



## Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21 November 2012 at 6.00 pm

Present:-

Councillor Mike Thompson (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors Caroline Ansell, Margaret Bannister, Colin Belsey, Janet Coles, Alun Cooke, Philip Ede, David Elkin, Jon Harris, Carolyn Heaps, Pat Hearn, Sandie Howlett, Gordon Jenkins, Tom Liddiard, Gill Mattock, Harun Miah, Colin Murdoch, Jim Murray, Alan Shuttleworth, Barry Taylor, Troy Tester, David Tutt, John Ungar, Steve Wallis, Patrick Warner and Annabelle West.

**40. Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2012 were presented and the Mayor was authorised to sign them as correct records.

### **41. Mayoral Announcements.**

- 1 The Council observed a one minute silence in memory of former Councillor Michael Phipp and Mr Tom Murray, who both passed away recently.

Mr Phipp was elected to the former County Borough of Eastbourne Council on 1 November 1962 for the Central Ward, he was elected Alderman on 5 June 1972. Membership of the County Borough of Eastbourne ended on 31 March 1974 when the Council was dissolved. He was elected to the Borough of Eastbourne Council on 11 June 1973 for the Ratton ward and resigned on 26 Sept 1977.

Mr Murray is the late husband of Honorary Alderman Ann Murray.

- 2 On 24 September the Mayor met with Ben Mead to discuss Military Roots. This new organisation had been set up by Mr Mead and was open to all ex-military personnel. The group meets on a monthly basis at the Royal Naval Social Club, Beach Road.
- 3 On 6 October the Mayor attended the Eastbourne Beer Festival at the Winter Garden and was keen to sample some of the ales on offer. This was followed by an evening with the Eastbourne Bonfire Society at their annual celebrations on the seafront. Members of the society lit a huge bonfire on the beach, followed by an impressive firework display. The event was attended by thousands of local residents.
- 4 The 4<sup>th</sup> annual White Cane Awareness day was held on 12 October and the Mayor was pleased to visit members of the Eastbourne Blind Society in the Arndale Centre. The Mayor had the opportunity to wear simulation spectacles during a parade around the centre and pedestrian precinct in order to be more aware of the challenges and

frustrations faced every day by vision impaired people.

- 5 The Mayor attended the St Wilfrid's Hospice Big Art Secret Finale on 20 October. In a special fund raising collaboration Towner and St Wilfrid's Hospice staged 'The Big Art Secret' - an exciting exhibition and secret auction of original postcard sized art by celebrities, regional and nationally known artists and by local people and hospice patients. The auction aimed to raise much needed funds for the Hospice's new campaign - Campaign Hospice Reach - a campaign to transform end of life care for every person in our community. The Big Art Secret featured post card sized art which was signed on the back so that the identity of the artist remained a secret until the end of the auction, when all was revealed. The exhibition and auction attracted national attention, and featured works by David Hockney, Tracey Emin, David Cameron, Matt Pritchett and even David Dimbleby. There were over 500 pieces being exhibited and auctioned as part of the initiative.
  - 6 On 21 October the Mayor took to the roof of the Council offices at 1 Grove Road for a Charity Abseil in aid of his chosen charity - Lark in the Park Charitable Trust. He was joined by 30 other participants, including a few other Councillors and local business men and women, who were sponsored to take part. Sponsorship was still coming in but the amount received from the event was already over £3000 for the charity.
  - 7 The Mayor attended a variety of Remembrance events during the early part of November. On 10 November the Mayor visited the many poppy sellers around the town who work tirelessly every year to raise much needed funds for the Royal British Legion, supporting both old and young ex-service men and women. The Remembrance Service and Parade took place on the morning of Sunday 11 November and the Mayor attended along with the town's MP, Councillors, and representatives from the Armed forces and local voluntary groups. Later the same day, the Mayor went to Butts Brow for the Remembrance Service at the Ruthless Memorial.
  - 8 The Mayor also attended a number of AGMs, concerts, open days and exhibitions in the last few months.
- 42. Apologies for absence.** An apology for absence was reported from Councillor Stanley.
- 43. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) by members as required under Section 31 of the Localism Act and of other interests as required by the Code of Conduct.** Councillors Bannister and Shuttleworth both declared disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of the motions at items 46 and 47 below due to being employed by East Sussex County Council. However, as their respective employments were in areas that had no material effect on the subject matters in hand, both councillors had applied to the monitoring officer for dispensations. These

were granted and both councillors participated in the debates and votes on these matters.

Councillors Harris and Taylor both declared personal, prejudicial interests in respect of the motion at item 46 below as members of the County Council Planning Committee and did not participate in the debate or vote on this matter.

Councillor Bannister declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of the motion at item 48 below on the grounds of employment of a family member and did not participate in the debate or vote on this matter.

Councillors Heaps, Ungar and Taylor all declared personal, prejudicial interests in respect of the motion at item 48 below as members of the County Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and did not participate in the debate and vote on this matter.

