

Seaford Annual Town Meeting

Minutes of the **Annual Town Meeting** held in Crossway Church, Clinton Place, Seaford on **Tuesday 23rd May 2023** at **7.00pm**.

Present from Seaford Town Council:

Chair - Councillor Olivia Honeyman (2023 - 2024 Mayor of Seaford)

Six Town Councillors

Adam Chugg (Town Clerk), Isabelle Moulard (Assistant Town Clerk), Melanie Nicolls (HR & Governance Manager) and Nikki Blight (Administrative Assistant) Erin Franklin (2022 – 2023 Young Mayor), Nia Waite (2023 – 2024 Young Mayor) and Ella Yulle (2023 – 2024 Deputy Young Mayor)

Peter White (Town Crier of Seaford)

47 members of the public

Peter White, Town Crier of Seaford, called people to the meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions by the Mayor

The Mayor welcomed the attendees and outlined the format of the meeting.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held 12th April 2022 were accepted by the participants.

3. Seaford Town Council Update

The Town Clerk gave an update on Town Council activities and key projects in the town such as: the Climate Action Plan; updated tennis courts at The Salts; strengthened Town Council finances; the newly elected Town Council, upcoming stakeholder workshops on the new strategic plan; Section 106 funds for sports facilities in the town; Walk the Chalk; and Seaford Museum.

The Town Clerk also presented the results of the Town Council's recent community engagement survey.

4. Young Mayor's Update

2022 – 2023 Young Mayor of Seaford, Erin Franklin, presented an update of her year in office, introducing the 2023 – 2024 Young Mayor, Nia Waite.

2023 – 2024 Young Mayor, Nia Waite set out her plans for the year, and introduced the 2023 – 2024 Deputy Young Mayor, Ella Yulle.

5. Young Mayor's Award

2022 – 2023 Young Mayor of Seaford, Erin Franklin, presented the Young Mayor's Awards from the 2022 – 2023 mayoral year -

Amelia Woodman – Volunteer at Seaford Down Syndrome and Special Needs Support Group

Amelia has volunteered with the Group at Saturday Drop-in's for a while now. She gives up her time to support not only her sister Charlotte, but also the other children who come. She arrives early and stays throughout the session and assists with pack-away.

Presentations by Recipients of Large Grants

Presentations were received from the groups that had received large grants from the Town Council in 2022 - 2023:

Seaford Musical Theatre

- Used the large grant to repair/replace the defective flat roof part of the building.

Citizens Advice Bureau

- Used the large grant towards running costs to enable it to provide its services in Seaford.

Seaford Bonfire Society

- Used the large grant to assist with the cost of medical emergency professionals along with the costs towards the event security.

Youth Counselling Project

- Used the large grant to provide sessions of wellbeing support and mental health interventions. Each child received 10 face to face sessions with relevant qualified therapists.

St James' Trust

- Used the large grant to help fund the use of a minibus.

St Wilfrid's Hospice

- Used the large grant towards the cost of running its fleet of cars which are used to visit patients in Seaford.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd.

- Used the large grant to meet ongoing annual running costs.

6. Mayor's Awards

2022 – 2023 Mayor of Seaford, Councillor Olivia Honeyman, presented the Mayor's Awards from the 2022 – 2023 mayoral year. Awards were made as follows:

Mayor's Awards

Friend's of Blatchington Pond – Jean Cash Environment Award

For their work in caring for the Pond and surrounding wildlife.

Miriam Thundercliffe – Coastal Environment Champion

For promoting environmental awareness with initiatives such as renaturing of Seaford verges.

Dadventure – Sporting Achievement Award

For rowing an incredible 3000 miles across the Atlantic, raising money for Prostate Cancer UK and the Wolo Foundation.

Gemma McFarlane – Seaford Town Hero

For initiatives such as Sharing Skills CIC, the Repair Café, and the Pre-Loved Uniform Exchange.

Youth Counselling Project – Community Charity Champion

For the work that it does to help young people in the town who need mental health support.

The Don Mabey Award

Miranda Bearns-lowles

An award for an individual who has gone above and beyond with their services to the town and its residents.

For delivering outstanding events for the town including street markets, and this year's Coronation Festival.

8. Question & Answer Time

<i>Resident A</i>	<i>Raised concerns about sewerage being pumped out into the sea and queried how residents would be alerted.</i>
Town Council Response	Explained that the Town Council will continue to work with partner authorities (Lewes District Council and the Environment Agency) to identify possible incidents and alert residents.
<i>Resident B</i>	<i>Raised similar concerns as Resident A, querying how judgement is made and water is tested.</i>
Town Council Response	Explained that testing is carried out by partner authorities (the Environment Agency).

<i>Resident C</i>	<i>Suggested that the Town Council links up with Seaford Lifeguards to see if they could raise flags to identify such incidents.</i>
Town Council Response	Agreed this would be a good approach and will take this idea to partner authorities.
<i>Resident D</i>	<i>Queried if there was a deadline for using S106 money, and if it had to spent on sports facilities.</i>
Town Council Response	Explained that there is around a 7yr deadline to claim and use the money. The S106 money in question relates to the Newlands Development in which sporting facilities were lost, so sporting facilities must be replaced with this S106 money, following the conditions set out in the agreement.

In closing the Mayor thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting ended at 8.43pm



Councillor Olivia Honeyman

Mayor of Seaford 2023 - 2024