



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Haverhill Town Council

Notes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY WORKING PARTY

Held remotely on Monday 9th December 2024 at 7.00pm

Present: Mayor D Smith
Councillor L Smith (Chair)
Councillor J Mason
Councillor L Miller-Jones
Councillor D Page
Councillor A Stinchcombe

Apologies: Councillor Q Cox
Jane Lomas (Committee Administrator)

In Attendance: Colin Poole, Town Clerk
Gary Wilson, Operations Manager

No members of the public were present

Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded Councillors that the working party has no delegated powers and can only make recommendations to Full Council.

MINUTES

ES24 Apologies for Absence

/047 The above apologies were noted.

ES24 Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensation

/048 No declarations of interest were declared.

ES24 Minutes of the previous meeting

/049 It was proposed by Councillor A Stinchcombe, seconded by Councillor D Smith, that the minutes of the meeting held Monday 16th September 2024 be agreed as a true record.

RESOLVED

ES24 Actions from the previous meeting not on the agenda

/050 a) ES24/030 Swift boxes: Save Our Suffolk Suffolks is giving a talk on 29th January in the studio at the Arts Centre. The Men's Shed will begin making swift boxes in early January so there will be an example

ACTION

<p>and boxes for purchase at the talk. Councillor L Smith will liaise with Sara Marsh regarding marketing and inviting schools to the event. Councillor L Smith has emailed Persimmon Homes to ask if they can consider including swift boxes in the design of their new properties.</p>	Cllr L Smith
<p>b) ES23/031 Eco-vend: The reverse-vending machine is installed in the Leisure Centre. An article in the local press showed a photo of the machine in Bury, not Haverhill and there does not appear to have been much publicity about this initiative. Councillor L Smith will contact Councillor Jarvis who is leading on the project, for an update on uptake of the service, and if the machine uses vouchers or an app/cash system.</p>	Cllr L Smith
<p>c) ES24/003f Tree planting Chapple Drive: deferred to the next meeting.</p>	Town Clerk
<p>d) ES24/039a Puddlebrook: Damien Parker at WSC has reported that they are in the process of engaging architects/consultants to look at the landscaping to make better use of this site. Damien Parker will keep HTC and Tree Wardens informed about how we can fit some trees into the new landscape.</p>	
<p>e) ES24/039b Chalkstone open space: The hedge plants are at the Arts Centre. Appointed contractors will be tilling the area where the trees are to be planted and the wildflower meadow site tomorrow. The land will be ready for planting by volunteers tomorrow afternoon or Wednesday morning. Once the land is ready Angela Wilson will be notified so she can contact Reach, East Town Park and Karen Chapple for volunteers.</p>	
<p>ES24 <u>Public Forum</u></p>	
<p>/051 No members of the public were present.</p>	
<p>ES24 <u>On-Street EV Charging</u></p>	
<p>/052 Councillors considered a response from SSC to concerns raised by the Working Party regarding inadequate charging facilities for electric vehicles, and the slow pace in supporting the move to electric vehicles in line with the UK's commitment to net-zero by 2050. It was proposed by Councillor L Miller-Jones, seconded by Councillor D Page that the Working Party feedback to Suffolk County Council and the EV Team, copying HTC councillors, with responses to SCC's response and raising further questions.</p>	Cllr A Stinchcombe & Town Clerk
<p>RESOLVED</p>	
<p>A vote of thanks was given to Councillor A Stinchcombe for all his hard work regarding this pressing issue.</p>	
<p>ES24 <u>Town for Nature and Togetherness</u></p>	
<p>/053 This aspirational initiative has not progressed as no further contact has been made by the Green Party member who suggested it.</p>	
<p>ES24 <u>Visit to Great Blakenham EfW plant</u></p>	
<p>/054 A date and time have been agreed. Transportation needs to be arranged: either an eight-seater or two vehicles.</p>	Town Clerk

ES24 Energy Efficiency

- /055** a) Arts Centre: our lead at Equans has toured the Arts Centre and his recommendation for the infrastructure and rescoping of the building is to use a holistic approach by dovetailing the next round of the decarbonisation fund (Salix) and working with HAC's Creative Director in the next round of the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Operations Manager has discussed this with the Creative Director.
- b) Clements Community Centre: Funding has now been received from the West Suffolk Decarbonisation Initiative Fund. The next step is to review quotes; three are required. One has already been received and a further two agencies are visiting this week. All quotes should be received by Christmas. The Operations Manager will circulate to councillors once received.

**Operations
Manager**

ES24 Kerbside Recycling plans for West Suffolk

- /056** The proposed new plans are to be implemented in April 2026. This will be an agenda item at a later date when further information has been received.

ES24 Eco-event in 2025

- /057** The Town Clerk will ask Sara Marsh to arrange a green market. If possible, music will be provided and a variety of food vendors.

Town Clerk

ES24 Items for the next meeting

- /058** Recycling stall at the market – it was discussed whether this can be resurrected as a Town Council, to receive items that cannot readily be recycled, eg blister packs, crisp packets, toothpaste tubes. HTC does not have storage facilities. There was concern that some waste collected by retailers might just be transported to China for incineration. Further information is required before fully considering this.
- Sharps bins – Unity Health no longer takes sharps; Haverhill Family Practice takes sharps for their own patients. The designated pharmacy does collect but they have little space as the bins are only collected monthly. Councillor L Smith will investigate.

Cllr L Smith

ES24 Date of Next Meeting

- /045** Tuesday, 4th February 2025.

ES24 Closure

- /046** The Chairman declared the meeting closed 8.26pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date