

# Haverhill Town Council

## Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

### FULL COUNCIL

Held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 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 P Fox  
Councillor Q Fox  
Councillor P Hanlon  
Councillor J Mason  
Councillor D Roach  
Councillor S Roach  
Councillor L Smith  
Councillor C Turner

**Apologies:** Councillor B Robbins  
Councillor W Yang

**Absent:** Councillor J Crooks

**In Attendance:** Colin Poole (Town Clerk)

12 members of the public were present.

### **Welcome:**

Mayor A Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Mrs Jill Moss, District Commissioner for Girl Guides in Haverhill. Currently there are 1x Rainbow unit, 6x Brownie unit, 3x Guides units and 1x Ranger unit, consisting of 158 girls aged between 5 and 18. 33 Volunteers, including uniformed leaders arrange a programme based on five principles: Working together in small groups; encouraging self-government and decision-making; a balanced and varied programme which is girl-led; caring for the individual and sharing a commitment to a common standard. Mrs Moss also explained a revision of this programme, which has been in place for 30 years, which will bring an exciting new experience for young girls. The group are constantly fundraising, not just for a new HQ, but also to cover the increasing overheads such as insurances. Mayor Brown thanked Mrs Moss for a very interesting presentation and congratulated her on her long service and Girl Guiding for the work they do.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and advised members of the public attending that the meeting was being recorded.

### **MINUTES**

**C19**      **Apologies for Absence**  
**/001**      The above apologies were noted.

**ACTION**

**C19 /002**      **Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation**  
Mayor A Brown declared a Non-pecuniary interest in C19/005 as this was the Mayor's charity for 2018/19  
Councillor M Byrne non-pecuniary interest in C19/004(a) as her granddaughter was one of the residents of Mount Road who was asking for support to stop dangerous driving in Mount Road.

**C19 /003**      **The minutes of the Full Council meetings held 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon that the minutes of the meetings held 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 be adopted as a true record.  
**RESOLVED**

**C19 /004**      **Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM**

a) Public Forum – Residents from Mount Road attended the meeting to highlight the impact on their lives of dangerous driving in their road, which is a one-way road connecting Duddery Hill to Eringshausen Way. They recounted the number of times their vehicles had been damaged and that one resident had recently been pinned by their door being hit by a car. There is a perception that traffic is travelling way in excess of a safe speed for such a road. Residents want to see some mitigation such as speed humps. It was proposed by Councillor M Byrne, seconded by Councillor C Turner, that the Town Council amplifies these complaints to the Police and Highways.

**RESOLVED**

- b) Police Report – The Council noted latest SNT newsletter.  
c) The meeting received reports from County Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill. See Appendix 1 for details.  
d) The meeting received reports from Borough Councillors on issues pertinent to Haverhill. See Appendix 1 for details.

**C19 /005**      **Grant to the Joshua Tarrant Trust**  
It was proposed by Councillor M Byrne, seconded by Councillor Q Fox, that £1,238.67 be budgeted to purchase on behalf of the Trust, a new gazebo and advertising flags.

**RESOLVED**

Denise Tarrant thanked the Council on behalf of the Trust.

**C19 /006**      **Progress on actions arising from the minutes, not covered by this agenda**

- a) Representatives of EEAST met with town councillors again and provided responses to the FOI request. These responses have been subsequently challenged by a third party. This will form part of the discussion this Thursday at a subsequent meeting with EEAST.  
b) It was proposed by Councillor M Byrne, seconded by Councillor P Fox, that a sum of £4,800 for a shelter, in addition to the previously approved £816 for bus stops, be allocated.

**RESOLVED**

County Councillors Q Fox and D Roach offered to provide some funding towards this project from their locality budget.

**C19/ 007**      **Budget 2019/20**  
The Responsible Financial Officer provided a budget briefing based on the report considered by the finance committee on 22nd January 2019, setting out budget proposals for the 2019/20 financial year:

### **Budget figures 2019/20**

Income	£ 320,501.91
Expenditure	£1,280,300.54
From Reserves	£ 5,000.00
Balance	£ 954,798.63
<b>Precept</b>	<b>£ 954,798.63</b>
Band D	£ 129.44
Increase	2.0%
General Reserves	£249,563.32

- a) It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor L Smith, that the 2019/20 budget be approved.

**RESOLVED**

- b) It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillors C Turner that the precept be set at £954,798.63, representing a 2% increase on 2018/19, making Band D council tax £129.44.

