

Haverhill Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

FULL COUNCIL

Held on Monday 16th December 2019 at 7.00pm at the Haverhill Arts Centre, Haverhill, CB9 8AR



Present: Mayor Councillor J Burns
Deputy Mayor Councillor L Smith
Councillor A Brown
Councillor J Crooks
Councillor P Firman
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor A Luccarini (from C19/176)
Councillor E McManus
Councillor M Marks
Councillor J Mason
Councillor L Miller-Jones
Councillor D Roach
Councillor D Smith
Councillor A Stinchcombe

Apologies: Councillor B Davidson
Councillor P Fox

Absent: None

In Attendance: Colin Poole (Town Clerk)

3 members of the public were present.

Welcome:

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

MINUTES

- | | | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| <p>C19 /167</p> <p>C19 /168</p> <p>C19 /169</p> | <p><u>Apologies for Absence</u>
The above apologies were noted.</p> <p><u>Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation</u>
Councillor J Mason declared a non-pecuniary interest in item C19/173. He is an employee of the Samuel Ward Academy.</p> <p><u>The minutes of the Full Council meeting held 25th November 2019</u>
It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor D Roach that the minutes of the meeting held 25th November 2019 be adopted as a true record.
RESOLVED</p> | <p>ACTION</p> |
|--|---|----------------------|

Haverhill Town Council adopted the General Power of Competence on May 14th 2019. All decisions are taken using that power unless otherwise stated.

**C19
/170**

Progress of actions arising from the minutes

C19/113b County Lines publicity feasibility report – The Clerk advised that he had arranged for a briefing to Councillors for the evening of 13th January between 6:00 and 7:30pm, in the Studio. Fellow Councillors from Withersfield and Kedington would be invited, plus others if space allows.

NOTED

C19/141 Extraordinary Town Council meeting on primary healthcare – Members agreed this should be called for January.

C19/143 Haverhill Area Forum – The Clerk has asked the officers from WDSC and NHS England for some dates in late January/Early February to hold a Forum meeting to discuss aspirations for a health hub in Haverhill.

C19/156b Road Markings – The Clerk advised that he had written to Cllr A Reid at Suffolk County Council raising the matter of faded white lining. He had responded, advising he had instructed a Highways Officer to accompany Cllr D Roach in a tour of Haverhill to understand the problem.

CLERK

**C19
/171**

Reports from the Police, borough and County Councillors and the PUBLIC FORUM

- a) Police Report – See appendix 1
- b) County Councillors gave their report - see appendix 2
- c) District Councillors gave their report - see appendix 3
- d) Public Forum - see appendix 4

**C19
/172**

Mayor's Report

See Appendix 5.

**C19
/173**

ONE Haverhill Partnership

The Mayor advised that the Board met on Thursday 28th November. Councillor A Stinchcombe made a useful presentation to the Board making members aware of the latest deprivation indices for Haverhill. Mr Andy Hunter, Headteacher of Samuel Ward Academy outlined his aspirations, subsequently published in the Echo, for a renewed and improved post-16 provision at the academy, serving Sam Ward and Castle Manor. It would provide science, technology, engineering, Arts and mathematics courses. Councillors agreed that the provision by West Suffolk College in Bury St Edmunds and the new STEM campus were excellent for those who could get there, but not everyone was able to do so, and public transport was inadequate. Councillors therefor expressed support for the proposals for a 'STEAM' Campus for Haverhill.

**C19
/174**

Adoption of Committee Reports

a) Planning Committee

It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor D Smith that the minutes of the meeting held 26th November and 10th December 2019 adopted.

RESOLVED

b) Personnel Committee

It was proposed by Councillor L Smith, seconded by Councillor J Burns, that the minutes of the meeting held 10th December 2019 be adopted.

RESOLVED

**C19
/175**

Consultation responses

It was proposed by Councillor L Miller-Jones, seconded by Councillor L Smith, that the draft response prepared by the Town Clerk

CLERK

Councillor A Luccarini Arrived 20:30hrs

C19
/176

Financial Matters

a) Authorisation of payments

It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor E McManus, that the listed payments totalling £119,586.95 be authorised.

RESOLVED

b) Draft Budget 2020/21

The meeting considered the second draft of the budget. The Clerk advised that following a proofing review by the Finance Administrator and adjustments based on the latest estimates, the proposed increase was now 5%, not 6%, making the additional Band D weekly cost 12.5p. The Arts & Leisure Manager had requested above-inflation uplifts for events. It was agreed that this would need to be presented to the Leisure and Community Committee in early January for more detailed scrutiny.

It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor E McManus that the second draft budget be taken forward to the January meeting for consideration of adoption.

RESOLVED

In answer to a question in respect of carbon footprint reduction, the Clerk agreed that it was non-sensical to be planning cost-saving activity such as replacing less-efficient lighting, to start in four months' time.

It was proposed by Councillor L Miller-Jones, seconded by Councillor J Burns, that the task of changing the lighting in Town Council and Community Trust buildings to be energy-efficient LEDs be commenced in January 2020.

RESOLVED

It was further noted that the LED floodlighting in St Mary's Churchyard needed complete replacement. The Clerk proposed this needed to be a separate project funded by grants.

CLERK

CLERK

C19
/177

Urgent Correspondence

None.

