

Haverhill Town Council



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 21st June 2016 at 7.00pm at the Haverhill Arts Centre, Haverhill, CB9 8AR

Present: Mayor Councillor D Roach
Deputy Mayor Councillor P Fox
Councillor A Bramwell
Councillor A Brown
Councillor J Burns
Councillor M Byrne
Councillor T Chivers
Councillor Q Fox
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor I McLatchy
Councillor B Robbins
Councillor C Turner
Councillor A Williams

Apologies: Councillor J Crooks
Councillor W Yang

Absent: None

In Attendance: Colin Poole (Town Clerk)
Mr Andrew Eley, Acting Chief Operating Officer, West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group
Ms Isobel Cockayne, head of Communications, West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group
Dr F Watfeh, Haverhill Family Practice

3 members of the public were present.

Welcome & Prayers:

Mayor D Roach welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised members of the public attending that the meeting was being recorded. Rev Canon Graham Owen led Prayers. A one-minute silence was observed to mark the loss of MP Jo Cox, who was murdered whilst conducting her weekly MP surgery, on 16th June 2016.

MINUTES

C16 Apologies for Absence

/076 The above apologies were noted. Mr D Wendell had also given his apologies.

C16 Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation

/077 None.

ACTION

- C16 /078** **CCG Presentation and Question & answer session**
The Mayor welcomed representatives of the CCG. A report on this item can be found at appendix 3
- C16 /079** **The minutes of the Full Council meeting held 17th May 2016**
The minutes were adopted as a true record of the meeting held 17th May 2016.
RESOLVED
- C16 /080** **Matters arising not on the agenda**
a) **C16/026 Community Emergency Plan** – The meeting considered the draft plan template prepared by Alisha Jenkins, Office Administrator. It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor C Turner to form a short-term Task and Finish Group with the power to co-opt non-councillors.
RESOLVED
Councillors C Turner, M Byrne and B McLatchy were appointed to the committee. Councillor M Byrne will approach former Mayor Mr Roger André to ask if he would join the group, given his past interest in the matter.
b) **C16/030 Haverhill Area Forum** – the Clerk advised that a number of neighbouring Councillors had accepted the invitation to attend on 27th June.
- C16 /081** **Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM**
a) There was no report from the Police. The Clerk had attempted to download the report from the website but it would not print out properly. The crime stats are not available either.
Councillor J Burns updated the meeting on the VAS speed indicator initiatives and police response to these.
b) The meeting received reports from County Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill and the Public Forum. See Appendix 1 for Details.
- C16 /082** **Changes to the date of meetings of the Council and Committees**
It was proposed by Councillor P Fox, seconded by Councillor A Williams, that the proposed amendments be accepted.
RESOLVED
- C16 /083** **Annual Audit**
a) It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor B Robbins, that the excellent report from the Internal Auditor dated 18th May 2016 without qualification or recommendation, be accepted by the Council.
RESOLVED
b) It was noted that the Annual Return was submitted to the External Auditor on 6th June.
c) It was noted that the notice of public inspection of our accounts is being displayed in accordance with the regulations.
- C16 /084** **Mayor's Report**
Mayor Roach read his report to the Council, on his work as Mayor during the last month. (see appendix 2)
- C16 /085** **ONE Haverhill Partnership**
The Clerk advised that the ONE Haverhill Partnership had met on 15th June.

Cllr Byrne

The meeting began with individual task and finish groups working on the formation of an overall strategy. The four themes being worked on are:
Health and Wellbeing
Crime and ASB
Skills and Education
Town Centre Masterplan.

The expectation is that the Partnership will complete the writing of the strategy by the end of the year and adopt it.

Councillors who represent the Council on the partnership noted this was a new start following the ending of the original government funding. Councillor J Burns had attended this meeting for the first time and decided to reserve judgement. Councillor P Hanlon backed this view, as money would be needed to implement any proposals.

Councillor M Byrne voiced concern that ONE Haverhill was doing the work of the Town Council. Councillors McLatchy and Roach however expressed positivity about the group.

