

Haverhill Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Monday 19th February 2018 at 7.00pm at the Haverhill Arts Centre,
Haverhill, CB9 8AR



Haverhill
Town Council

Present: Mayor Councillor D Roach
Deputy Mayor Councillor A Brown
Councillor A Bramwell
Councillor J Burns
Councillor M Byrne
Councillor J Crooks
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor P Fox
Councillor Q Fox
Councillor B Robbins
Councillor W Yang

Apologies: Councillor B McLatchy
Councillor I McLatchy
Councillor L Smith
Councillor C Turner
Councillor A Williams

Absent: None

In Attendance: Councillor M Marks, St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Dr Watfeh, Clements & Christmas Maltings GP Surgery
Mr D Pannell, Chief Executive, Suffolk GP Federation
Colin Poole, (Town Clerk)

12 members of the public were present.

Welcome:

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

MINUTES

C18 /018 **Apologies for Absence**
The above apologies were noted.

C18 /019 **Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation**
None.

C18 /020 **The minutes of the Full Council meetings held 29th January 2018**
It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor B Robbins that the minutes of the meetings held 29th January 2018 be adopted as a true record.

RESOLVED

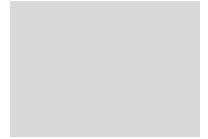
ACTION

- C18 /021** **Matters arising not on the agenda**
There were no matters arising not on the agenda.
- C18 /022** **Suffolk GP Federation Report on Primary Care provision in Haverhill**
Mr David Pannell and Dr Watfeh gave a presentation on the provision of primary care in Haverhill. See Appendix 3.
- C18 /023** **Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM**
a) The Council noted the February SNT Newsletter had been circulated prior to the meeting.
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.
- C18 /024** **Mayor’s Report**
See Appendix 2.
- C18 /025** **ONE Haverhill Partnership**
The meeting noted that there had been no meetings of the ONE Haverhill Partnership Board since the last Full Council meeting.
- C18 /026** **Adoption of Committee Reports**
a) Planning Committee
The adoption of the minutes of the meetings held 13th January 2018 was deferred as they were not yet available.
DEFERRED
- C18 /027** **a) Authorisation of payments**
It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor M Byrne, that the listed payments totalling £34,464.39 be authorised.
RESOLVED
- C18 /028** **Review of Internal Controls**
The meeting considered the following documents which had been updated to reflect changes where appropriate:
a) Review of Internal Controls
b) Review of Internal Audit
c) Terms of Reference, Specification and effectiveness of the Internal Audit
d) Risk Register
It was proposed by Councillor P Fox, seconded by Councillor Q Fox, that the above documentation be adopted.
RESOLVED
- C18 /029** **Suffolk Youth Parliament**
The Meeting noted that three young people from Haverhill are standing for election to the Suffolk Youth Parliament
NOTED
- C18 /030** **Urgent Correspondence**
None.
- C18 /031** **Date of Next Meeting**
Monday 26th March 2018.

C18
/032

Closure

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:07pm.



Signed
Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

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

C18/023b) County Councillors' reports:

Councillors P Fox and Q Fox gave the following joint report:

- a) Inclusive Growth Cabinet Committee met mid-January, before the meeting there was a workshop on updating the Suffolk Transport Plan - QF
- b) Health Scrutiny committee meeting took place towards the end of January – PF
- c) The School Travel Consultation has been doing the rounds and was in Bury St Edmunds at the end of January. This closes on the 28th February 2018. If you would like to make comment on this please go to <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/schooltravel> where you can find more information about the consultation - QF & PF
- d) Also, at the end of January was the children and Young Peoples Cabinet Committee, items like Raising the Bar were talked about along with making a forward plan of Agenda items – PF
- e) Corporate Parenting Board took place at the beginning of February – very interesting finding out more about what happens to the children in our care at SCC- PF
- f) I have been to a Child Protection review and a Child in Care Review as an Observer since the beginning of the year. People are always quick to knock Social Workers but they have a lot on their plate and if you could hear some of the things that I have recently, you would realise what a fantastic job they do. – PF
- g) Women in Local Government Conference at Westminster was attended. I come away thinking that we should have more Equalism in our community because it is not just Women that get overlooked in our society – PF
- h) Governor Appointments is another meeting which took place. A long way to go for such a short meeting and it would be good if an alternative solution could be found for the meeting such as Skype. – PF

