

# Haverhill Town Council

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

### FULL COUNCIL

Held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.00pm at Haverhill Arts Centre,  
High Street, Haverhill



**HAVERHILL**  
TOWN COUNCIL

**Present:** Mayor Councillor B Davidson  
Councillor M Marks  
Councillor A Brown  
Councillor J Burns  
Councillor P Firman  
Councillor P Hanlon  
Councillor J Mason  
Councillor D Roach  
Councillor D Smith  
Councillor L Smith  
Councillor A Stinchcombe

**Apologies:** Councillor L Miller-Jones  
Colin Poole, Town Clerk

**In Attendance:** Vicky Phillips, Deputy Clerk

1 member of the public were present.

### Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the meeting was being recorded.

### MINUTES

- C23 /017** **Apologies for Absence**  
The above apologies were noted.
- C23 /018** **Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation**  
Councillor Mason declared an Other Registrable Interest in item C23/026c as Chairman of the Haverhill Show, and left the meeting during this item.
- C23 /019** **Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023**  
It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor A Brown that the minutes of the meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 be agreed as a true record.  
**RESOLVED**  
It was proposed by Councillor L Smith, seconded by Councillor A Brown that the minutes of the meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 be agreed as a true record.  
**RESOLVED**

### ACTION

C23  
/020

**To note progress of actions arising from the minutes not covered by this Agenda**

**a) C22/145 Ambulance Response Times**

Councillor A Brown thanked Councillor A Stinchcombe for his report (**attached Appendix 1**). Councillor A Brown and Councillor A Stinchcombe attended the face-to-face meeting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February with senior managers of EEAST, Suffolk and N Essex ICB, the Town Clerk and Matt Hancock MP. Councillor A Brown reported the meeting was very positive and there was a realisation that there was a gap in services for Haverhill. Work on an action plan will take place which will include comparisons between towns, looking at Rapid Response Vehicle analysis for Haverhill, exploring the possibility of working with the Fire Service as a co-response, a visit to the EEAST call handling centre / Operations Centre and looking at Haverhill's position in the county as the fact that Haverhill comes under the South Cambridgeshire region could be having an effect on services. Another meeting has been scheduled in three months, rather than two, due to local elections. Councillor A Brown highlighted that Matt Hancock MP did a good job at intervening and was a great help.

Councillor M Marks explained that she sits on the Health Scrutiny Committee and this matter was put under robust scrutiny at its last meeting. Ms Kate Vaughton, Deputy Chief Executive of EEAST, has joined and is very focussed. Councillor M Marks further explained that the first responder team in Haverhill are extremely well trained, but are underutilised and promises have been made that this will be brought to into focus. A five-year strategy has been written and in the new plan every part of the integrated care system will work together.

**b) C23/10b Repair to the rear extension and provision of storage**

There has been insufficient time since the last meeting to action this. The Operations Manager will be producing drawings and this item will be revisited at the following meeting.

C23  
/021

**Reports from District/County Councillors on issues pertinent to HAVERHILL and the PUBLIC FORUM**

**a) Police Report**

The Deputy Clerk reported that Cheryl Claydon was unable to attend this meeting, but will attend the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March. Priorities are; theft of transit vans, theft from vans, Anti-social behaviour and rural burglaries.

Councillor D Roach asked if Cheryl could be asked about the tagging around town, that seems prolific.

**b) County Councillors – see appendix 2**

**Councillor J Mason:** see report attached (Appendix 2)

**North West Relief Road:**

- In addition to Councillor J Mason's circulated report Councillor Mason outlined to the committee that he has raised his concerns over the

lack of progress on the relief road with the West Suffolk Council Planning Officer.

- Councillor J Mason has received a timeline, which has not been agreed, with a completion date of January 2024.
- Councillor J Mason raised concerns over communications from Persimmon to the public to explain any delays.
- Councillor D Roach read out a press release issued by West Suffolk Council, which was to be released tomorrow.
- Councillor D Roach and the Director of Planning will be meeting with Persimmon later this week.
- Councillor D Roach reported that this matter will now go to Suffolk County Council Highways and West Suffolk Council Scrutiny.

Members further discussed their concerns and frustrations over the issues and delays over the delivery of the relief road.

It was proposed By Councillor J Mason, seconded Councillor J Burns, that a letter be written to West Suffolk Council and Suffolk Strategic Planning seeking the completion of the North-West relief road in a timely manner, this year, and for robust compliance.

