



**Minutes** of the meeting of Malling Community Steering Group held on Monday 11 July 2022 at 11am in the Yarrow Room, Lewes Town Hall.

**Present:**

Councillor Bird  
Councillor Lamb  
Councillor Milner  
Councillor Sains

**In attendance**

Town Clerk

**1 Election of Chair**

Councillor Milner was elected Chair of the Committee for the 2022 to 2023 municipal year.

**2 Apologies for absence**

There were apologies from Councillors Baah and Earl due to prior engagements, Councillor Catlin who was unwell and Councillor Wood who was away.

**3 Members' declarations of interests**

Councillor Milner declared a personal interest in that he knew the proposers.

**4 Minutes**

The steering group were unable to receive the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2021 as the Town Council's internet had failed. These were to be received at the next meeting.

**5 Exempt business**

**It was resolved that:**

The public and accredited representatives of the press be excluded from the Meeting under Section 100 Local Government Act 1972 due to the confidential nature of the business to be conducted.

This item was confidential for members of the Steering Group only in accordance with Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, being information relating to individuals and the financial and business affairs of any particular person.

**6 Café proposal**

6.1 The steering group discussed the proposal that had been received in relation to the provision of a café at Malling Community Centre. Overall the group felt it was an ambitious and positive proposal and should progress to a business interview. The

panel would consist of the Town Clerk, the locum Responsible Financial Officer, the agent and a councillor from this steering group. Councillor Lamb was nominated to sit on the interview panel and this was agreed.

6.2 Confirmation was given by the Town Clerk that references would be obtained either by the Clerk or the agent managing the process on behalf of the Town Council.

6.3 Councillors asked that any provider considers sustainability across its operations, for example power and using local providers.

6.4 The steering group discussed security of the providers equipment and required this to be discussed further with the proposer.

6.5 The steering group require the proposer to ensure food affordability within their offer.

6.6 Concerns were raised about the suggestion of a shipping container and it was requested that alternative options were explored.

6.7 The steering group agreed that first and foremost the community centre is for the local community and this needs to be made clear with any provider and factored into their offer and service delivery. Key to the success of this will be the partnership and working relationship between the café provider and the Town Council.

6.8 The steering group considered implications and benefits opening in the evenings.

6.9 In terms of the outside space at the centre, it was noted that exterior lighting needs addressing as does signage and landscaping, all of which would be addressed as part of the final phases of the redevelopment.

6.10 Temporary provision and break clause options were discussed, and the Town Council would take legal advice on this.

The meeting ended at 11.25am

Signed: .....

Date: .....