**C16
/086**

Adoption of Committee Reports

a) Appeals Committee

The Appeals Committee had not met since the last meeting.

b) Finance Committee

The Finance Committee had not met since the last meeting.

c) Leisure and Community Committee

The Leisure and Community Committee had not met since the last meeting.

d) Personnel Committee

It was proposed by Councillor C Turner, seconded by Councillor B McLatchy, that the minutes of the meeting held 7th June 2016 be adopted
RESOLVED.

e) Planning Committee

The adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2016 was deferred to the next meeting.

**C16
/087**

Appointment of the Corn Exchange Working Party

It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor C Turner, that the following Councillors be appointed to the Corn Exchange Working Party, with full delegated powers over the £44,300 budget for pre-purchase due diligence with the Finance Regulations suspended for the purpose of expedient decision-making, given the short deadline under the Asset of Community Value regulations:

Mayor D Roach
Councillor A Brown
Councillor M Byrne
Councillor J Crooks
Councillor Q Fox
Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor B Robbins

RESOLVED

C16

To receive Urgent Correspondence

/088 None.

C16 **Date of next Meetings:**

/089 The following dates were noted:

Outdoor Surgeries:

Market Square – 25th June (Armed Forces Day)
Leiston Road shops – South Ward, Monday 27th June 6pm
Strasbourg Square – East Ward, Wednesday 29th June 6pm
Brybank Road – West Ward, Wednesday 6th July 6pm
Chapple Drive – North Ward, Wednesday 13th July 6pm

Next Full Council Meeting: 19th July 2016

C16 **Exclusion of press and Public**

/090 It was proposed by Councillor A Williams, seconded by Councillor J Burns, that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted – Commercial sensitivity.

RESOLVED

C16 **Report from Corn Exchange Working Party**

/091 Councillors heard from the working party on the recent meeting at the Corn Exchange. Dayle Bayliss has been appointed as Project Manager. She is an extremely well-qualified and experienced chartered surveyor.

It was proposed by Councillor C Turner, seconded by Councillor A Williams, that the working group endeavour to arrange meetings with the current vendor and the previous purchaser.

RESOLVED

C16 **Closure**

/092 The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:41pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

Reports from the Police, District/County Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill and the Public Forum.

Councillor J Flood – County

Councillor flood gave the following report:

Haverhill Town Council adopted the General Power of Competence on May 18th 2015. All decisions are taken using that power unless otherwise stated.

1. Attended a Scrutiny Committee for Education and Children's Services. The data suggests the take up in Haverhill of Children's Services is poor. If this is the case it will be investigated as to why.
2. Aragon Road was built in 2009 and is yet to be adopted.

Councillor T Brown - County

Councillor Brown gave the following report:

1. "Missing Link" in the railway path is due to be completed during July/August. This is great to give a traffic-free route for cyclists across Haverhill.
2. HMO still causing problems. Borough Council is trying to get this addressed, but more inspections are needed. Anecdotal stories of people with chaotic lives are being housed in Haverhill without support are worrying.

Mr E Pinnock

Highlighted a problem with vehicles parked too close to the junctions of Coupals Road with Roman Way and Chalkstone Way. This obstructs the junctions and makes it dangerous. Council T Brown advised this was a Police matter.

Appendix 2

Mayors report from May to June 2016.

The Mayor thanked the Council again for electing him as Mayor.

He attended the Town Twinning trip to Germany. In addition he has attended a number of Mayoral engagements on behalf of the town. He will be attending the rededication of the war memorial on Wednesday and the Armed Forces Day event on Saturday. We have had a hugely positive response to having flag poles and flags on the market Square.

Appendix 3

Presentation from CCG & Question session

The Mayor welcomed Mr Andrew Eley, Acting Chief Operating Officer, West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group, Ms Isobel Cockayne, Head of Communications, West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group and Dr F Watfeh, Haverhill Family Practice and GP Governing Body member of the CCG.

Mr Eley acknowledged that the health & social care system cannot continue with the increase in demand that it is currently experiencing, not just by the aging population but across all the age groups and in all aspects of services, against a backdrop of financial pressure. In an effort to reduce this demand, the NHS has identified 3 Priorities set for the next 5 years focussing on the prevention of ill health, empowering them and putting them at the centre of the service:

- Closing the health and wellbeing gap, recognising life expectancy varies between areas
- Transforming care, closing the quality gap, enhancing access to primary care and mental health services.
- Closing the efficiency gap to make best use of the money, recognising the financial pressures and work together as health and social care systems.

