

Haverhill Town Council



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 13th December 2016 at 7.45pm 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 Q Fox
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor I McLatchy
Councillor B Robbins
Councillor W Yang

Apologies: Councillor M Byrne
Councillor T Chivers
Councillor J Crooks
Councillor C Turner
Councillor A Williams

Absent: None

In Attendance: Colin Poole (Town Clerk)

3 members of the public were present.

Welcome:

Mayor D Roach welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised members of the public attending that the meeting was being recorded.

MINUTES

- | | | ACTION |
|---------------------------|---|---------------|
| C16
/191 | <u>Apologies for Absence</u>
The above apologies were noted. | |
| C16
/192 | <u>Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation</u>
None. | |
| C16
/193 | <u>The minutes of the Full Council meeting held 22nd November 2016</u>
It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor I McLatchy that the minutes of the meeting held 22 nd November 2016 be adopted as a true record.
RESOLVED | |
| C16
/194 | <u>Matters arising not on the agenda</u>
a) C16/177 Appendix1-5b Yellow Cross Hatching – The Clerk advised | |

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

that Suffolk Highways had acknowledged his online report that the lines were faded and had undertaken to complete the work in this financial year.

C16 /195 **Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM**

The Clerk tabled the SNT report.

- a) The Police SNT report for December was tabled. Councillor B McLatchy raised a concern that police had been unable to act more strongly in the case of a person being knocked down by a mobility scooter than give the driver advice.
- b) The meeting received reports from County Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill. See Appendix 1 for details.
- c) The meeting received reports from Borough Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill. See Appendix 1 for details.
- d) Public Forum – See Appendix 1 for details.

C16 /196 **Responses to Consultations**

- a) Suffolk Local Policing Review: The Council agreed that the following issues should be highlighted:
 - i. The loss of the desk service is unfortunate – has there been a review of the CCTV to see how many people use the courtesy phone after finding the door locked? How many people have used the phone? How does that visitor quantity compare to other places?
 - ii. The lack of presence and resources for a town of this size is very noticeable
 - iii. A great deal of local knowledge has been lost through redundancies
 - iv. Crime is not 9-5pm. Policing should not be either
 - v. The SNT report is very poor. It is vague for Haverhill, pointless for small parishes. There are no comparators from previous years to judge against
 - vi. Has crime gone up since the changes?
 - vii. On a positive note, the 101 service is greatly improved.
- b) Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Whilst Haverhill is not on suitable strata for quarrying, the implications of housing growth and traffic associated with quarries meant there was a legitimate interest in this matter. The Clerk highlighted that many of the existing policies were carried forward to the new draft, but some were not. These included restrictions on where quarries could be dug, the impact of HGV traffic and not building on potential mineral sites. The meeting agreed the Clerk should write and ask that these policies are kept. The change in calculation base for the minerals reserve was welcomed. There were no comments on the criteria for selection or on waste issues.
- c) A1307 City Deal Engagement Arrangement: The Meeting agreed that the choice of representative for future meetings would be made at or after the initial meeting being held on 5th January at City Hall.

C16 /197 **Mayor's Report**

- a) Mayor Roach read his report to the Council, on his work as Mayor during the last month. (see appendix 2)

C16 /198 **ONE Haverhill Partnership**

The Partnership Board met on December 7th.

- a) The Board is working on a new strategy document with a draft action plan

due to be published in March. The Masterplan is working on public realm proposals including signage, improvements to the Stour Brook as it comes through the town centre, to turn this into an asset. Ideas can be fed into ONE Haverhill via representatives of the Council on the Board and the action plan will go out for consultation. The Youth Skills Project is part of the education and employment strand. Funding is via partners looking for relevant pots of money.

b) The Board had resolved to rename the Terms of Reference "Constitution" to assist in grant funding applications.

c) The Board had resolved to request that the Town Council agrees to open an account, under the existing sole control and management of the Town Council, an account named "ONE Haverhill Partnership", for the purpose of receiving grant funds. It was proposed by Councillor I McLatchy, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

RESOLVED

Members who are on the ONE Haverhill Partnership Board abstained

C16 **Adoption of Committee Reports**
/199

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

The Personnel Committee had not met since the last meeting.

e) Planning Committee

It was proposed by Councillor B Robbins, seconded by Councillor J Burns, that the minutes of the meeting held 29th November be adopted.

