



Seaford Town Council

MINUTES of a **Meeting** of the **Full Council** held via Zoom on **Thursday 20th August 2020** at **7.00pm**.

Present:

Councillors R Reed (Mayor) and J Cash (Deputy Mayor).

Councillors N Adil, D Argent, L Boorman, M Brown, J Edson, M Everden, M Hayder, R Hayder, O Honeyman, R Honeyman, J Lord, J Meek, R Morland, G Rutland, L Wallraven and B Webb.

Chanel Pritchard, Young Mayor 2020-2021

James Jenkins, Deputy Young Mayor 2020-2021

Isabelle Moulard, Assistant Town Clerk

Georgia Raeburn, Executive Support Officer

Karen Singleton, Responsible Financial Officer

There were 14 members of the public

C34/08/20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Dunn and R Honeyman.

C35/08/20 Disclosure of Interests

Councillor L Boorman declared a personal interest in item 7 as she knows one of the traders. As the item is not discussing individual traders and is seeking the Council's policy decision on the selling of alcohol on the seafront, Cllr Boorman will still be able to take part in the discussion and voting.

C36/08/20 Public Participation

Resident A Supported item 4.1 minute reference CS08.2, Splash Point repairs, and commended the Town Council for hopefully agreeing to support the works this year.

Supported minute reference CS08.3, water refill points, as this is something they have been involved in for a while and will be pleased to see CIL monies used towards.

Impressed with the work the Climate Change Working Party has done; there are really innovative and creative ideas. Appreciates what the working party is doing for the town and hopes this will progress in near future.

Response Thanked for input.

Resident B As part of the work of the Climate Change Working Party, would like to see Seaford become a pollinator friendly town. Thinks this would be a popular idea as there is a lot of interest in pollinators and wildlife in population. This would involve encouraging people to grow flowers and verges. The town could become famous for Seaford honey as there is a number of beekeepers in town and the demand is huge.

Response Recommended the resident put their ideas in writing to the Climate Change Working Party.

Confirmed that Seaford Head Golf Course (which is Town Council-owned) signed up to Operation Pollinator is 2019.

Resident C Expressed their support for the Climate Change Working Party amended recommendations and the interim update report. Concerned about the lack of Town Council resources and finances available and the impact this could have on the ability to move matters forwards as quickly as wished. Realises that much of the report requires officer resources and short-term actions, which puts further pressure on staff. Confirmed however that Seaford Community Partnership are readily available to provide the support and resources required to help drive this forward.

Clarified details on the National Lottery bid; the partners that have worked together to achieve this, the value of the bid and the purpose of the fund. Identified the projects that had been specified for Seaford, including: enhancing the biodiversity of Tidemills and the Lower Ouse; enhancing local green spaces (as designated in the Neighbourhood Plan) and creating a Friends Group for each local green space that will contribute to improving the diversity and use of each space; creating a second beach garden and a health walk at the Splash Point (eastern) end of seafront; helping Trees for Seaford (previously Seaford Tree Wardens) to help the green streets of Seaford, green corridors and wild flower verges; improving cycling and pedestrian connectivity between the town centre and National Park. This is all under the umbrella of the Green Corridors Mapping Programme.

Resident D Confirmed that the Martello Rotary Club has ensured that a volunteer skill base is available to support the climate change initiatives.

Provided another example of local groups getting behind initiatives with Cradle Hill School looking to use land at school to create a wildlife pond.

Confirmed that there are a number of initiatives where people are being empowered and adding human resources to enable visions to be achieved. Is aware of three groups with 29 people, supporting three local green spaces as a result of recent climate change awareness initiatives.

Response Confirmed that whilst the Town Council's officer resources are limited, the Council will always encourage volunteers and its members to get involved.

Resident E Supported the work of the Climate Change Working Party and drew the Council's attention to the examples seen around the world just this week as a result of climate change. Including farming yields being down by a third, a drought in Europe, the hottest recorded temperature, flash flooding resulting in motorways closing, a train stranded after a mud slide and the announcement that even if climate change is changed now, the Greenland glaciers will continue to shrink and raise sea levels by five metres.

Expressed serious concerns that there will be no going back when a new normal is reached and that even the younger generations are expressing an awareness and concern about climate change.

Urged the Town Council to declare a state of climate emergency.

Response Thanked for points well made.

Resident F Supported the declaration of climate emergency.

Confirmed a predicted rise in average temperature by 4 degrees and that this will mean devastation for people who live in area; floods, mass migration, food scarcity and health issues. With COVID-19, people are beginning to understand what it means to worry about these.

Felt that as a coastal town, Seaford is at the front line and is dependent on food import so should be doing its utmost to support local farming and biodiversity and in the National Park on its doorstep. Seaford attracts so many visitors because of natural beauty and needs to promote its natural environment.

Made a plea for the Town Council to make the declaration of climate emergency and support of initiatives so Seaford can become a low carbon community; felt this would be good for the people and businesses of Seaford and the planet.