### **RESOLVED**

**Councillor J Mason:** has followed up the reported exposed metal structure in Queen Street/Swan Lane, this is being dealt with by Anglian Water.

**Councillor D Roach:** reported that visits by Highway Engineers to pick up defects around town has restarted.

c) **District Councillors** – see appendix 3

**Councillor J Burns:** see report attached (Appendix 3)

Highways have visited to check road signs in Haverhill. The potholes have been fixed in Chalkstone Way, but not in Millfields Way.

**Councillor P Hanlon:** asked if the potholes in Duddery Road have been reported, Councillor D Roach confirmed they have been reported.

**Councillor M Marks:** raised the problem of vehicles driving over the grass verge outside Cineworld and parking in the loading bay, Councillor D Roach explained that West Suffolk Council are aware and are dealing with the TRO and CPE map.

**Councillor D Smith:** reported that Dentaid had visited Haverhill and had treated 50 people for emergency dentistry. Councillor M Marks added that the Integrated Care Board are taking on the responsibility for dentistry from March.

**Councillor D Smith:** reported a lack of services for young adults with learning disabilities in Haverhill and having to leave town to access services.

d) **Public Forum**

There was one member of public present who did not wish to speak.

Clerk

C23  
/022

**Mayor's Report:**

- a) Mayor's report – see appendix 4

**C22**     **ONE Haverhill Partnership**  
**/023**     The next Ops Group meeting is to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, therefore no requests have been actioned since the previous meeting.

**C23**     **Adoption of Committee Reports**  
**/024**

a) **Finance Working Party**

It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon that the minutes of the Finance Working Party meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and the recommendations contained therein, be adopted.

**RESOLVED**

b) **Energy and Sustainability Working Party:**

It was proposed by Councillor A Brown, seconded by Councillor A Stinchcombe that the minutes of the Energy and Sustainability Working Party meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and the recommendations contained therein, be adopted.

**RESOLVED**

c) **Planning Working Party**

It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor L Smith that the minutes of the Planning Working Party meeting held 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 and the recommendations contained therein, be adopted.

**RESOLVED**

**C23**     **Financial Matters**

**/025**     **Authorisation of payments:** It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor A Luccarini, that the listed payments totalling £61,868.75 be authorised.

**RESOLVED**

**C23**     **Grant Applications**

**/026**     To consider any grant applications for funding from 2022/23 financial year budget as the next Leisure and Community Committee is too close to the pre-election period moratorium on funding for any recommendations to be accepted at the following Full Council.

a) To note the current grant budget remaining unspent is £5,957 and that approvals of grant sums beyond this will be paid from general reserves

**NOTED**

a) **New Croft**

The Council are keen to support The New Croft and the grass pitch project, however, members would like to see more information on exactly how the money will be spent and suggested that the grant could be applied to a more specific part of the project.

It was proposed by Councillor J Mason and seconded by Councillor P Hanlon that the grant application be deferred to the new council for consideration.

**RESOLVED**

b) **Haverhill Show**

Members are keen to support the Haverhill Show, but have asked that the Clerk and Haverhill Show members meet to discuss moving towards financial independence, but that the grant will be awarded so as not to endanger the possibility of the show not being able to take place this year. It was proposed by Councillor T Brown, seconded by Councillor Roach that £2,000 be awarded.

**RESOLVED**

c) **Haverhill Family Café**

It was proposed by Councillor A Brown, seconded by Councillor L Smith that the full amount £2,160 be granted.

**RESOLVED**

d) **Explore Outdoor**

It was proposed by Councillor A Brown, seconded by Councillor P Hanlon that £6,554 be granted. A condition of the grant is that Explore Outdoor be asked for the funding be used as much as possible for the benefit of Haverhill children and that Churchill School be invited to participate. Members also asked that Explore Outdoor look at more forward planning for future applications.

**RESOLVED**

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

**C23** **Actions taken under delegated powers**

**/027** None.

**C23** **To receive urgent correspondence**

**/028** None.

**C23** **Dates of next Meeting:**

**/029** 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**C23** **Closure**

**/030** The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:52pm.

Signed .....

**Chairman**

Date.....

