



# Battle Town Council



**MINUTES of the EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND TOWN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
held on **TUESDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm**  
in **The Almonry, High Street, Battle, TN33 0EA**

**Present: Cllrs M Kiloh, S Burton, V Cook, G Favell**

In attendance: One member of the public, N Acuna (Deputy Town Clerk).

Via Zoom: Cllrs A Barton, H Sharman.

## **Public Question Time**

A member of the public raised questions relating to the Parish Assembly and Town Model.

- 1. Apologies for absence** – None.
- 2. Disclosure of interest** – None.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021** were agreed and duly signed by Cllr M Kiloh.

As the Member of the public was particularly interested in items 8 and 11, Members agreed to bring these forward.

## **8. Parish Assembly 2022**

The Deputy Town Clerk was asked to:

- Explore whether space is available for the display of the **Town Model**;
- Approach **Councillors** to see who is available to **help on the day**;
- Approach the coordinator of the **“Battle Rocks”** for advice on purchase of pebbles for painting;
- Include a **thanks** in the Annual Report to **Battle & Langton School for hosting** the event;
- Confirm with the school if the **PTA will provide teas/coffees** etc;
- Publish **Agenda in Annual Report**;
- Obtain a quote for five **new publicity banners**.

## **11. Town Model**

Members were reminded that Mike Dawes had overseen work to refurbish the Model. It had since been in storage at two locations awaiting a permanent site. The owners of the storage spaces now urgently require the Model to be re-sited.

It was agreed that Council should appeal for appropriate sites for display or storage.

## **4. Deputy Clerk’s report**

- Cllr Field had agreed to produce a format for the **Climate Change Webinar**.
- The formation of a **Climate and Ecological Working Group** had been discussed by the Environment Committee and agreed to discuss again when other Groups have completed tasks.

## **5. Correspondence and Communications**

- Seven Members had volunteered for this year’s **Marbles Competition**. As five are the

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maximum number, Cllr Howell offered to be non-playing Captain. Members agreed that the £15 fee be paid from the competition budget. It was suggested that two teams may be possible.

- It was noted that the Clerk had met with Battle Festival to discuss the siting of a **feature "Ship" at the Amenity Field**. It was agreed that this could be good for tourism.
- Members noted that the **Crafty Norman** had closed following issues with rising business rates and rent costs.
- Members agreed to circulate a leaflet on **Superfast Broadband** to households in Netherfield with the Annual Report.
- The Deputy Clerk was asked to contact **Battle Abbey** to suggest a lighting up of the Abbey for 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022.

## 6. Working Groups:

- a) **Resilience Plan** – There had not been any further offers of help. It was suggested that volunteers be split into smaller groups. A further meeting to discuss will be arranged. This will be promoted at the Parish Assembly.
- b) **Writing Competition** Presentation to take place at Battle Abbey School for Elisabeth Parsons and Luke Westall on 17<sup>th</sup> March. Elliott Jenner will receive his award at a separate presentation at Battle and Langton School.
- c) **South & South East in Bloom** – letters asking for support had been delivered to businesses in the Town. Planters available for Abbey Court, Tap Room and Doctors' surgery.
- d) **Tourist Information Point** Members agreed to spend up to £12,000 on items: Audio Visual screen; film; touch screen information unit; display case; leaflet stand. Quotes for the AV and film are awaited.

## 7. Forums:

- a) **Town** This has been arranged for 16<sup>th</sup> March. Topics suggested:  
Diversity, plant and wildlife  
Waste or reduction  
More economically use of resources  
Better use of air and water
- b) **Youth** –The Chairman and Clerk had been invited to visit Claverham Community College to discuss how to take this forward.

## 9. Annual Report

The new draft had been circulated to Council for final comment.

## 10. Town Clock

It was felt the cost to move the Clock was prohibitive. The DTC was asked to confirm that the cost to refurbish includes the dial and case.

## 12. Mortars

Rother District Council had asked for clarification on proposed site and confirmed that the 1066 footpath is not within its ownership. Following discussion, it was agreed that the large mortar should be relocated with an information board close to the Battel Bonfire Boyes bench at George Meadow. The DTC was asked to speak with the Museum about retaining the small mortar in the Almonry Garden but to include an information board.

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## **13. Accessibility audits**

It was agreed that the various audits should be edited into one report with recommendations for discussion at the next meeting. Cllr Cook agreed to raise the issue of parking lines/markers with RDC. The request for safety railings on the High Street should be taken up again with East Sussex County Council.

## **14. Christmas 2021 and 2022**

Due to time constraints, it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

## **15. Council Awareness sessions**

Due to time constraints, it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

## **16. Regular column in Observer newspaper**

Members agreed that the column should be written by the Chairman of Council. Councillors are invited to suggest topical subjects.

## **17. Battle Marketing**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were noted, as attached. The DTC was asked to contact the Group for a copy of the Jubilee celebrations leaflet.

## **18. Future Communities Conference**

Cllr Burton agreed to circulate her notes from this session to all Members.

## **19. Action Plan 2021-22**

It was agreed to discuss the Risk Assessment at the next meeting.

## **20. Finance**

- a) The **budget report at 31<sup>th</sup> January 2022** was noted, as attached.
- b) **Virements or transfers to Ear Marked Reserves** No proposals at this time

## **21. Matters for information / future agenda items**

- Christmas 2021 and 2022
- Council Awareness sessions
- Risk assessment

## **22. Community Awards**

The nominations for the Community Award were discussed and recommendations agreed for recommendation to Full Council.

## **23. Date of next meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

CLLR M Kiloh  
Chairman