- i) Scrutiny Committee met at the beginning of the month – QF
- j) Next day was a Full County Council meeting, where the budget was agreed for the following financial year. – QF & PF
- k) Jane Storey has taken over officially as the Suffolk County Council Cabinet Member for Highways transport and Rural Issues.
- l) There are still some issues locally with highways that makes it difficult to understand the decisions that are made. Like painting lines on a road that is going to be re-surfaced and not painting where it desperately needs it!

Councillor D Roach gave the following report:

- a) He is talking to providers and SCC Officers to try and get a new route for buses to Bury St Edmunds from Haverhill via the West Suffolk Hospital. Discussions have started but the public need to support calls for change.

C18/023c) Borough Councillors' reports:

Councillor J Burns gave the following report:

- a) The cPad boxes for East Town Park (ETP) was installed today (19th Feb) and Strasbourg Square will be installed this Wednesday (21st Feb). They are planned to be fully operational 1st week March. Funding for ETP has come from the SCC locality budgets of Paula & Quillon Fox and the generosity of Chippy's (for Strasbourg Square) with additional funding from the local fundraising team of the First Responders.
- b) Great Wilsey development. I have been advised that the first occupation is hoped to be around mid-2020 with phased approach over 20 years until completion.
- c) NW Haverhill. Archaeological and investigation work continues with a planned start on development itself before 27th March 2018.
- d) Still no news from the Borough Council as to who they consider owns Sturmer Arches. The graffiti is due to be removed this week by the Town Council.
- e) Some of the enforcement action taken against Haverhill Retail Park & Lidl Stores has been resolved in that the advertising hoardings on sides of the building and location of trolley & motorcycle parking have been accepted. However, work is still ongoing over the incorrect positioning of the footpath in Lidl Stores car park and signage at entrance from main road blocking visibility. Concerns over lack of waste bins in Lidl, and overflowing bins in remainder of park, are pending.
- f) Work appears to have completed on repairs to Barclays Bank building fabric however the replacement of the wooden columns, and promised repairs to flank wall further down into Empire Yard, remain outstanding. I have emailed the management agents.
- g) Work is ongoing at Borough over warding reviews for the entire West Suffolk area and some consensus has been made before the Boundary Commission are made aware of the views. They will have the final say but there will be a public consultation, which they often take great notice of, before making a final decision.
- h) Lights in Strasbourg Square were repaired last month. In respect of Withersfield Road I have now been advised that, due to the power to all the properties nearby now needing to be switched off, and a dentist practice being concerned that it does not happen on a weekday, UK Power Networks are meeting with SCC Street Lighting this Wednesday to work out a revised schedule. SCC apparently have been pushing for some action by the power utility company.
- i) I continue to deploy the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) around the town and have now installed in Howe Road, following concerns from residents about the perceived speeds in the road. Data from this will be collected over next two weeks and made available on the

HTC website. I'm still very keen to have ideas for new locations. Councillors and residents are encouraged to check their areas and let me know.

- j) The latest police reports were distributed to Councillors last week with latest reported crime figures.
- k) I recently had cause to complain to the Constabulary, and the office of the PCC, about continuing concerns over 101 response times. I have had an acknowledgment and awaiting a formal response. This is of course not the first time this has been reported.
- l) I recently attended the Local Liaison Forum meeting for the Greater Cambridge Partnership proposals over the A1307. A consultation period has now started over the 3 strategies proposed and an exhibition will be held at Haverhill Tesco on Saturday 10th March. Full details have been distributed to Councillors.
- m) I am still awaiting some action by SCC Highways over the dangerous and damaged bollard outside Martins Newsagents in the High Street.