**Appendix 1 – County Councillors’ reports**

**Appendix 2 – District Councillors’ reports**

**Appendix 3 – Public Speaking**

**Appendix 4 – Mayor’s Report**

## Appendix 1

### Ambulance Service report by Alan Stinchcombe 17/2/23

EEAST & SNEEICB meeting 2/2/23

- EEAST's presentation:
- emphasised Trust-wide and ICB measures to improve ambulance availability generally;
- claimed that Haverhill has a C1 mean response time that is "comparable" with that of another "rural town", Saffron Walden, and seemed content for such towns to have substantially longer C1 mean response times than the Trust average;
- avoided any comparison between 2021 (before the withdrawal of the tethered RRV), and 2022 (after the withdrawal of the tethered RRV).
- They pointed out the obvious lower cost-effectiveness in saving lives of ambulances tethered to standby points in outlying communities rather than in a city such as Cambridge. I pointed out that a newspaper report that they had started a trial of a "new rapid ambulance vehicle ... aimed at reducing 'patient inequality' [in] response times in Fakenham and the surrounding area" in late 2021 indicated that they were aware of the existence of patient inequality in access to emergency treatment for C1 calls, but no one responded to my claim that Haverhill's C1 mean response time for 2022 exceeded the EEAST average by 43%. With ambulances concentrated in Cambridge, they did not seem to have any specific threshold for the resulting deterioration of an outlying area's C1 mean response time relative to the EEAST average that they would regard as unacceptable.
- As I had suspected, they do not yet have a computerised decision support system that would give managers frequently-updated guidance on optimal standby points for ambulances. It seems that this forces them to wait until they can see that they have a problem and then react to it. Tom Abell (CEO of EEAST) said that, in the past, they have had to rely on relatively infrequent service reviews by external consultants.
- I pointed out that an ambulance starting from Cambridge could nowhere near approach the national target C1 mean response of 7 minutes for EEAST's average; only restoration of an ambulance tethered to Haverhill could reliably do that within Haverhill. They did not deny that all the ambulances "stationed" in Haverhill are immediately deployed towards standby points elsewhere (or to current calls) as soon as they start their shifts. Of course, ambulances sometimes become available closer to Haverhill than Addenbrooke's or West Suffolk Hospital, from where HTC has been previously told that many ambulances have been dispatched recently, but they did not offer any insight into what proportion of the time this results in a shorter response time.
- Both Tony and I vented our frustration, but EEAST still was not offering any kind of review.
- Matt Hancock, who had been listening in online, then intervened, insisting that Haverhill should not be regarded as "rural" and clearly had a problem that needed addressing.
- For some inexplicable reason, Tom Abell immediately changed his approach, and agreed to review the data for Haverhill and convene another meeting in "2 to 3 months".
- This felt like a qualified success, although it is conceivable that this was all stage managed to enable us to go away "satisfied" with this glacially slow timescale for a review, which they should really have initiated back in December, in response to Colin's letter.

Later reflections on the situation

- Without a computerised decision support system, I can see how EEAST may have been tempted to help to improve its overall average C1 response time (thereby saving more lives, admittedly) by concentrating South Cambs ambulances in Cambridge where they are more intensively utilised, and lose sight of the need to pay proper attention to inequality of C1 mean response time between areas.
- It is not rocket science to understand that, especially during a period of crisis in the NHS when ambulance vehicles are relatively unavailable, the only thing that will keep the C1 mean response time close to the EEAST average (10m 42s for 2022) for a settlement about 14.6 minutes "blue light" journey time from Cambridge Ambulance Station is some sort of ambulance vehicle (an RRV being cheaper to provide and staff than a DSA, although the latter has the obvious advantage of being able to transport patients to hospital) tethered to Haverhill, or at least somewhere East of Linton. EEAST did not seem very receptive to that idea, so it is possible that I have not understood something about dispatching, for example, that ambulance vehicles more often become available close to Haverhill than we might have supposed. However, even when ambulances became much

more available in January 2023 compared with the last quarter of 2022, by measurement from the first graph in the presentation (not highly accurate!), the C1 mean response time for the Haverhill area in Jan 2023 was still 36% more than the EEAST average for the same period.

- One of EEAST's relatively infrequent service reviews by external consultants, <https://www.eeast.nhs.uk/EEAST-ISR-Report-March-2018.pdf>, had recommended a significant reduction in the number of RRVs in favour of more double-staffed ambulances (DSAs). That recommendation may have been responsible for the first withdrawal of Haverhill's tethered RRV in Nov 2019 and its second withdrawal in January 2022. This second withdrawal latter must have been being planned in late 2021, at the very time when a new tethered RRV was being trialled in the Fakenham area. Of course, if EEAST had been keen to take Haverhill's RRV out of service (after a delay, it was actually redeployed to Cambridge), the town should have received tethered cover by a DSA.

