

Haverhill Town Council



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 18th October 2016 at 7.30pm 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 J Crooks
Councillor Q Fox
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor I McLatchy
Councillor B Robbins
Councillor A Williams
Councillor W Yang

Apologies:

Councillor T Chivers
Councillor C Turner

Absent: None

In Attendance: Colin Poole (Town Clerk)
Vicky Philips (Assistant Clerk)
Nick Keeble (Arts & Leisure Manager)

5 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.

MINUTES

C16 **Apologies for Absence**
/156 The above apologies were noted.

C16 **Presentation – Mrs Vicky Phillips**
/157 The Mayor presented Mrs Phillips with a citation of thanks for her 20-years' service to the Council. Mr Keeble read out messages of goodwill from past Mayors and Clerks. The Clerk added his own words of thanks to his Assistant.

ACTION

- C16 /158** **Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation**
None.
- C16 /159** **The minutes of the Full Council meeting held 26th September 2016**
The minutes were adopted as a true record of the meeting held 26th September 2016.
RESOLVED
- C16 /160** **Matters arising not on the agenda**
a) **C16/144a Invitation to Police Inspector to attend quarterly** – the Clerk reported that he had received a response stating the current Suffolk Constabulary policy that officers would not regularly attend meetings but would attend for specific issues.
b) **C16/144d NHS Cuts & Support for Stroke Group** – The Clerk advised that subsequent to the last meeting the decisions on possible cuts to services in West Suffolk have been deferred. He is yet to write in regard to the cuts to support for Stroke Services.
- C16 /161** **Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM**
a) The Clerk had tabled the SNT report and information downloaded from the Police national website, www.police.uk
Councillor Burns advised that a Film of the latest PCC meeting will be placed on YouTube once edited to include the PowerPoint presentation plus the PCC film they presented. He also advised that the VAS placed on Duddery Hill, Hales Barn Road and Haycocks Road (northbound) revealed nothing untoward that would demand enforcement.
b) The meeting received reports from County Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill. See Appendix 1 for Details.
c) Public Forum – See Appendix 1 for details.
- C16 /162** **Parking issues at New Croft**
Councillors Brown, Burns and Hanlon, along with the Clerk, attended a meeting at the New Croft on 5th October. The discussion centred on how to provide more parking as it was unlikely people's habit of driving unnecessarily around town was not going to be broken easily. The site of the old electricity substation was identified as potentially suitable for extending the car park. The meeting also agreed to use social media and messages in the matchday programmes to ask people to park considerately, use the Sam Ward school overflow car park or to walk to the site. The HCSA recognised that it was important to not 'shift' the parking problem to residential roads nearby, so would focus on discouraging that rather than physically stopping parking on the verge outside the New Croft.
- C16 /163** **Mayor's Report**
a) Mayor Roach read his report to the Council, on his work as Mayor during the last month. (see appendix 2)
b) It was proposed by Councillor B McLatchy, seconded by Councillor I McLatchy, to approve £585.63 for refurbishment of the Mayoral regalia and £300 for replacing the Consort badge.
RESOLVED
- C16 /164** **ONE Haverhill Partnership**
The Partnership Board had not met since the last meeting of the Council. The Mayor gave an update from the Town Centre Masterplan Task Group.

CLERK

C16 **Adoption of Committee Reports**

/165

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 Committee had not met since the last meeting .

d) Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee has not met since the last meeting.

e) Planning Committee

It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor I McLatchy, that the minutes of the meeting held 26th September 2016 be adopted.

RESOLVED

C16 **Authorisation of payments**

/166

It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor M Byrne, that cheque payments 11725 - 11782 totalling £51,166.61 be authorised.

RESOLVED

C16 **Urgent Correspondence**

/167

Councillor B McLatchy reported that the Haverheart ultrasound launch would be taking place on 28th October, at the Haverhill Health Day in the Arts Centre.

C16 **Internal Audit**

/168

The Clerk advised the meeting that the interim internal audit had been carried out earlier this day and circulated the report. The Auditor was content with the outcome, with nothing to report.

a) It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor Q Fox, to approve and accept the interim internal audit report.

RESOLVED

b) The meeting **NOTED** the audit benchmarking study carried out by the Assistant Clerk. This was a more in-depth review of our processes than statutorily required in an audit. The Clerk advised that the study highlighted some improvements were required to ensure actions transposed from a committee to the Full Council and that the receipt of the precept and other significant income was properly recorded in the minutes. The amendments to processes had already been made.

The Council thanked the Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Finance Administrator for their work on this. Councillor M Byrne asked whether there were any legislation in place that required Councils to use BACS rather than cheques for payment. The Clerk confirmed that the law had been changed to enable BACS to be used and that this would now become the more common method of payments.

CLERK

C16 **Exclusion of press and Public**

/169

It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon, 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**

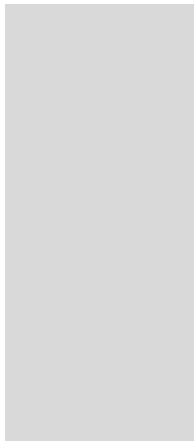
/170 The Clerk referred Councillors to the confidential report circulated 11th October and updated the meeting on the current position.

C16 **Date of next Meeting**

/171 The next meeting will be held on 22nd November 2016 at 7:00pm, to be followed by a Haverhill Community Trust meeting.

C16 **Closure**

/172 The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:51.



Signed
Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

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

6b) County Councillors reports:

Councillor Burns gave the following report:

- a) SCC confirmed today (18th Oct) that the application by St. Nicholas Hospice to convert part of the Burton Centre to retail had been rejected. Instead they will be encouraging working with locality officers to enhance the community value.
- b) SCC Cabinet today (18th Oct) approved a 5-year extension to the Kier Highways contract with additional conditions. This still has to be ratified by Kiers once the new conditions have been finalised.
- c) Helions Park Avenue & Bumpstead Road resurfacing and maintenance work started this week. Park Road & Hawthorn Road is due to start w/c 24th October.
- d) Reported 35 street lights out in town centre car parks, Wrattling Road, and environs early September. Most of them have now been repaired. An additional 13 lights in Park Road and environs were reported to SCC Street Lighting yesterday (17th Oct). The lighting around Tesco's appears to be unadopted by SCC. Efforts are being made to ensure this is rectified or that Tesco take responsibility for the lights allegedly owned by them.
- e) Barclays Bank property maintenance company are working on replacing both entrance columns (which are wood wormed) as well as ensuring exterior maintenance to windows and doors is carried out including removing vegetation.

Councillor A Brown gave the following report:

- a) The walkway through Murton Slade from Tesco to Queens Street remains an issue regarding parking. He hopes to see some form of traffic order in place to ensure the walkway stays clear.
- b) The cycle path from East Town Park to West Town Park is now complete. The lighting will also soon be completed.
- c) The Highways Reporting Tool on the SCC website now shows all roads the authority is responsible for.

6d) Public Forum: Mr G Savary

Mr Savary voiced concern in regard to a site on the Chalkstone Estate potentially being used for drug dealing. Various Councillors expressed their concerns for other areas they knew where people had been seen allegedly openly dealing in drugs. The Mayor advised that all such reports should be made promptly to the Police via 101 and not to a Town Council meeting.

Appendix 2

8a) Mayors report from September to October 2016.

The Mayor has attended civic services around the county. He has also attended the Rural Summit for Suffolk and the official opening of Stepping Stones. He was also pleased to be a guest of Rt Hon Matthew Hancock MP for Prime Minister's Question Time in the House of Commons on 12th October.