

Haverhill Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 28th April at 7.07pm at Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Present: Mayor Councillor R André
Deputy Mayor Councillor M Byrne
Councillor E Goody
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor C Turner

Apologies: Councillor D Roach
Councillor B Robbins
Councillor L Carr
Councillor M Martin
Councillor G Stroud
Councillor J Stroud

Absent: Councillor P Firman
Councillor P French
Councillor D Russo
Councillor A Samuels

In Attendance: Colin Poole (Town Clerk)

10 members of the public were present.

Welcome:

Mayor R André welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised members of the public attending that the meeting was being recorded and filmed.

MINUTES

- C15 /043** Apologies for Absence
The above apologies were noted. .
- C15 /044** Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation
None.
- C15 /045** The minutes of the Full Council meeting held 17th March 2015
The meeting agreed these were a true record.
- C15 /046** Matters arising not on the agenda
a) C14/030b Haverhill Clock

ACTION

The Clerk advised that the clock mechanism was being made. However, the proposed contractor for the work had re-assigned the engineers who had been working on the project, so we are back at square one as far as the foundations are concerned. However, as the location is now on borough land rather than the highway, the Clerk approached the Chief Executive of the borough and subsequently the borough recommended a local Haverhill contractor to do the works. The clerk said that although the delay was regrettable, the ability to use a Haverhill contractor was a silver lining.

The meeting asked that the Clerk write to the County Council to ask why they had only one major contractor for the whole county.

CLERK

C15 **Adjournment**

/047 The meeting was adjourned for reports from the Borough/County Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill and the Public Forum. See Appendix 1 for Details.
The meeting was reconvened

C15 **One Haverhill**

/048 a) The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to David Lock associates and the Borough, outlining the Town Council's response to the first round of consultation. The Mayor highlighted that over 200 written responses plus many attendances at events to respond to the consultation meant this was regarded as having been very successful for this first consultation stage compared to elsewhere. However, this is the initial consultation and the real debate comes with the proposals formulated as a result of this consultation.

The Clerk was asked to contact David Lock Associates to ask if they had any response from the Gurteens consultants. Any outcome of the Gurteens proposal – which the Town Council broadly supports – must fit with the Town Centre Masterplan.

CLERK

b) Community Ambassadors Scheme – The County Council is piloting a scheme in three areas of the County to support community activism. With some help from our area Business Development Officer Haverhill has been chosen as one of the pilot areas. The idea is that the work volunteers choose to do contribute to savings in the Highways maintenance budget, so the County Council can support that sort of work in-kind, through the provision of training and equipment.

The Council welcomed Haverhill's inclusion in the list and the opportunity to engage Highways in this work.

Councillor Byrne asked when the Clements Estate Clean-up is being rescheduled for, as extensive plans were made. The Mayor explained that the elections and Masterplan consultation diverted resources making an April date too ambitious to achieve. It is expected in early summer. Councillor C Turner asked if the Open-Air surgeries could be scheduled to coincide with this.

C15 **Adoption of Committee Reports**

/049

a) Appeals Committee

The meeting noted that the Appeals Committee had not met since the last

meeting.

b) Finance Committee

It was proposed by Councillor E Goody, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon, that the minutes of the meeting held 7th April 2015 be adopted.

AGREED

c) Leisure and Community Committee

it was noted that the committee had not met since the last meeting of the Full Council.

d) Personnel Committee

i) The meeting noted that the Personnel Committee had not met since the last meeting. It was scheduled to meet directly after this meeting.

e) Planning Committee

It was proposed by Councillor E Goody, seconded by Councillor C Turner that the minutes of the meeting held on 31st March and 21st April 2015 be adopted.

AGREED

C15 **Authorisation of payments**

/050 It was proposed by Councillor M Byrne, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon, that payments for cheques 10382 - 10484 totalling £110436.91 be authorised.

RESOLVED

C15 **Timetable for Internal and External Audit**

/051 The Clerk advised the Council that the internal audit was booked for 6th may and the External Audit submission date is 3rd June. The notice advising that the accounts would be available for inspection was posted on the notice board on 20th April.

C15 **Vote of Thanks**

/052 The Mayor Expressed his thanks and the thanks of the people of Haverhill to Councillors, Town Council staff and the four Town Clerks who have assisted the Council in its work.

