

Haverhill Town Council



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Monday 11th December 2017 at 7.00pm at the Haverhill Arts Centre,
Haverhill, CB9 8AR

Present: Mayor Councillor D Roach
Deputy Mayor Councillor A Brown
Councillor A Bramwell
Councillor J Burns
Councillor J Crooks
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor P Fox
Councillor Q Fox
Councillor B Robbins
Councillor L Smith
Councillor C Turner
Councillor A Williams

Apologies: Councillor M Byrne
Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor I McLatchy
Councillor W Yang

Absent: None

In Attendance: Colin Poole (Town Clerk)

1 member of the public was present.

Welcome:

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

MINUTES

C17 **Apologies for Absence**
/165 The above apologies were noted.

C17 **Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation**
/166 None.

C17 **The minutes of the Full Council meetings held 27th November 2017**
/167 It was proposed by Councillor L Smith, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon that the minutes of the meetings held 27th November 2017 be adopted as a true record.

RESOLVED

C17 **Matters arising not on the agenda**
/168 There were no matters arising.

ACTION

C17 /169 **Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM**

- a) The Council noted the December SNT Report was not yet available.
- 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.

C17 /170 **Mayor's Report**
See Appendix 2.

C17 /171 **ONE Haverhill Partnership**

- a) The Board met on 6th December. The Clerk advised that the meeting discussed each of the strands of the business plan in turn:
 - i. Masterplan – Councillors are aware of the proposals for Town hall Corner. The Masterplan group are also looking at wayfinding signage and improvements to the shop frontages.
 - ii. Crime and ASB – the focus is on ASB associated with HMOs in Haverhill and the lack of support services for people struggling with substance misuse.
 - iii. Health and Wellbeing – The focus is on the Haverhill LifeLink social prescribing project.
 - iv. Culture – Looking at festival events for 2018.
 - v. Education, Training and Employment – the focus is on post-16 education provision. The Board received a very clear personal assurance from Tim Coulson, CEO of the Samuel Ward Academy Trust, that sixth-form provision in Haverhill would be maintained, even with the opening of the new sixth-form college in Bury St Edmunds. The Clerk asked that Councillors be alert to this issue. The new college in Bury St Edmunds will be a great asset to the area, but local provision is necessary. Councillors noted the high cost of public transport for students' families; if there was not local provision some people would be excluded from being able to access further education.

Councillors

C17 /172 **Adoption of Committee Reports**

a) Appeals Committee

The Appeals Committee had not met since the last meeting of Full Council.

b) Finance Committee

The Finance Committee had not met since the last meeting of Full Council.

c) Leisure and Community Committee

It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor C Turner, that the minutes of the meeting held 7th November be adopted.

RESOLVED

d) Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee had met earlier this day. The minutes will be considered at the next meeting.

e) Planning Committee

It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor L Smith, that the minutes of the meetings held 27th November be adopted.

RESOLVED

C17 /173 **Authorisation of payments**
It was proposed by Councillor P Fox, seconded by Councillor A Brown, that the listed payments totalling £65,647.60 be authorised.
RESOLVED

C17 /174 **Budget 2018/19**
The Meeting considered the budget recommended by the Finance Committee. The following information was noted:

- a) The pensioners' trips were subsidised at a rate of 41%. These were very popular and usually full subscribed. The pensioners were themselves ratepayers and this provided them value for money
- b) Postage – Councillor J Burns queried the cost of postage and asked that ways of reducing costs be explored and staffing input reduced.
- c) GDPR – The Clerk advised that there was insufficient information to conclude there was a definite additional cost of implementation associated with the change of data protection rules. Rather than allocate a contingency, the Clerk advised that any costs could simply be met from general reserves in the first year, if necessary.
- d) £1,500 for website costs for the Town Council - This may not be needed and could be used for IT costs relating to GDPR.
- e) Grit Bins – the cost of additional bins would be covered by the Street Furniture budget.

The meeting noted that the precept for 2018/19 would be £930,972.66, an increase 2%, equivalent to £2.49 a year extra on a Band D property.

NOTED

C17 /175 **Urgent Correspondence**
None.

C17 /176 **Date of Next Meeting**
Monday 29th January 2018.

C17 /177 **Exclusion of press and Public**
It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor J Burns, 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 Matters.
RESOLVED

C17 /178 **Property Issues**
The meeting discussed property issues which were taken in closed session to avoid breach of commercial confidentiality. The Clerk was instructed on what actions were to be taken and to report back at a future meeting:

- a) Draw up terms of reference for a community panel to oversee Implementation of proposals for the Chalkstone Playing Fields.
- b) Obtain quotes from professionals in relation to Council property.



Signed
Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

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

C17/169b) County Councillors' reports:

Councillor Q Fox gave the following report:

- a) He had requested a gritting report for the Highways in respect of this weekend, in the light of comments on social media regarding the quality of gritting carried out.

Councillor D Roach gave the following report:

- a) The pothole matrix used to classify potholes had been circulated to Members.
- b) Rougham Open Day was very useful and there would be more, which he recommended.

C17/169c) Borough Councillors' reports:

Councillor B Robbins gave the following report:

- a) He has reported potholes which have been repaired, but he expressed concern that adjacent potholes were left unfixed. The Clerk advised that the system that allocated jobs split urgent and non-urgent categories of work, which meant the workmen sent to do a job would not know of other reported potholes and not be provided with the materials or time to attend to them. This was something SCC Highways was looking to resolve.

Councillor A Brown gave the following report:

- a) He attended the listening event involving Councillor C Noble and raised concerns regarding the bus service to Bury St Edmunds and questioned why the pedestrian crossing outside the new Lidl store had not been installed, given SCC has been fully funded to do this work.

Councillor J Burns gave the following report:

- a) He had met with Planning Officers regarding differences in the completed Haverhill Retail Park and the approved planning application.
- b) The crossing outside the retail park has been raised with Suffolk highways.

Councillor A brown gave the following report:

- a) The graffiti on the boundary wall of the library had now been removed.

C17/169d) Public Forum:

A member of the public advised that a community care event took place on 8th December.

Appendix 2

C17/170 Mayors report for December 2017.

November and December are busy periods in the Mayoral calendar

We had a busy time over the start of November with all of the events leading upto Remembrance Sunday.

Its always sobering to go to the services where we remember the young men of Haverhill who fell in the first world war. I think its probably unique that the service rotates round the different churches in Haverhill and we have the histories of each of those young men .
The parade gets bigger and bigger each year with over 500 in this years parade.

I attended the opening of Golden Apples nursery which alongside its nursery also runs before and after clubs for school children.

I attended the annual St Edmunds dinner in Bury

I have attended various church services including the annual toy service at the Methodist church where the mayor receives from the congregation gifts of new toys to be distributed to the less fortunate in our society.

Our fireworks and late night shop saw a lot of support and several of the groups that had charity stalls said that it was successful for them. I know it raises a lot of money for the which supports a lot of good causes in the town.

The fireworks were spectacular and has been commented on by a lot of people both from inside and out of the town.

We are now into the carol service season and I have been to several now but am always a bit biased to ours as we are blessed with the Haverhill Silver band and they lift the service so much with their music.

I have also been to Steppingstones Nativity play at Coupals school which was also attended by St Eds mayor cllr Terry Clements.

I have also attended a Polish coffee morning and can report that the cakes were outstanding!

I have visits upcoming to various other civic carol services around the county.

Cllr David Roach
Mayor.