In turn, the CCG has set three priorities locally

- Prevention, working with public health, looking at self-care
- Finances spent effectively, working proactively to make sure every £1 is spent as efficiently as it can
- Ensuring that high quality care is provided for the local population and improving access.

There are also plans to tackle workforce/workload issues in primary care, through initiatives such as a GP Fellowship Scheme, to attract more doctors to become Suffolk GPs and retain them.

No overnight solutions, but this is a statement of intent.

Ms Cockayne then addressed some specific issues. The CCG needs more support in helping individuals with mental health needs within the area help themselves more. Also, how the CCG can work with the Town Council to prevent ill-health.

Public health looked at Haverhill in 2014 to do a local health needs assessment: Higher than average healthy youths and older population averagely more ill. The long-term conditions in Haverhill include heart disease, cancers and diabetes. How do we help people with those conditions and how do we stop them getting into that situation in the first place?

There is a whole list of things that we can do together. Encouraging cutting down on drinking, smoking etc, doing more exercise need to be promoted within Haverhill.

Nationally, there is the “One You” campaign suggesting small but helpful changes to lifestyles. The CCG will be promoting that locally.

The CCG is looking at mental wellbeing, working on the Adult Mental Health Strategy and Children’s Mental Wellbeing and Emotional Strategy. The CCG worked with Sam Ward school to collect information about what would help, such as having someone to talk to.

The CCG is working to break down organisational barriers and have different teams to work together under the Connect Project, which is expected to come to Haverhill at the beginning of Autumn. The range of organisations talking to each other include Police, Housing, Adult social care and Mental health.

Dr Watfeh confirmed he had seen a lot of additional pressure in the health system, particularly around work levels and the workforce.

Questions:

BMcL: Regarding GPs coping with 5,000 more patients but no doctors, a primary care centre is perfect for Haverhill. We hope to have the first one in Suffolk.

CT: Prevention equals ‘don’t get sick’. How do people know they are sick? We used to have a walk-in centre. We were told it was to attenuate the number of attendances at A&E. It was later closed as it was ‘not doing what was asked’. However, he was told that there was no measurement of whether the people who attended the walk-in centre would have gone to A&E. We have got good premises in town, closed at night. Is there anything to stop the CCG opening up the premises in town for longer and using it as an out-of-hours walk in clinic with different staff? These staff could be found from medical students willing to work at the level they come with, to do triage.

MB: As a councillor for South Ward, which has been described as an area of deprivation. You have not talked about resources. Some locums earn more than partners. That seems terribly wrong. GPs take a lot of flak and are let down by the NHS/CCG. It is disappointing that the NHS England are not represented here as it would have been good to talk about the ambulance service issues. The priorities need resourcing.

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BR: With 10 GPs reducing to 3 GPs, what is the short-term solution to GP care?

IC: *The practice in question has 11 GPs*

Dr Watfeh: *GPs do not want to commit to becoming a partner in practices. They can earn good money as a locum. This is partly a funding issue, partly managing demand.*

AE: *The CCG is committed to working to improve the quality of care and access, within budget.*

IC: GPs skill mix is important within each practice. Together with nurse practitioners that helps manage demand,

AB: The GP Funding formula doesn't favour Haverhill. For some reason young people access GP services more than expected, in Haverhill. We also have the issue with transport links as services get centralised at places as far away as Ipswich. Can you confirm what the charges are for phone calls to the surgery. Is there a charge?

IC: This has changed and people are not charged.

JB: Thank you for attending. GP Levels – what is the solution to getting additional GPs? Also, people here prefer going to Addenbrookes because of the better bus links to Cambridge compared to West Suffolk. Telephones are engaged all the time. We need to think outside the box about how things are done locally.

AE: *we will take some of those points away and look at them more closely. The Government launched a GP 5-year Forward view. Still unpicking the detail of that to bring in the right models of care.*

PH: Trying to get access from Haverhill is a problem. If we lived in BSE, people would go to A&E rather than GPS. Our remoteness means people go to their GPs. The funding formula needs to be looked at. Also, there is no access to mental health services in Haverhill.

What do you propose to do in the immediate time?

What are the average waiting times to see a GP?

Ask NSH England to attend future Full Council meetings.

They can answer questions about when they are going to commission a walk in service.

Invite head of the ambulance service.