

Haverhill Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

LEISURE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Held on Tuesday 5th May at 7.15pm at Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

- Present:** Councillor P Hanlon (Chairman)
Deputy Mayor Councillor M Byrne
Councillor E Goody
Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor D Roach
- Apologies:** Councillor P Firman
Councillor M Martin
Councillor G Stroud
- Absent:** Councillor D Russo
- In Attendance:** Mayor Roger André
Councillor C Turner
Colin Poole (Town Clerk)
Vicky Phillips (Assistant Town Clerk)
Nick Keeble (Arts and Leisure Manager)

5 members of the public were present.

Welcome:

Councillor P Hanlon welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised members of the public attending that the meeting was being recorded.

MINUTES

- LC15 /025 Apologies for Absence**
No apologies from members had been received. County Councillor Tony Brown had sent his apologies.
- LC15 /026 Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations**
No declarations were made and no requests for dispensation received.
- LC15 /027 Minutes of the Last Meeting**
The minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2015 were agreed as a

ACTION

true record.

LC15 Matters Arising

/028 There were no matters arising.

LC15 Adjournment

/029 The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum. See Appendix 1 for Details.

The meeting was reconvened

LC15 Determination of current grant applications

/030 The Committee determined the following grants

- a) Haverhill Summer Bash - £200 to help with the setting up of a new group to organise and run an annual event to raise funds for local charities and good causes Proposed by Councillor E Goody, seconded by Councillor M Byrne, the Committee **RESOLVED** to approve this request.
- b) Haverhill Local History Group - £2,500 for 2014/5 and £3,500 towards 2015/16 rent for the use of the room at the Arts Centre and general costs of the museum. Proposed by Councillor B McLatchy, seconded by Councillor E Goody, the committee **RESOLVED** to approve this request.
- c) Wednesday for Women - £400 towards Hire of Leiston Community Centre for weekly meetings. Proposed by Councillor E Goody, seconded by Councillor B McLatchy, the committee **RESOLVED** to approve this request.
- d) Haverhill Silver Band - £700 towards Costs to be met to be able to attend and compete in the National Finals to be held in Cheltenham, Sept 20th 2015. Proposed by Councillor M Byrne, seconded by Councillor B McLatchy, the committee **RESOLVED** to approve this request and wished the band success in the competition.

LC15 Reports from Grant Recipients

/031 a) Haverhill Sequence Dance Club reported back on their use of a grant towards their trip to Great Yarmouth.

The Committee **ACCEPTED** the report.

LC15 Draft Grant-Giving Policy

/032 The Clerk advised he had received some useful feedback to knock any rough edges off the document. The Committee welcomed the new document and approved its use.

LC15 Report on past and future Arts Centre and leisure activities

/033 a) The Arts and Leisure Manager's report was tabled. (see appendix 2).

b) The Arts Manager thanked the Committee for its support and guidance over the preceding years and stated they could be justifiably proud of what they had achieved.

- c) Councillor M Byrne asked that arrangements be put in place to enable Councillors to meet new staff.
- d) The Arts Manager highlighted the good feedback received from performing artistes regarding the support they received from our stage crew and staff. Councillor E Goody proposed a vote of thanks to the staff of the Arts Centre for their excellent work.

RESOLVED

LC15 Date of Next Meeting

/034 It was noted that the next meeting would be held on 7th July 2015.

LC15 Closure

/035 The Chairman noted that this was the last meeting of the Town Council prior to the election. He was immensely proud to be associated with the events and activities put on over recent years and that the Council had not imposed cuts on what it provided for Haverhill people. He thanked Nick Keeble and his team for their work. The meeting was declared closed at 7:45pm.

Signed

Date

Chairman

Appendix 1

Public Forum

- 1 None.

Appendix 2

Arts & leisure Manager's Report - Nick Keeble - May 2015

ARTS CENTRE PROGRAMME

The new brochures are published and have been sent out. Tickets sales for Cinema have remained strong with Admissions for April 2015 being the best April for 7 years –The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel being particularly successful. May is looking less prolific while the programme for June and early July has some excellent films which we hope will do well.

April / May has been a mixed bag with good audiences for Wrestling, Travelling Wilbury tribute, Four Parts Guitar and Toyah but disappointing numbers for The Fortunes, Maddy Prior and Eastern Angles. May is a relatively quiet month before Centre Stage's Annie and Festival events kick in in June.

Visiting artists to Haverhill Arts Centre often comment on their visit to the town and here are two recent messages sent through:

'Thank you for hosting the show, please thank all your staff who are a treat to work with.'

David Coleman for The Fortunes

'This is just a quick email to thank you and let you know how much we all enjoyed playing at The Arts Centre on Saturday. You have a beautiful venue, and your team of stage crew and staff couldn't have looked after us better or made us feel more welcome. Everybody was very friendly and professional, so please thank them all from us'

Mark Dawson – Purple Zeppelin

STAFF UPDATE

Gary Wilson has joined the Town Council staff as Operations Manager. Gary has 15 years experience in the arts world working at Stratford Picturehouse and Stratford Circus Theatre. As well as being a key member of the Duty Management team, Gary will be responsible the overseeing the maintenance and improvement of the Town Council venues as well as being a lead for Health & Safety at venues and events. We have also appointed Nicola Harwood as a Box Office Assistant / Receptionist. Nicola, who will be working on Wednesdays and Thursdays, has a background in Event Management at a local wedding/party venue and is another welcome addition to the Arts Centre team.

VENUES FOR HAVERHILL

We have been doing some work on looking at the number of groups and organisations that regularly use Haverhill Town Council's venues. We have calculated that more than 40 different Haverhill organisations are currently booked to make use of the facilities managed by Haverhill Town Council. This includes 4 groups for Senior Citizens, 6 schools, 5 dance groups, 3 exercise classes, 3 Health support groups, 5 children and young people's projects, 4 social groups, 6 arts organisations, two churches, and 2 umbrella organisations. This shows the breadth and scope of who the Town Council engages with regularly through it's provision of venues.