- Without a computerised tools to analyse changes in response times and clinical outcomes, maybe EEAST is really making decisions more in reaction to complaints, using trial and error: • trialling an RRV in Fakenham as what seemed like a sensible response to whatever it would agree as being an excessive C1 mean response time in that area and, according to the newspaper report, using feedback from patients as the criterion to decide whether to make that RRV permanent. • seeing if it could get away with redeploying Haverhill's RRV (again) to Cambridge, while increasing the Haverhill area's pre-existing excess in C1 mean response time. If that is the case, Tony and Colin will need a lot of support from other members of the next Council in continuing to protest against and publicise this inequity.

- As far as I am aware, EEAST has only ever deployed tethered RRVs on a 24/7 basis, which is why adding or removing an RRV has such a large effect in an area remote from a principal ambulance station. However, the upshot of the Haverhill review may be that EEAST will not agree to reinstate the RRV 24/7, and its analysis does not convince HTC that Haverhill has to tolerate a substantial excess response time in order to prevent even greater inequity elsewhere. In this event, I would suggest asking if EEAST would compromise by reinstating a tethered ambulance vehicle for the period of each day during which the bulk of the Haverhill area's C1 calls occur.

- I cannot find any NHS data on the distribution of C1 calls across the day, but web searches suggest the following:

Occurrence

Period

The majority of heart attacks

04:00 to 10:00

The most damaging heart attacks

06:00 to 12:00

The most ambulance calls of all acuities (priorities) in Singapore

07:00 to 23:00

The most ambulance calls of all acuities in Melbourne, Australia

08:00 to 00:00 • If HTC cannot obtain a satisfactory outcome from this engagement with EEAST, it may need to declare a "critical incident" to gain publicity as part of its ongoing campaign.

Subsequent developments

- Scope of the review Colin asked EEAST if they would widen the scope to include analysis of the root cause of the problem, rather than merely a limited comparison with "other comparable towns", especially as their idea of Saffron Walden being a comparable town to Haverhill is a bit of a stretch. They appear to have agreed to do so, and also include "reasoning" that might (or might not) convince HTC that EEAST really cannot find a more equitable solution.

- Reports that NHS England is requiring ambulance services to include an extra triage step for C2 calls

- You may have seen reports that NHS England is now requiring ambulance services to start performing triage by arranging for a doctor, nurse or paramedic to call many patients that handlers have provisionally identified as a suspected severe burn, epilepsy, or stroke or similar and categorised as a C2 call (emergency), in order to free up ambulances to respond to calls that really are that serious. This may result in some patients being told to visit an urgent treatment centre, their GP or a pharmacist instead of being attended to by an ambulance paramedic.

- I cannot recommend any freely-available report, as each one that I have read seems to include something that does not quite seem to make sense, and I cannot find the original source such as an NHS England press release. The best I can find is <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-64653483> but, even then, the second paragraph is very strange. It reads “NHS England is asking ambulance crews to review which emergency calls other than those classed as immediately life threatening can be treated elsewhere.” However, as far as I know, this is precisely what ambulance paramedic crews have always done. They have never transported patients to hospital unless their assessment of the patient confirmed the call handler’s provisional categorisation as C2, or some other need for transport to hospital. It is possible that it should have read “NHS England is asking ambulance services to review ...”.

- My thoughts on this are:

