

# Burgess Hill Town Council

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

8 October 2020

### **BEEHIVE CHARITY REGISTERED**

An important step for the future of the Beehive Community Centre has been the registration of the Beehive charity announced today by the Charity Commission. This means that fundraising for this project can now proceed in earnest.

Earlier this year planning permission was granted for the building which will incorporate an auditorium with seating for up to 300 people, a café and bar, rehearsal and meeting rooms and exhibition space. With the recent announcement by Mid Sussex District Council that Clair Hall, Haywards Heath would be closed, this will be the only large facility in the south of Mid Sussex with modern facilities for the arts. The Town Council hopes that the many clubs and organisations in Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath will support the Burgess Hill Town Council's efforts to build this ambitious project and will use it fully for the benefit of the greater community.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 delayed the public consultation that was due to start in May and a new strategy is being worked on to show Burgess Hill residents what is intended and how this exciting project might be delivered and expanded. Once these plans are finalised, the public will be consulted as promised.

Cllr Eggleston, Leader of Burgess Hill Town Council was delighted with the news and said "it has taken a lot of hard work, with officers and our lawyers, to get charity approval for The Beehive and it is excellent news that this important milestone in the life of the project has been reached. We have also been doing further work over the last couple of months on the development plan and I am looking forward to sharing the vision for The Beehive with the town again."

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**ENDS**

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