**RESOLVED**

- c) It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor Q Fox that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to serve the precept demand upon the Borough Council

**RESOLVED**

**C19**      **Mayor's Report**  
**/008**      See Appendix 2.

**C19**      **ONE Haverhill Partnership**

- /009**      a) The Board has not met since the last Full Council meeting.  
b) The Masterplan Task Group held a 'reboot' workshop to recalibrate the workplan to match current thinking on re-imagining the High Street and sustainable redevelopment in the Eringshausen car park/Jubilee Place area.

**C19**      **Adoption of Committee Reports**

**/010**      **a) Planning Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor C Turner that the minutes of the meetings held 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 be adopted.

**RESOLVED**

**b) Leisure and Community Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor J Mason that the minutes of the meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 be adopted.

**RESOLVED**

It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor J Mason, that the recommendation by the Leisure and Community Committee to allocate £13,940 from reserves for the purchase of replacement stage monitors, amps and ancillary cabling be approved.

**RESOLVED**

**c) Finance Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor L Smith, seconded by Councillor J Burns that the minutes of the meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 be adopted.

**RESOLVED**

**C19**      **Financial Matters**

**/011**      **a) Authorisation of payments**

It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon, that the listed payments totalling £128,330.82 be authorised.

**RESOLVED**

**C19**      **Urgent Correspondence**

**/012**      None

**C19**      **Date of Next Meeting**

**/013**      Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**C19**      **Exclusion of press and Public**

**/014**      It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor C Turner, 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 – Third party confidential information and commercial property matters.

**RESOLVED**

**C19**      **Property Matters**

**/015**      a) It was proposed by Councillor C Turner, seconded by Councillor J Burns, that the Arts Centre Development Group are instructed to proceed with a feasibility study.

**RESOLVED**

b) It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor A Bramwell that the Council apply for outline planning permission for Bevan House.

**RESOLVED**

*Councillors C Turner and A Bramwell left the meeting*

c) It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor P Fox that due-diligence enquiries are carried out on proposals for acquiring a premises for the delivery of services to young people in Haverhill.

**RESOLVED**

**C19**      **Closure**

**/016**      The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:35pm.

Signed .....  
**Chairman**

Date.....

## Appendix 1

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

### **C19/004c) County Councillors' reports:**

Councillor P Fox gave the following report:

Winter is upon us and, apparently, we are due to have snow this coming weekend. The following link may give the information you are after regarding any gritting.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/check-which-roads-are-gritted/#tab1>

### **High Street**

There is going to be some work taking place along the High Street, as in footway repairs. The work carried out will include re-laying the worst areas of broken and unstable slabs on the footpath. This may cause some disruption and the Town Council will be kept up to date with what is happening. Parking – still needs tackling.

### **Haverhill Dementia Action Alliance (DAA)**

The next meeting is on the 11<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm at the Leiston Centre, with Andrew Cutting from Clements and Christmas Maltings GP Practices giving a presentation on Dementia and how the town and community can be more dementia-friendly.

### **Duddery Hill**

All Councillors have been badgering Highways to address the problems on Duddery Hill.

### **C19/004d) Borough Councillors' reports:**

Councillor J Burns gave the following report:

**NW Haverhill:** Work continues apace. We were briefed by Persimmon Homes at a recent Planning Committee meeting regarding progress and the comments made were posted on social

media with very good feedback from residents that they are being kept informed. Plans for the NW Relief Road are not complete and we hope will come before planning in next few months with the developer planning to be build the entire road in one phase. The new roundabout on the A143 is due to start this month with 3-4 months scheduled for the work. 66 houses are now under construction with 21 either occupied or contracts exchanged.

**Great Wilsey Park:** Pre-planning work is undergoing on this and I am trying to arrange a meeting

with the developer of the first phase, who although has been disclosed, has not done so publicly officially.

**Old Westfield School Site, Manor Road:** See <https://bit.ly/2DWN7TV>

This comes before the Borough Planning Committee for determination on 7th February.

Our request for funding to upgrade the railway walk, as well as steps up, met with support from the Boroughs Leisure Manager and now incorporated into the S106 agreement.

**Chapelwent Road:** This came before Development Control earlier this month due to objections made vehemently by me, and others, to opening up a residential footpath off Howe Road amongst other comments. The officers kept stating it was a pedestrian/cycle path whereas it is well below Sustrans minimums for such a purpose and was never built for that purpose. Everybody, except Borough officers, did not want it opened including the developer. In addition, the tree officer was adamant that no cutting should be made across the railway walk even though there is already one made naturally by pedestrians over the last 20 year or so. Some strange (in my view) claims were made about the railway walk including not having any lighting that could affect bats when in fact there is already lighting there along the railway walk cycle path. After some discussion we agreed to defer to allow further discussion and it comes before Development Control on 7th February with the link path to Howe Road extinguished. The SE link

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

to the railway walk will not be included at this stage however I have a statement from developer that a new application will be made at a later date to instate such a link.

