

Council



Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday, 17 September 2014 at 6.00 pm

Present:-

Councillor Janet Coles (Chairman) in the Chair

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

28 Minutes

The minutes of the annual and ordinary meeting held on 23 July 2014 were presented and the Mayor was authorised to sign them as correct records.

29 Mayor's announcements.

1. The Council observed a minute's silence in memory of Stephen Penrice, a construction worker who had tragically lost his life while working on Eastbourne Pier in the aftermath of the recent fire. The Council extended its sincere condolences to Mr Penrice's family and would be represented at the funeral in Cumbria on Thursday 18 September.
2. On 1 August the Mayor held her first fundraising event for her chosen charity – Care for the Carers. A quiz night was held at the Town Hall which was very well attended and raised over £700 for the Mayor's Charity. Another quiz night was planned for Friday 20 February, with a fish and chip supper.
3. The Mayor attended the Friends of Seaside Rec Big Lunch on 3 August. The event was very popular with local residents and raised £118 for the Eastbourne Pier Benevolent Fund.
4. On 4 August the Mayor, Councillors, Civic List members and other prominent members of the community attended a commemoration service at St Mary's Church to mark the start of WWI. The service featured readings by the Mayor and Martyn Relf, from Churches Together.
5. The Mayor attended a presentation of the Queens Award for Voluntary Service to the Beachy Head Chaplaincy at the Town Hall on 8 August. The Beachy Head Chaplaincy were also celebrating their 10th anniversary and the Mayor was pleased to cut the cake with the Lord Lieutenant and volunteers.

6. The Mayor attended the Airbourne event and this year was pleased to meet the pilot and crew of the Canadian Lancaster who had made the long journey from Ontario in order to be at the show. The Mayor also met the Red Arrows team who were celebrating their 50th anniversary.
7. On 6 September the Mayor was pleased to open the Shinewater Fun Day at Shinewater Park. The event featured an archaeological exhibition by local school children, as well as dancing, a dog show and much more.
8. The Mayor drew the Council's attention to some forthcoming events in aid of her chosen charity. During the weekend of 15 and 16 November the Society of Eastbourne Artists would be holding an exhibition at the Town Hall and would be supporting the Mayor's Charity. On Friday 28 November the Mayor invited members to host a 'Cupcakes for Carers' event and raise funds for the chosen charity. The Mayor's final charity event for 2014 would be a Christmas Concert featuring Concentus Chorale at the Gold Room, Winter Garden on Thursday 18 December, with tickets on sale shortly. For more information on any of these events, members were asked to contact the Mayor's Office.
9. The Mayor also attended a number of visiting conferences, concerts, open days and exhibitions in the last few months.
10. At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Belsey reported on his attendance at the unveiling and dedication service of the World War 1 memorial in honour of the Royal Sussex Regiment, in Priez, France on 10 September. The mayor had also been scheduled to attend but had been unable to do so due to ill health.

30 Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were reported from Councillors Hearn and Wallis.

31 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.

None declared.

32 Updating amendments to the scheme of delegations to officers in the council's constitution

The Council considered a report of the Lawyer to the Council in respect of required amendments to the scheme of delegation to officers. This was in order to fulfil the requirements of the new Openness in Local Government Regulations, which came into force in August 2014, and to formally delegate to the Chief Finance Officer all the responsibilities of the Deputy Chief Executive role outlined in the Scheme and otherwise delegated to that post-holder. That delegation would continue in the

absence of any contrary delegation by Council unless and/or until the role of Deputy Chief executive was filled.

It was proposed by Councillor Tester, seconded by Councillor Howlett and;

Resolved:

(1) That the amendments to the Scheme of Delegation, as proposed in the report, be approved and that the Lawyer to the Council be authorised to incorporate and publish them in the Council's Constitution.

(2) That Council notes that the Chief Finance Officer has assumed the responsibilities normally designated to the holder of the role of Deputy Chief Executive on an interim basis in the absence of a post-holder in accordance with provisions in the Scheme of Delegations.

(3) That, at this juncture, Council formally delegates the responsibilities of the Deputy Chief Executive to the Chief Finance Officer henceforth until it otherwise directs.

33 Annual treasury management report 2013/14

The matter was proposed by Councillor Mattock on behalf of the Cabinet and seconded by Councillor Elkin.

Resolved: That the annual treasury management report for 2013/14 be approved, and that specific approval be given to the 2013/14 prudential and treasury indicators included within the report.

34 Minutes of council bodies and items for discussion.

The minutes of the following Council Bodies were submitted to this meeting:-

Committee	Date
Planning Committee	5 August and 2 September 2014
Conservation Area Advisory Group	26 August 2014
Scrutiny Committee	1 September 2014
Cabinet	3 September 2014

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

1. Cabinet, 3 September 2014 – minute 26 – Eastbourne Pier – Raised by Councillor Tutt. On behalf of the Council, both group leaders expressed thanks to the emergency services, RNLI and pier management and staff for their prompt and effective actions in combatting the recent fire and ensuring the safety of all concerned. Thanks were further expressed to all those involved in the town's team approach to recovery in the aftermath of this incident including the ongoing work of the pier group led by group

leaders and involving stakeholder groups, and the efforts of key Council officers including Annie Wills and Mike Marchant. Council was also advised of the process which had commenced in respect of securing the £2m funding pledge from the government with the intent to formulate a bid based on short term funding to assist people with hardship implications as a result of the fire, medium term initiatives around positively marketing the town, and long term plans to identify an iconic legacy for the town.

2. Cabinet, 3 September 2014 – minute 27 – Corporate performance quarter 1 2014/15 – Raised by Councillors Tester and Warner. Councillor Tester praised the performance of the Redoubt where visitor numbers were 60% above target in quarter 1. Councillor Warner referred to the violent crime statistics and, in particular the recent serious incidents involving people cycling illegally. He emphasised the need to be aware of how this might undermine the positive steps the council was taking to promote responsible cycling and urged that the crime prevention partnership, through its joint action group should consider how best to proactively enforce against crimes of this type. This was universally supported by the Council and Councillor Bannister reported that, in the light of recent incidents, it was already being discussed as a priority by the partnership.

Further to Council Procedure Rule 14.3 it was,

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

The meeting closed at 6.25 pm

Councillor Janet Coles
Mayor, Chairman