Resident G As a trader seeking permission to sell alcohol on the seafront, Harley House, asked if the Chair would be happy to suspend Standing Orders so councillors can ask any questions if they wish to.

Response This would be looked at when that agenda item is being discussed.

Resident H Introduced his company, ABYSS Brewery, as a small two-man brewery, which began in Lewes and is proposing to sell on the seafront the beer they brew. This would be supported by a 'Challenge 25' approach and refundable beaker scheme to cut down litter on beach. Confirmed they were happy to answer any questions and would welcome councillors to visit the brewery if they have any questions.

Response Confirmed this would be discussed under item 7 of the agenda.

Resident I Confirmed her support of declaring a climate emergency and that a lot of people in Seaford feel this.

Is surprised that, as a coastal town with rising sea levels, Seaford hasn't yet made this declaration with a view to becoming a low, or ideally zero, carbon town.

Response Thanked for input.

Confirmed that the Chair had also received two written representations supporting the declaration of a climate emergency.

Resident J Mentioned the Seaford Environment Alliance (SEA), which is a cooperative approach. Expressed her strong belief that the climate change actions are achievable by existing groups and that the Town Council will not be relied upon for resources constantly.

Requested whether or not the Town Council had, or was aware of, a public meeting space that could be considered for use by the group/s in the future to help ensure awareness of and access to the work being done.

Response Thanked for input.

C37/08/20 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the following minutes and the recommendations within:

C37.1	Community Services	30 th July 2020 - virtual
	The four recommendations to Full Council within the minutes are set out below:	
i.	CS07.3 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council that it delegate power to the Community Services Committee to approve the allocation and spend of CIL balances – APPROVED .	
ii.	CS08.2 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that Full Council allocate up to £10,000 from Earmarked Reserve 361-CIL Receipts to contribute towards repair works at Splash Point – APPROVED .	

	iii.	CS09.2 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that Full Council allocate approximately £3,000 from Earmarked Reserve 361-CIL Receipts towards the installation of three water refill stations along Seaford promenade – APPROVED .
	iv.	CS10.4 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that Full Council adopt the Events Policy, with the amendment detailed in the report, at its next ordinary Council meeting, with the addition of the additional clause being done in consultation with the Chair of the Community Services Committee – APPROVED .
C37.2	Full Council	18 th June 2020 - virtual
C37.3	Full Council	28 th July 2020 - virtual
C37.4	Finance & General Purposes	9 th July 2020 – virtual
The seven recommendations to Full Council within the minutes, are set out below:		
	i.	F04.1 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council that the balances on EMR 334 – Seaford Head Nature Reserve and 355 - The Seaford App are transferred back to the General Reserve – APPROVED .
	ii.	F04.2 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council that the balances on the Capital Receipts Reserve is used to fund any capital expenditure in the year – APPROVED .
	iii.	F04.3 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council that any remaining balance on EMR 365 is returned to the General Reserve when the pump house is complete – APPROVED .
	iv.	F05.1 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council that all projects are ceased for the year 2020/2021 unless funding can be source – APPROVED .
	v.	F08 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council to adopt the Bad Debt Policy as presented with report 154/19 v2 – APPROVED .
	vi.	F09 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council to adopt the Purchase Ordering & Payment for Goods & Services Policy as presented with report 159/19 v2 – APPROVED .
	vii.	F10.2 - It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to Full Council to adopt the Mayor’s Portfolio as presented with report 151/19 v2 with the further amendments as discussed in the meeting – APPROVED .
C37.5	Golf & The View	23 rd June 2020 - virtual

C38/08/20 Mayor’s Update Report

The Council considered report 38/20 presenting the Mayor’s update report and details of engagements. The Mayor updated verbally that as Seaford’s first ‘virtual Mayor’ this has been an unusual time. The Secret Garden scheme launched by Deputy Mayor, Councillor Cash, has received lots of attention and is running well.

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

C39/08/20 Young Mayor’s Report

The Young Mayor, Chanel Pritchard, gave an overview of her ideas for the future. She thanked everyone who had been collecting used crisp packets but unfortunately her chosen charity, Kent & Sussex Air Ambulance, is no longer able to run this scheme due to COVID-19. She confirmed that she is looking to do the 30/30 challenge to raise money for her chosen charity; she will be doing a 30 mile bike ride on 30th September with friends and the Deputy Young Mayor, James Jenkins. She welcomed ideas or technical advice on how raise money virtually.

The Council thanked the Young Mayor for her verbal update.

C40/08/20 District & County Councillor Update

Cllr Liz Boorman, Lewes District Council (LDC):

Confirmed that LDC is in talks with COVID groups in the District, working out how to carry on afterwards and continue to support the community in different ways. Confirmed that as per the information released today, the Seaford health hub is unlikely to proceed at the Downs Leisure Centre site. A study is looking at the feasibility of going ahead with the hub at Seaford Medical Practice, incorporating Richmond Road car park.

Cllr Jim Lord, Lewes District Council (LDC):

Provided some more technical detail surrounding the foundations of the health hub. Expressed his sincere hope that Seaford gets a health hub.

