

Haverhill Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Monday 24th September 2018 at 7.00pm at the Haverhill Arts Centre, Haverhill, CB9 8AR



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Present: Mayor Councillor A Brown
Deputy Mayor Councillor J Burns
Councillor A Bramwell
Councillor M Byrne
Councillor J Crooks
Councillor Q Fox
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor J Mason
Councillor D Roach
Councillor S Roach
Councillor C Turner

Apologies: Councillor P Fox
Councillor L Smith
Councillor W Yang

Absent: Councillor B Robbins
Councillor A Williams

In Attendance: Colin Poole (Town Clerk)

4 members of the public were present.

Welcome:

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

MINUTES

- | | | ACTION |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| C18 /148 | <u>Apologies for Absence</u>
The above apologies were noted. | |
| C18 /149 | <u>Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation</u>
None. | |
| C18 /150 | <u>The minutes of the Full Council meetings held 23rd July and 21st August 2018</u>
It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor D Roach that the minutes of the meetings held on 23 rd July and 21 st August 2018 be adopted as a true record.
RESOLVED | |
| C18 /151 | <u>Actions arising from the minutes not on the agenda</u>
a) C18/116 – Provision of haverhill-tc.gov.uk email mailboxes: Councillor J Burns was looking at suitable web services. Given the proximity to the | |

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

CLERK

May 2019 ordinary elections, it was noted that this was optional for Councillors who did not wish to use council email addresses.

- b) C18/116 – ICO Registration: The Clerk advised that he had not yet completed this matter, however following clarification on fees from the ICO he was in a position to proceed.
- c) C18/127 – Police 2025 – The Clerk advised he had responded to the Police but contact with the Home Office was work in progress.

CLERK

CLERK

C18 /152 **Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM**

- a) Police Report: The meeting noted the content of the SNT report.
- 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 /153 **Mayor's Report**
See Appendix 2.

C18 /154 **Mayoral Allowance**
It was proposed by Councillor A Brown, seconded by Councillor D Roach that £2500 be vired from 102 4300 Mayoral Allowance to 103 1777 Mayor's Charity, as the Mayor does not wish to receive his allowance for expenses but donate it to his mayoral year's nominated charity, Joshua Tarrant Trust.
RESOLVED
The Mayor confirmed he had no involvement in the governance of this charity.

C18 /155 **ONE Haverhill Partnership**
a) The meeting noted the content of the non-confidential minutes of the Board meeting held 21st June
b) It was proposed by Councillor C Turner, seconded by Councillor P Fox, that Members of the Town Council's Volunteering in Haverhill TAFF be nominated to join the emerging Volunteering Task Group with the aim of establishing a Haverhill Volunteer Centre.
RESOLVED
It was noted that baseline data needed to be collected to demonstrate the impact of opening a volunteer centre.

C18 /156 **Adoption of Committee Reports**
a) Planning Committee
It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Q Fox that the minutes of the meetings held 24th July, 7th & 28th August and 11th September 2018 be adopted.
RESOLVED
b) Finance Committee
It was proposed by Councillor C Turner, seconded by Councillor D Roach that the minutes of the meeting held 24^h July 2018 be adopted.
RESOLVED
c) Leisure & Community Committee
It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor A Bramwell, to adopt the recommendation of the committee to register the Suffolk Punch public house as a community asset
RESOLVED

- C18** **Financial Matters**
/157 **a) Authorisation of payments**
 It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor M Byrne, that the listed payments totalling £128,254.48 be authorised.
RESOLVED
- C18** **Report of the External Auditor**
/158 The Clerk advised that the report had not yet been received.
NOTED
- C18** **Urgent Correspondence**
/159 None.
- C18** **Date of Next Meeting**
/160 Monday 15th October 2018.
- C18** **Closure**
/161 The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19:45pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

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

C18/152b) County Councillors' reports:

The Mayor thanked Councillors P&Q Fox for their informative newsletter.

Councillor D Roach gave the following report:

1. The Highways Management Operation Plan is being revisited to address shortcomings.
2. The pedestrian crossing on Coupals Road has been signed off
3. The Portfolio Holder for Highways has requested that works be done on Duddery Hill in respect of the abrupt change in levels (subsidence) as soon as possible.
4. Hollands Road problem with standing water has been raised with highways again.

C18/152c) Borough Councillors' reports:

Councillor J Burns gave the following report:

NW Haverhill: Met with planning officers to discuss concerns regarding this site. Details of the local site manager will be distributed so contact could be made direct if concerns raised.

Atterton & Ellis (Ironworks): Two youths were arrested for suspected arson; investigations continue. The Borough are considering their options and continuing the enforcement action over the state of the site.

Sturmer Arches: Still no news on this. Time has not allowed a visit to Suffolk Record Office.

We are still awaiting news over the retrospective planning application for the Clerkin site in Hollands Road.

There have been some prospective buyers for the old Woodlands Hotel site but cannot be revealed at this stage. I am awaiting details from the property people at the Borough as I want to try and retain the building due to its historical significance. Onsite security is in place following two cases of tiles being stolen from the roof.

