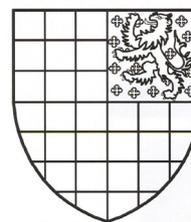


Town Hall
High Street
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2QS

☎ 01273 471469 Fax: 01273 480919

✉ info@lewes-tc.gov.uk

🌐 www.lewes-tc.gov.uk



**LEWES
TOWN
COUNCIL**

MINUTES

of the meeting of the **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Working party**, held on **Tuesday 1st October 2019** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lewes** at **7:00pm**.

PRESENT Cllrs Bird; Catlin; Handy (*Chairman*); Dr Maples

In attendance: S Brigden (*Town Clerk [TC]*).

EDIWP2019/01 ELECTION of CHAIRMAN

Cllr Handy was elected Chairman of the Committee for the 2019/20 year.

EDIWP2019/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies had been received from Cllr Herbert, who had a family commitment; and Cllr Baah, who was unwell.

EDIWP2019/03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none

EDIWP2019/04 QUESTIONS: There were none.

EDIWP2019/05 REMIT of the COMMITTEE

Members noted the remit of the committee, which is to:

- › identify and catalogue over the forthcoming year improvements and moderations to the current policy
- › meet annually to update and refresh council principles.
- › demonstrate to the public that the Council is fully committed in developing Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity.

EDIWP2019/06 BUSINESS OF THE MEETING:

1 Members reviewed the history of the current Council policy, during which a misleading typographical error was recognized and noted for correction. There followed a discussion as to how this fit with other Council policies, and Members were reminded that the Statement of Community Engagement was complementary in that it defined the community in terms of “all people”. Members undertook to research any prospective improvements for an updated policy and recognized this was a living document.

2 There was interest in any potential to engage in outreach to schools, and it was suggested that “champions” from within the Council might offer young people who were members of minority groups such as BAME or LGBT reassurance. Members would also identify any diversity champions from within the wider community.

3 Members were interested to explore how the Working Party’s work could cross-refer to other committees and working parties; the Gants Panel was offered as an example. The aims of the Council’s grants scheme could be altered, but Council would need to consider the matter. It was suggested that the Working Party members could act as Champions and scrutinize minutes of other Committees and working groups to identify anything noteworthy.

4 An additional category was proposed for the annual Civic Awards.

5 The working party would look at potential supplementary conditions of hire for Council buildings, to encourage and ensure appropriate attention by hirers to EDI issues. Current conditions focussed upon necessary issues of health & safety, indemnity, and protection of the Council's assets but this was considered inadequate.

EDIWP2019/07

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed, and thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

The meeting closed at 7:40pm

Signed.....

Date

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