C41/08/20 Seafront Concession Alcohol Sales Proposal

The Council considered report 40/20 presenting the details of a request by potential concession holders to be granted permission to apply for a permit to sell alcohol on Seaford promenade (as referred to Full Council by its Community Services Committee).

The Council discussed this in great depth, discussing: the options for a trial period; opening times; the location of the concession; the impact of introducing alcohol formally to a family friendly beach and at a part of the beach with heavy footfall; the previous stance of the Town Council in 2007 when the Beachcomber pub was removed from the beach; the responses of the public in 2016 when questioned about what they would like to see in Seaford, with many wanting a pub/bar on the seafront; the lack of toilet facilities; a potential for increased beach pollution; the risk of increased anti-social behaviour; taking custom away from the pubs already in town; the positives of having alcohol on the beach but in a controlled manner; the agreement for the Salts Café to be able seek permission to sell alcohol, and; the popularity of the beach already and whether this could cope with increased visitor levels.

It was **PROPOSED** to **ACCEPT** having a concession selling alcohol on a trial basis for a period of six weeks and come back to Full Council for full discussion again after a trial. A **RECORDED VOTE** was requested:

Councillor N Adil	Against
Councillor D Argent	Abstained
Councillor L Boorman	For
Councillor M Brown	Against
Councillor J Cash	Against
Councillor J Edson	For
Councillor M Everden	Against
Councillor M Hayder	Against
Councillor R Hayder	Against
Councillor O Honeyman	Against
Councillor J Lord	Against
Councillor J Meek	Against
Councillor R Morland	Against
Councillor R Reed	Against
Councillor G Rutland	For
Councillor L Wallraven	For
Councillor B Webb	For

The **MOTION** was **NOT CARRIED**.

C42/08/20 Coat of Arms

The Council considered report 36/20 presenting an application requesting a licence to use the Town Council's Coat of Arms. The Council discussed the application in great detail, discussing; the worry of the use spreading if it appeared on menus and other media; the cost and time to the Council if use

continues after the agreed time period Commercially, and; setting a precedent allowing pubs to use the Arms.

It was **PROPOSED** to **NOT AGREE** to grant a licence for the use of the Coat of Arms as requested; this **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

C43/08/20 Climate Change Working Party Update

The Council considered report 39/20 presenting an interim update report from the Climate Change Working Party.

The Chair of the Working Party, Cllr Meek, introduced the report and discussed amendments and requested the Council go through recommendations individually. The Council discussed each recommendation in detail, discussing: the volume of visitors to the seafront in particular and the effect this has on carbon emissions; an option to introduce charges for car parking on seafront; encouraging public transport, cycling and walking; creating a strategic objective of the Council's; the process for ensuring the projects are included in the budget setting process, and; that once the Council has declared a climate emergency initiatives for town can become possible.

C48.1 It was **PROPOSED** to **NOTE** the contents of the Working Party's Update Report and appendices; this **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

C48.2 It was **PROPOSED** to **DECLARE** a Climate Emergency in order to identify this Council's recognition of the climate and environment crisis facing the world; this **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

C48.3 It was **PROPOSED** to **AGREE** that when the Council's Strategic Objectives are reviewed, a new objective aimed at tackling, and raising awareness of, climate change be included; this **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

C48.4 It was **PROPOSED** to **AGREE** that the Working Party engage with community groups on the Green Corridors Mapping Project which has already received community support. The project was devised by the Working Party after discussion with other interested community groups who were asked to contribute ideas in support of a major community lottery bid. The bid covers our area and could bring substantial funding to local environmental projects; this **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

C48.5 It was discussed that the recommendation for 'any project or development Seaford Town Council considers is assessed for environmental sustainability and resilience as they presently are for financial resilience', be taken back to the Working Party for more in depth planning, including looking at training needs or contacts to ensure there is access to the expertise required to assess such factors. In the meantime, that the members of the Working Party help guide the Council with environmental considerations.

C48.6 It was **PROPOSED** to **AGREE** that ideas in the CCWP Business Plan Document are presented to Council as part of the budget making process; this **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

C48.7 It was discussed that the recommendation for a Climate Change Awareness Day be taken back to the Working Party to look at including as part of the strategic objectives of the Council. In the meantime, the Council can look to support raising awareness of climate change through its current communication channels; the Town Council website, social media pages, email distribution lists, notice boards etc.

C43/08/20 Seaford Head Golf Course Pump House Tender

The Council considered report 37/20 seeking permission to waive Financial Regulations in order to accept a tender for the Seaford Head Golf Course pump house works.

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** waiving Financial Regulations to allow the contract for the building of a replacement pump house at Seaford Head Golf Course to be awarded to the only tender received, following a full tender process.

The Mayor wished to record a thanks for the service of Councillor Phil Boorman and mark his work for Seaford Town Council and the town.

The meeting closed at 9.33pm.

Councillor Rodney Reed
Mayor of Seaford

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