixed for a visit to Tenterden by members from Avallon at the end of June or beginning of July 2017. The association was pleased that the Town Council would cover its insurance costs, as the premium would have taken up over half of the Council's annual donation. Membership had been boosted by a recruitment drive held at the rear of the Woolpack hotel at the Christmas market.
- (g) Tenterden Dementia Friendly Society. Cllr. Miss Gooch reported that a virtual tour experience would be held at the Railway Station in early spring. Cllr. Nelson had attended this previously, and told Councillors that it was worthwhile. Cllr. Miss Gooch urged members to attend, but asked that those that had already attended refrain from telling others about their experiences.

- (h) Tenterden Leisure Centre Trust. Cllr. Nelson reported that the trust had made bursary donations totalling £10,000.00 to twelve applicants for a variety of different sports.

3022 **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.** None.

The meeting opened at 7.00pm and closed at 7.41pm

foregoing Minutes and Report were confirmed and signed at a meeting of the Town Council held on the 30th day of January 2017.

Chairman _____ (30.01.2017)