RESOLVED

C16 **Authorisation of payments**
/200

It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon, that the listed payments totalling £78,638.29 be authorised.

RESOLVED

C16 **Budget 2017/18**
/201

The announcement regarding potential precept capping was anticipated for Thursday. There was no change in the status of the draft budget until this was known as it complicated matters so much.

a) Capping would prevent a precept increase above 2%, subject to the outcome of a local referendum on the matter.

b) The cost of the referendum would itself add more than 2% to the budget

c) Inflation was predicted to be above 2%.

The budget would be discussed and the precept set in January 2017.

C16 **Urgent Correspondence**
/202

None.

C16 **Exclusion of press and Public**
/203

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 and HR Matters.

RESOLVED

C16 **Report from Corn Exchange Working Party**

/204

- a) The Clerk updated Councillors on the current state of progress.
- b) It was proposed by Councillor A Brown, seconded by Councillor B McLatchy, that the council continue to progress this matter.

C16 **Staffing Matters**

/205

The meeting considered HR implications of setting a budget that avoided triggering a precept referendum. It was proposed by Councillor Q Fox, seconded by Councillor P Fox that the council defer any actions and meet on January 10th 2017 when the government's decision would be known.

RESOLVED

C16 **Date of next Meeting**

/206

The next meeting will be held on 10th January 2017 at 8:30pm.

C16 **Closure**

/207

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:28.

Signed
Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

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

5b) County Councillors reports:

Councillor J Flood gave the following report:

- a) Dropped kerbs. Councillor Flood thanked Councillor Turner for alerting him to a case. He reminded the meeting that forms are available to complete and hand in.
- b) Tom Nunn is the local Highways Engineer

Councillor Burns gave the following report:

- a) He has been appointed to the Police & Crime Panel until the elections in May
- b) School lane: He has asked the crossing to be repainted.
- c) St Nicholas Hospice: He believes that after much consideration the request to convert the community-use room into a retail space for their shop will be approved.
- d) Speeding: Bumpstead Road has been resurfaced so the speed-suppressing effect of the potholes has been removed.
- e) Great Wilsey Development: The transport issues appear to have reached a state of resolution, opening the way for it to go for outline planning permission.

Councillor A Brown gave the following report:

- a) The lamp columns are in place for the unlit section of the railway walk. He is chasing for news of when the lamps themselves will be fitted atop the columns.
- b) He has taken up the concern about mud on the road from the Project site. This will be cleared by the contractor.

5c) Borough Councillors reports:

Councillor A Brown gave the following report:

He reported that litter bins were set alight along Railway Walk. These will be replaced.

Councillor J Burns gave the following report:

- a) Paving repairs: he contrasted the time it has taken SCC Highways to respond to loose paving slabs in the High Street with the Borough's next-day response to his call about the same issue on Market Square.
- b) Parking: He will analyse the stats regarding the changes in parking behaviour following the change in regulations last April.

5d) Public Forum:

Mr Wendell Reported on the reductions in service that Age UK (Suffolk) are experiencing following cuts in funding. This will result in the closure of Saxon House in Bury St Edmunds and the consolidation of services to the Claydon head office.

The Mayor Thanked Mr Wendell for passing this news on to the Council.

Appendix 2

8a) Mayors report from November to December 2016.

In the run-up to Christmas he has attended a number of events including a school nativity play, the Befriending Scheme Christmas Fayre, festive musical concerts and Burton End Primary School Art Exhibition. Our own Christmas Carol Service was on 6th December.