Councillor A Brown gave the following report:

- a) He was meeting with Borough Officers to explore the possibility of additional sections of Railway walk being tarmac.

Councillor M Marks gave the following report:

- a) West Suffolk Hospital has a team to help prevent unnecessary admissions by providing support in a patient's own home. However, this does not link with Addenbrookes so the CCG are keen to see a solution to the bus service to West Suffolk, to encourage more patients to go there rather than Cambridge.
- b) Councillor Marks expressed concern about roadworks not being carried out effectively.

Councillor P Fox gave the following report:

- a) There is consultation on whether to have a mayoralty for the new Council for West Suffolk, by the Future Governance Committee. The Shadow Council will make the decision whether to ask the Privy Council for this.

C18/024d) Public Forum:

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

Appendix 2

C18/024 Mayors report for February 2018.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Winny Yang and Nick Keeble for their work on a great celebration of the Chinese New Year in Haverhill.

Appendix 3

C18/022 Presentation from Suffolk GP Federation

Mr D Pannell: The problem Haverhill has reflects that facing Suffolk as a county and indeed the whole country. GPs are retiring at a faster rate than they are being recruited. The workforce is therefore shrinking and it is particularly shrinking fast in Haverhill. The level of workload shared between GPs is such that it is causing burnout, leading to GPs retiring or deciding to work on a locum basis. Being a locum means that you have a very set workload and times of working, so they can manage their workload more easily compared to partners in the practice.

In terms of Christmas Maltings, the GP Federation has concluded that it is not going to be possible to recruit GPs except on a locum basis. They are replacing the phone system. When patients ring, they will be asked why they are calling and will be directed to the most appropriate clinician, not necessarily a GP. Currently only about 30% of patients see a GP; Christmas

Haverhill Town Council adopted the General Power of Competence on May 18th 2015. All decisions are taken using that power unless otherwise stated.

Maltings has a large number of other emergency care practitioners, pharmacists, physios – whoever is the most appropriate person. What won't happen is instant access to a doctor when a patient wants it. We cannot meet the expectations as they are. Currently, in Haverhill patients go 9 times a year to see their GP, compared to an average of 6 nationally. The service will be safe and appropriate, but it won't meet the expectations in Haverhill currently, of those extra 3 visits a year.

Christmas Maltings is where the non-GP practitioners will be largely based, with GPs at the Clements Surgery. Services that the practice does not need to provide will not be provided. An example of this is routine ear syringing. People can buy a kit from Boots.

GP Federation believes that this is practical, deliverable, safe and appropriate.

Dr Watfeh: Similarly, Haverhill Family Practice cannot recruit GPs and is changing the model of working also as it cannot cope with the workload.

Responses to Councillor's questions:

1. New leases have been agreed for Christmas Maltings/Haverhill Family Practice, awaiting NHS approval.
2. Not offering GP appointments at Christmas Maltings because there are not enough GPs available.
3. Appointments will be made via walk-in, by phone or online (On the Day appointments by phone – routine nurse and HCA appointments also online).
4. More people turn up to Haverhill GP surgeries with emergencies, because of the distance to A&E.
5. The volume of calls and appointments is very big, so if the system goes wrong it goes wrong quickly.
6. Haverhill is the first place in Suffolk to reach this level of crisis, but Essex did a year ago. Practices in Lowestoft also often have no permanent GP.
7. New patients will be accepted from March and asked to register on a quiet day.
8. The Walk-in service set expectations of immediate service too high.
9. Haverhill's NHS funding calculation uses the same NHS funding formula as everywhere else.
10. No-shows for appointments continue to be a major issue.
11. People leave it too late to order repeat prescriptions. They need to give notice.
12. As the town grows, more housing equates to more funding.

Mayor D Roach thanked Mr Pannell and Dr Watfeh for attending the meeting.