Councillor Ede declared a personal, prejudicial interest in respect of the item for discussion at item 49(1) below on the grounds of employment insofar that the discussion could relate to Sussex Police matters and did not participate in the discussion on this matter.

- 44. Calendar of meetings 2013/14.** Council considered the proposed calendar of meetings for 2013/14. This would be confirmed at the annual meeting in May 2013. It was moved by Councillor Tutt, seconded by Councillor Elkin, and;

**Resolved:** That the calendar of meetings for 2013/14 be approved subject to final ratification at the annual meeting of the Council in May 2013.

- 45. Motion – A27 between Polegate and Beddingham.** The following motion was proposed by Councillor Warner and seconded by Councillor Tutt:

*"This Council calls on Her Majesty's Government to unlock the potential of Eastbourne and the surrounding area by upgrading the A27 between Polegate and Beddingham."*

Mr Paul Humphreys, representing Bespoke cycle group, addressed the Council in support of this motion.

**Resolved:** That this motion be approved.

- 46. Motion – On-street parking.** The following motion was proposed by Councillor Wallis and seconded by Councillor Tutt:

*'Eastbourne Borough Council welcomes some of the amendments being put forward by East Sussex County Council to the recent on-street parking proposals. However, to ensure that the residents and businesses of Eastbourne receive a parking scheme that works for them, this authority requests urgent dialogue with ESCC before any further changes or implementations are made, and urge ESCC to respond accordingly.'*

Council was advised that, as a result of the publication of this motion on the agenda, arrangements were already in progress for the dialogue being sought.

**Resolved:** (with 3 abstentions) That this motion be approved.

- 47. Motion – 20mph zones.** The following motion was proposed by Councillor Shuttleworth and seconded by Councillor Ungar:

*"Eastbourne Borough Council requests that East Sussex County Council urgently assesses the feasibility of introducing 20mph limits in some residential zones in Eastbourne where this is supported by the local community. This Council recognises that some roads are not appropriate for 20mph limits, in particular major routes through the town. However, the Council is convinced of the benefit of introducing 20 mph limits in residential zones, where feasible, and in particular around schools and children's centres. This Council recognises the success of 20mph in other parts of the country in the reduction in the number of accidents and casualties, in particular for child pedestrians; in making safer routes for children to walk and cycle to school; in a wide range of environmental benefits; as well as in bringing about savings for the health service through improved health and a reduction in casualties.*

*Eastbourne Borough Council requests that East Sussex County Council carries out a Feasibility Study for the phased introduction of 20mph zones within the Borough of Eastbourne."*

Mr Robert McGowan, representing Bespoke cycle group, addressed the Council in support of this motion.

**Resolved:** That this motion be approved.

- 48. Motion – Eastbourne District General Hospital.** The following motion was jointly proposed by Councillors Elkin and Tutt and jointly seconded by Councillors Howlett and Mattock:

*"That this Council condemns the recommendation made by the ESHT on 15<sup>th</sup> November, to single site Stroke services at Eastbourne DGH and General Surgery and Orthopaedics at Hastings Conquest, and calls upon NHS Sussex to reject the recommendation at their meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, enabling these and all other core services to continue to be available at both hospitals.*

*Furthermore, this council asks the people of Eastbourne and others who rely on the services at the DGH to sign the new 'Save the DGH' petition calling for the HOSC to refer the decision to the Secretary of State at their meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December."*

Honorary Freeman Liz Walke addressed the Council in support of this motion. She advised the Council that a total of 5506 letters of objection from local residents to the ESHT proposals had been sent to the Secretary of State.

**Resolved:** That this motion be approved.

**NOTE:** The Mayor, in accordance with Section 100B4 of the Local Government Act 1972, stated his intent to accept the above item, which was not on the published agenda, as a matter of urgency. In doing so, he asked the Council to suspend its Procedure Rules in so far as is necessary to allow the motion to be considered and this was agreed unanimously.

**49. Minutes of council bodies and items for discussion.** The minutes of the following Council Bodies were submitted to this meeting:-

Audit and Governance Committee	26 September 2012
Planning Committee	2 and 30 October 2012
Cabinet	5 and 24 October 2012
Conservation Area Advisory Group	9 October 2012

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14, Members raised the following items for discussion:-

1. Audit and Governance Committee - page 141, item 4 - Annual Governance Report – Raised by Councillor Ungar. The Council was advised by Councillor Bannister about the recent success of the Fraud Team in winning a major national award. Accordingly, the Council extended its congratulations to the Fraud Team.
2. Audit and Governance Committee - page 142, item 5 – Statement of Accounts 2011/12 – Raised by Councillor Ungar.
3. Cabinet - page 153, item 45 - Appointment of waste contractor – Raised by Councillor Shuttleworth.
4. Cabinet - page 163, item 49 - Local government peer challenge – Raised by Councillor Tutt.

Further to Council Procedure Rule 14.3 it was,

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the above Council Bodies be accepted.

The meeting closed at 8.17pm

**Councillor Michael John Thompson,  
Mayor, Chairman**

(pf:council\12.11.21\mins)