C19
/178

Date of Next Meeting

MONDAY 27th January 2019 at 7:00pm

C19
/179

Exclusion of Press and Public

It was proposed by Councillor M Marks, seconded by Councillor L Smith, 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 item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to unfettered debate as it would undermine this process and result in less robust, well-considered or effective policies and involves discussion of the performance of a third party contract.

RESOLVED

C19
/180

New Business Proposal

Councillor A Brown outlined a new leisure facility proposal which would require substantial investment by the Town Council. A discussion ensued on the merits of the proposal and potential for external funding. The likely timetable was for works to take place in 2021. Practical considerations including ensuring supervision and maintenance staff were on-hand were raised which would need to be investigated as this could impact on current third-party entities. It was noted that the District Council had offered a funding contribution and to project-manage the procurement/tender and construction phases. It was agreed that the project remit should be extended beyond the central proposal to enhance the setting in which it would sit.

It was proposed by Councillor D Roach, seconded by Councillor D Smith, that the project had Town Council support in principle.

RESOLVED

**C19
/181**

Closure

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 21:35pm and wished everyone Merry Christmas.

Signed
Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

Emergency Services Report

Ambulance service: report will be in February

Police service: Members noted the publication of the latest edition of “constable country”, the replacement for the police SNT report. Members made adverse comments in respect of the space given over for the PCC to make general comments being significantly larger than the minimal space afforded to operational area inspectors to report on the actual work of the constabulary. Members did welcome the positive outcomes of the Operation Sentinel and Operation Scorpion.

Appendix 2

County Councillors’ reports

Due to the upcoming election, the authority has been in pre-election period and meetings have been cancelled.

Appendix 3

District Councillors’ reports

Councillor D Roach reported:

A meeting progressing the new Local Plan did take place.

Flood on A143 – work was done and it was noted that the road did not flood during the recent heavy rain.

Councillor M Marks reported:

Health – A soft launch for e-Consult took place due to pre-election moratorium on publicity. The Clements practice has taken on management of the Steeple Bumpstead practice, which lost its GPs. The alternative was an uncontrolled transfer of 2,500 patients. Councillors discussed whether there would be any adverse impact on service for Haverhill.

Councillor J Burns reported:

- **NW Haverhill:** No further news. HTC still awaiting visit to planning from their rep to brief us on next stages.
 - **Great Wilsey Park:** Awaiting further developments. SCC Highways have now submitted 2 pages of comments resulting in a holding objection over the A1, A2 and A8 phases.
 - **Manor Road School Site:** Still awaiting first spade in the ground which was supposed to have started last month.
- Chapelwent Road Site:** No further complaints and work continues.

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- **Atterton & Ellis (Ironworks):** No further news. Work progresses on the adjacent site owned by the same owner.
- **Woodlands Hotel:** More work is being undertaken on this site because of land ownership and other problems that have surfaced. We await further developments.
- **Police Matters:** The December “Constable County” report was recently distributed. Awaiting November 2019 crime statistics to be published.
- **SCC Highways:** No further news on CPE however now election is over we hope this will be progressed ASAP.
- **Leiston Centre CCTV:** Work continues by Dylan and myself to patch and terminate the 18 cables that have now been installed. Power has been provided to the rack. Cameras and recording devices will be ordered early in New Year as looking at new systems for Zone and perhaps HAC to allow remote access to all the sites.
- **Car Parking Working Party:** This continues and final meeting due on 10th January.
- **Grant Working:** We met and decided on the applications. The results will come before Cabinet and Council next month at which time the applicants will be advised whether they have been successful or not.
- **One Haverhill Website and Email:** Latter has now been diverted to HTC email however awaiting current owner of the domain to transfer to HTC so that work can continue to have the new website (in WordPress) moved to a new HTC hosted solution thereby saving cost and time.
- **Lidl:** Met with planning officers regarding concerns raised 18 months ago over footpath location, motorcycle bays and lack of landscaping specifically in the Lidl part of the Retail Park. Whilst there a couple were nearly run over by a vehicle backing out of a space across the current footpath and the officers expressed some horror. They are now discussing with Lidl.
- **Other events & work:** Various software systems developed to assist HTC staff with planning and Zone finance plus changes to the Zone till systems. See Mayoral reports for events attended formally. Volunteered at Family Night & Fireworks on Friday 6th December. Great day except a tad wet. Due to film panto starting on 20th December in HAC.

Appendix 4

Public Forum

Resident 1:

Is the Council aware of progress at Westbourne Court?

The Mayor advised that works are continuing inside the building.

What can be done about the eyesore derelict building on the Atterton and Ellis site?

The Mayor advised that the site was still awaiting planning permission.

Appendix 5

Mayoral Report

Date	Event	Location	Comments
1 st December 2019	Toy Service	Haverhill Methodist Church	Gifts donated by the congregation handed over to Social Services for distribution.
7 th December 2019	Haverhill Singers	St. Mary's Church	Concert by the singers and Haverhill Silver Band.
11 th December 2019	Annual Civic Carol Service	St. Mary's Church	Well attended and very good event organised and executed well.
13 th December 2019	Stepping Stones Nativity Play	Chalkstone Way	Short but lovely play performed by the young people of this play group.

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