



## HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

### LEISURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of Haverhill Town Council Leisure & Community Committee to be held at the Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill, CB9 8AR on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 commencing at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business:

**CONSTITUTION:**      **Chair:**                      **B McLatchy**  
                                 **Vice Chair:**                **J Burns**  
                                 **Town Councillors:**      **A Brown**  
   **M Byrne**  
   **P Fox**  
   **P Hanlon**  
   **A Williams**  
   **W Yang**

**This Meeting is open to the Press and Public**

#### **AGENDA**

1. **Welcome**
2. **Apologies for absence**  
Please notify the office by 5.00pm on the day of the meeting if you are unable to attend.
3. **Declaration of interests and requests for Dispensations**  
For members to declare any interests they may have on items on the agenda and agree any dispensations to stay.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting**  
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Leisure & Community Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes**  
To note action taken, and outstanding, from items in the minutes of the meeting of the Leisure & Community Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016.
6. **Public Forum**  
To hear from the public on any matters within the terms of reference of the Leisure and Community Committee.

HAVERHILL ARTS CENTRE, HIGH STREET, HAVERHILL, CB9 8AR

Tel: 01440 712858 Fax: 01440 718931

Email: [admin@haverhill-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@haverhill-tc.gov.uk) Web: <http://www.haverhill-tc.gov.uk>

**7. To Determine Current Grant Applications**

To determine current grant applications (see below)

- a) Haverhill Art Group
- b) Reach Community Projects
- c) H&D Twin Towns Assoc.
- d) Wednesday for Women

**8. Reports from Grant Recipients**

- a) Haverhill Silver Band
- b) Haverhill Art Group
- c) REACH Community Projects

**9. Community Ambassadors Report**

To receive a report from the Community Ambassador Co-ordinator. (to be tabled)

**10. Parish Handyman Report**

To receive a report on the work of the Parish Handyman.

**11. Youth Strategy**

To receive a progress report on the Youth Strategy.

**12. Volunteering In Haverhill**

To consider hosting a meeting of voluntary organisations in Haverhill to review the state of volunteering recruitment since the closure of the Volunteer Bureau and advise on what steps need to be taken to enable people to volunteer locally.

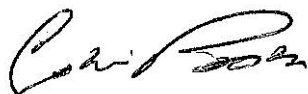
**13. Report on past and future Arts Centre and leisure activities (to follow)**

Written report from the Arts Manager.

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

5<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

**15. Closure**



**Colin Poole**

Haverhill Town Clerk

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016

*Copies of this and other Council agendas, minutes and supporting reports are available to download from the Council's website ([www.haverhill-tc.gov.uk](http://www.haverhill-tc.gov.uk)) or on request from Haverhill Arts Centre*

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## Agenda Item 8

Organisation Name	Purpose of funding	Amount Requested	History of Previous HTC Grant Awards	Amount Awarded
Haverhill Art Group	Support Costs	£300.00	2015 - £400 2015 – AGM - £200 2014 - £300 2014 - £400 2013 – AGM - £200	
REACH Community Projects	Seeking assistance with the running costs of the Resource Centre for the forthcoming year.	£5,000.00	2015 - £5000 2015 - £960	
Haverhill & District Twin Towns Assoc	Contribution to costs of trips and events.	£1,000.00	2015 - £1,000 2014 - £1,000 2013 - £1,000	
Wednesday for Women	Support towards Hall hire, workshops and general running costs	£800.00	2015 - £400 2014 - £4,000 2013 - £4,000	

## Agenda Item 12

### Volunteering in Haverhill

Haverhill Town Council has identified a number of roles that would be delivered by volunteers:

- Community Ambassadors
- Marshals for events
- Speedwatch volunteers
- Community Resilience Plan Delivery Group
- Snow Wardens
- Police Station Front Desk

That is just the Town Council's wish list. Nearly every charity shop in Haverhill has signs up advertising for volunteers. Away from the limelight, there are volunteers needed to help at many community groups, lunches, advice centre. In the background, there will be groups looking out for treasurers, caretakers, drivers. The Council's plans, plus the work of many voluntary and community sector groups, relies on being able to recruit sufficient volunteers to create and maintain a workforce. How we get all these volunteers is therefore a strategic matter upon which hangs many aspirations for Haverhill's wellbeing.

Until a few years ago, the 'go to' place for volunteering locally was the Haverhill Volunteer Bureau. This ceased activity as part of the centralisation of promoting volunteering through Community Action Suffolk. The strategy now is to promote good practice in volunteer management and how individual groups can go about attracting and retaining volunteers. But is it delivering as many, or more, or less volunteers?

Haverhill Volunteer Bureau used to place about 30 volunteers a month – 360 a year. Currently, within 5 miles of CB9 8AR, the [www.do-it.org](http://www.do-it.org) website has just 17 actual vacancies. This is an entirely passive system. It relies on someone deciding to volunteer and knowing what website to visit. Otherwise, volunteering is ad-hoc; either word-of-mouth or people being brave enough to walk into a charity shop and volunteer. Or pick up the phone having seen a news article in the press. If that is a mis-timed visit, call or the personalities don't gel instantly, the chances are a negative experience will put off people from trying it again.

The Volunteer bureau acted as a broker which people could contact without commitment. It used personal knowledge of the staff to consider what volunteering opportunity would best suit a potential volunteer and arrange a meeting at a time that was right for both. Even if the volunteering opportunity which caught the applicant's eye wasn't really right, they could immediately offer alternative opportunities. The Bureau also actively promoted volunteering. It put articles in the local paper and lists of volunteering opportunities. It had stalls at events. There is no doubt this method worked for many years and only stopped working because it was terminated in favour of a new approach.

**The proposal the meeting is asked to consider is** to work with Community Action Suffolk to call a local Volunteering Summit in September, asking as many Haverhill voluntary and community groups to attend. We can hear from them what they think needs to be done to improve the rate of volunteering, if anything. If they say a new strategy is needed to enable volunteering in Haverhill, the Council can then consider what its role – as community activator – should be in delivering that.