**Atterton & Ellis (Ironworks):** No further news.

**Sturmer Arches:** Still no news on this.

**Clerkin Site, Hollands Road:** No further news.

**Sturmer Road Coffee Shop:** See <https://bit.ly/2rr65cX>

Further changes were made to the site layout however nothing changes in my current view and the TC has reiterated its previous objections.

**Offices above old Job Centre:** The owner has submitted revised plans which are no different to the previous plans including blocking off fire escape stairs. Although not officially reconsulted the TC has once again objected.

**Woodlands Hotel:** SEBC are still progressing talks with prospective buyers and hopefully an announcement will be made in next 2-3 weeks once commercial considerations have been resolved.

**Sainsbury's Access Road:** Still no news from the Borough officers over arranging a meeting.

**Warding Review:** I have received an answer to my FOI request to the LGBC. It would appear, from my reading of the response, that they ignored the figures provided to them as to where development on NW and Great Wilsey sites would go based on information from planners and land owners and assumed everything would be in one ward. They then claimed my figures were out by some 40% even though the error, in my view, was on their part. They also made claims that other items, such as historical ward names, was not supported even though from the consultation results this was not the case. A poor showing, again my view, from a government department. The local MP has been advised.

**Police:** The January SNT report was recently distributed as was the November crime statistics earlier. I attended, on behalf of the TC, the recent Police & Emergency Cadets parade in Woodbridge. Good afternoon was had by all and our Haverhill Cadets, well-led by PC Cheryl Claydon, were a pleasure to meet and talk to. We hope they will continue to grow and represent Haverhill SNT area proudly. Remember they are the first such group in the whole country! The vandalised VAS has yet to be cleaned of paint, but I hope to do that this coming week but have to take it out of service.

**SCC Highways:** We still have had no responses from them over any of the formal questions I raised with Cllr Mary Evans nor any response to questions raised at the "We Are Listening" event

in the High Street. That is now some 2-3 months and despite several reminders. Meanwhile Hollands Road still floods in the rain and Duddery Hill is damaging more vehicles and creating a road safety hazard.

**Street Trading Licenses:** I have raised some concerns regarding the issuing of these and the apparent unfairness in the fees charged. It would seem that private land is considered to be chargeable, if the public have general access, although only in the town centre. The myriad of food outlets on the industrial/trading estates and laybys are exempt in Haverhill and therefore pay no license fees. There appears to be no obvious work going on to resolve this even under the new West Suffolk Council licensing scheme. The current fees make it about 7 times more expensive (per hour) for a trader working one day a week versus somebody who works 7 days a week.

**Markets:** I am currently reviewing amendments to the market regulations to be introduced when the new West Suffolk Council comes into operation in April 2019.

**East Park Close:** I have been dealing with issues over fly tipping in way of the bins to rear of these properties. It is not known who the culprits are for definite but since the HWRC closed on a Wednesday the amount has increased. Residents are being charged by the landlord to remove this which is unfair seeing as they are not the culprits.

**Other work:** I have been filming various events including both the professional and amateur (Centre Stage) pantomimes which finished this weekend. Both shows were very good with the latter selling some 97+% of the seats and a very good time was had by all. Arts Centre staff excelled themselves in both their technical and auditorium management capabilities. I also filmed a Borough Council internal training session over county lines.

## Appendix 2

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

### **C19/008 Mayors report for January 2019.**

The Mayor reported that the main highlights since last meeting have been:

The Town Carol service at St Mary's church was a great success; it was good to see so many people from the town attend and take part, I think that everyone enjoyed the evening , we also managed to raise a good amount of money via a collection for the Joshua Tarrant Trust.

I attended the Haverhill Family History Group meeting to hand out awards to Charmian and Brian Thompson, Alan Bumpstead and Bryan Mills on behalf of the Town Council for their terrific efforts in organising many events leading up to our Armistice 100 Remembrance day. The awards were very much appreciated

Deputy Mayor John Burns attended the Police Cadets event in Woodbridge on the Town's behalf, a very good event I understand, with several Cadets from Haverhill also being there.

I was invited to Centre Stage's Pantomime 'Aladdin', as anyone else that managed to see it would say, it was truly excellent and highly funny; we are lucky to have such talented people live in our area.