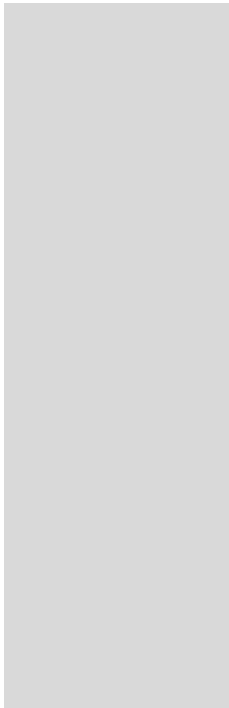
C15 **Urgent Correspondence**

/053 a) VE Day – Councillor B McLatchy asked if the Council could support activity to mark this important date. The Mayor advised the meeting that the official war memorial service was taking place at Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds, which he was attending to represent Haverhill. If some people in Haverhill want to mark it with their own street party, there is nothing to stop them. If the Royal British Legion organised something and wanted a representative of the Town Council to attend, we would.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that the anniversary was only 1 week away and it was rather late to plan something now.

If people want any advice from the Council on putting on an event, it would endeavour to assist.

b) The Clerk advised that the Council had received written confirmation of the Ill Health Liability Insurance for the Suffolk Pension Fund would be £3500.17, due 16th May. The meeting noted this.



C15 To Exclude the Press and Public

/054 It was proposed by Councillor R André, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items, as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential HR nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED

C15 Staffing Matters

/055 The Clerk advised that the Personnel Committee would be meeting directly after this meeting.

C15 Date of next Meeting:

/056 Informal (closed) meeting for all Councillors elected: Tuesday 12th May 7:00pm.

Annual Town Meeting: **Monday 18th May** at 7:00pm

Annual Meeting of the Town Council: **Monday 18th May** at 7:30pm

C15 Closure

/057 The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.48pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date.....

DRAFT

Appendix 1

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

Police Report:

No report had been received. The Clerk has received a response Inspector Ferrie regarding the named Domestic Abuse Officer replacement. The inspector had confirmed that there will be a named officer, but that person had not been confirmed at the time of writing.

County Councillor Tony Brown:

Councillor Brown reported the following matters:

1. He has heard back regarding the link to the old railway walk footpath in the vicinity of Howe Road. He has been assured this is a priority and would be progressed, once the outcome of a wildlife survey was known and planning permission was gained for footpath lighting.
2. SCC will shortly be publishing a cycling route map for the Haverhill area.
3. The layby on the bypass adjacent Aragon Road has been temporarily closed ahead of a traffic order banning overnight parking. He has asked for more robust barriers than just road cones.
4. He has chased new signs alerting drivers to the improved layout on the junction of Duddery Hill and Hollands Road.
5. SCC have completed cleaning the white paintwork on the bridges over Stour Brook.
6. Cllr Brown added as a final note his personal thanks to the Mayor and Councillors for their hard work over the two years he has been around and a special thanks to the Town Clerk and his staff that do so much for the town.

County Councillor Julian Flood:

Councillor Flood reported he had an informal meeting with a senior Havebury representative and asked that they join him in putting pressure on the County Council to release brownfield land for affordable housing.

Councillor M Byrne voiced her support for Councillor Flood's request, and voiced her concern that Havebury had appealed the refusal for their Nayland Road development application.

Councillor Flood also echoed Councillor Brown's thanks to the Town Council for their work.

Mr John Burns:

Having sat listening and occasionally making comment, at most TC meetings for the last 2 years or so, and regardless of whatever happens Thursday week, the work undertaken by Councillors of all political persuasions on the TC has been well appreciated by me if nobody else.

For those who are not standing again, for whatever reason, I thank them all for their service which, as we all know, is done totally as a volunteer. For those that are standing for re-election, or those standing for the first time, then I wish you all the very best for next week.

To Roger & Maureen (and perhaps with sympathies to their better halves Pauline & Jim) thank you for your sterling work in representing the town as Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively.

For the existing Borough Councillors, who do actually represent and support the town rather than some alternative master in Bury, again I express my personal thanks and wish them, and those standing anew, as many votes next week as they can gather. As long as not more than me of course!

Finally, my thanks to Colin, Vicky and the crew behind the scenes who support not just the Council & Councillors but the townspeople throughout the year, including answering often inane (or perhaps insane) questions from yours truly.

Mr G Savary:

Noticed that at Ickelton Place through to Ovington Place, surveyors appearing to be at work. Is this site at threat from construction? The Town Clerk will make enquiries.

DRAFT