The Borough decided not to take enforcement action against Sainsburys over moving Argos into its building. We are waiting for a meeting with Sainsburys over the traffic management changes they agreed to look at when approval was given to them for the reduction in car parking spaces.

New policing plans for the county have been approved reducing numbers of PCSO across the county by around 50% and increasing the number of officers by moving them from other areas of policing backfilling with civilian staff. We are likely to lose a long standing PCSO for Haverhill.

The Chief Constable and the Police & Crime Commissioner visited Haverhill in August and received quite a bit of attention as I was there the entire time. Also attending were local officers. Some good public feedback was received - virtually all around parking and illegal drugs.

Vixen Site: There is no immediate prospect of work starting.

The review by the Garden Waste (Brown Bin) scheme working party has been a very good exchange of ideas particularly around rolling subscriptions. We will review all the recommendations before it goes to Scrutiny and then full council for approval.

The "Oasis Shopping" bus will be back on the Market Square both early and end October. Despite some negative remarks on social media, their intention is to use the event to gauge interest and then look at the risk of setting up a permanent trading location in the town. They are in constant talks with the Borough over the potential, as they are in other towns, but the concept does appear to work (based on takings last time), and perhaps other such traders should follow suit and we make a permanent fixture in our dwindling market.

"The Works" shop recently replaced the "Select" shop in the High Street as they are doing in many sites across the country. I understand the Borough have already raised concerns about their use of the pavement for trading of goods and have recently had words with other businesses over A-frames etc.

I still continue to push the Borough over an arbitrary decision made to ban stalls for political parties, outside the Purdah periods, from all markets despite no discussion by Councillors. The legal department believe the market should only be for "traders" but I am not accepting that position as it's a very loose interpretation of a clause in the regulations. I will take it up with higher management as this is a decision should be decided by either Committee and/or Council. I have kept the complainant up to date.

Barley Homes: I have concerns over the viability of the two remaining sites, now the Arts Centre car park development has been “paused”.

The left-over bore hole in the Arts Centre Car park was finally “repaired” last week but rejected as being sub-standard. The contractors have been told to fix it properly.

I helped stewarding during the summer at the both Tribute Nights and all three “Fun Days” across the town. Despite the heat it was very worthwhile, and I look forward to more volunteers at upcoming events over the next few months.

I have recently represented the TC at the 1st year anniversary of the Burton Centre Hub where I cut (and admittedly had a piece) the cake and drew the raffle.

A survey for the town, as part of the Youth Strategy, was recently launched by the Borough Council on our behalf. This was developed in conjunction with students of Samuel Ward Academy (and others including me) to ascertain the desire for a new and/or updated Skate Park in the town. This is available at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/urbansportspark/>

The Borough Council is carrying out a town business survey, after input from me, to ascertain data as to what businesses want from the town and how they can help to develop it. This same survey will be carried out in all towns across Suffolk to bring together some useful data.

I carried out a market trader survey this summer on how Haverhill Market can be enhanced. Some useful ideas were received. I have collated the results for discussions with Borough Officers before we release the results back to the traders and to the wider community.

I recently attended an informal meeting with Borough officers over concerns I had over the way that surveys and consultations are carried out, specifically over the wording and apparent extraction of getting the “right” answer. Whilst I did not agree with everything said some useful exchange of suggestions were made, particularly over communication and method, that may make its way into future surveys.

There will be a Borough organised Xmas market in Queen Street this year again as part of the Town Council organised Family events.

I had a meeting with Gurteens recently to review the (currently confidential) changes now being proposed for the site. I am more pleased than I was 4+ years ago.

The comments received for the recent warding review are due to be published on the LGBCE website this with the final recommendation by them to Parliament in late October. The consultation has now closed.

Cllr A Brown gave the following report:

1. He attended a meeting regarding air quality.

C18/152d The Public

Resident: Advised that a recent meeting regarding co-ordinating approaches to dementia care and family support took place recently. At least 16 people attended and it appeared a useful meeting..

Appendix 2

C18/153 Mayors report for August and September 2018.

It has been another quite busy couple of months since July.

Main highlights have been welcoming French visitors to the town as part of Town Twinning. In addition, I attended the Children's Holiday Club at St Marys Church, the Inspire Suffolk Graduation ceremony at the Leiston Road Community Centre, which was very good to see young people getting a help with their start in life. I attended the Haverhill and District Flower Club's competition at the Arts Centre to present prizes. I wasn't aware that part of their volunteering includes visiting clubs to provide sessions in flower arranging. I attended the Joshua Tarrant Charity fundraising day at Saffron Walden Golf Club, the High Sheriff's garden party for Volunteers at Thurlow, Haverhill library children's summer reading challenge certificate presentation, where he and the Deputy Mayor handed out approximately 260 certificates. The Battle of Britain service and parade in Bury St Edmunds and the Choral Concert at Kedington to raise money for the Kedington Air Memorial Group.