1. It is surprising that a paramedic or other HCP does not already start talking to the person making the call for all calls that are not obviously immediately life-threatening illnesses or injuries. However, suspected stroke is one of the provisional C2 calls that is quite difficult to diagnose over a phone. For example, if a patient is calling without anyone with them, they could be sufficiently confused that they cannot understand and respond accurately to questions about their own facial or arm weakness either because they have a urinary tract infection (urgent but not an emergency) or because they have had a stroke. A stroke is as great an emergency as a heart attack because the first hour is the “golden” time-span within which to get the patient to a specialist stroke treatment centre, so that they have a much greater chance of surviving and avoiding long-term brain damage.
2. As Tony, Colin and I discovered recently at the meeting with the ambulance service, the Trust has only relatively recently started to implement a system of “call before you convey” in which, after an ambulance crew arrive and perform their initial assessment of a patient, they call a colleague with advanced skills in triage to confirm that it is appropriate to transport the patient to hospital. So, requiring the Trust to introduce triage by an HCP before even dispatching an ambulance to a provisional C2 emergency call seems to be risking further delay, when the average C2 response time (to the arrival of a transporting ambulance) for this area of about 30,000 residents over the calendar year 2022 was already 1 hour 5 minutes (mean) and 2 hours 19 minutes (90th percentile). Even if these times are substantially reduced, adding in the approximate minimum 15 minutes “blue light” journey time to hospital, it is hard to feel confident that a very high proportion of stroke patients in this area will make it to a specialist stroke treatment centre within the “golden hour”.
3. Although this medical triage before dispatch to a provisional C2 call may be useful, it adds a second form of triage before an ambulance can even be dispatched, and makes a total of four triages before an ambulance can start the journey to hospital, when necessary:
  - a. Call handler makes a non-medical, provisional categorisation a call as C2.
  - b. HCP makes a “call before you dispatch”. Is this skipped if there is a delay of more than a specified shot duration in making this call?
  - c. Ambulance paramedic assesses patient.
  - d. Ambulance service colleague receives a “call before you convey”. Is this skipped if there is a delay of more than a specified shot duration in answering this call?
4. Why are so many more people calling for ambulances? Post-COVID, and as the NHS runs seriously short of staff, the population is in a poorer state of health. Simultaneously, access to GPs has become harder.
5. This well-intentioned step is trying to deal with some of the extra demand placed on the ambulance service, by diverting some of it in three directions:
  - a. Back to GPs, although part of the extra demand on the ambulance service arises from patients’ decreased access to GPs in the first place. The restriction of access to eConsult to working hours only, was explicitly introduced as a rationing measure to limit demand by many practices across the country, including ours.
  - b. To an urgent treatment centre, something that Haverhill lacks. A patient can only access the one at Addenbrooke’s by phoning 111 to make an appointment. It is not clear how an unwell, and possibly not very mobile, patient who lacks a car (or the



- fitness to drive one), and a friend who is available to give them a lift at short notice, and taxi fares, is supposed to travel to Addenbrooke's, other than by bus.
- c. To a pharmacist, although <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-somerset-64187308> reported a pharmacy owner elsewhere in England as saying that GP referrals of patients to his pharmacies, which are reimbursed at £14 each, had placed some patients and pharmacy staff at risk. "We've had people coming in with eye infections [or] Strep A. I [also] had a patient ... who had been sectioned ... come in and self-harm and was bleeding in the pharmacy. We've seen a large increase in the number of people being referred, sometimes inappropriately, to the pharmacy." So will ambulance service HCPs make referrals to a pharmacy any more appropriately than some GPs do in the eyes of a pharmacist?

## **APPENDIX 2 – County Councillors' reports**

### **West Suffolk District Councillor J Mason**

#### Persimmon and NW Haverhill

Works continue and Persimmon have launched an online consultation to find out what residents would like at the Local Centre.

[https://persimmonnhaverhill.co.uk/?page\\_id=367&fbclid=IwAR0hJUS4J9gLqK3tJzoJW-Zc6EAAAFv-GVdBPHUPe1b3mw8ULEdF4PsfxeE](https://persimmonnhaverhill.co.uk/?page_id=367&fbclid=IwAR0hJUS4J9gLqK3tJzoJW-Zc6EAAAFv-GVdBPHUPe1b3mw8ULEdF4PsfxeE)

I am still awaiting a date for the public consultation for the Local Centre I was promised this in November and the ongoing delays are somewhat frustrating. The Local Centre is of great interest to residents, and I am keen that initial plans are shared with the community for feedback before a planning application is submitted.

I am also awaiting an update from Highways regarding the S106 infrastructure: Cycle lane along Ann Suckling and Wrating Road, Crossing Points, Speed Mitigation and the Toucan Crossing on Wrating Road. Essential works that will make transport and pedestrians safer when the Persimmon Site joins on to Ann Suckling.

#### Relief Road

I have formally complained to West Suffolk Chief Executive about Persimmons technical breach of their S106 responsibilities in delivering the Relief Road by March 2023. This has gone to Cabinet. I have been promised timescales but these have not yet been forwarded to me. There have also been delays to the delivery of plans for the S106 infrastructure necessary for Ann Suckling Road, including a cycleway, speed mitigation, crossing points and a Toucan crossing on Wrating Road. Plans I was expecting last November. I understand these are nearing completion and agreement and I hope to have eyes on them by the next TC meeting.

### **Suffolk County Council**

#### **General:**

- No update on the Bus Stop works for Greenfields Way. Still Awaiting project timescales for completion from the LHB team. Waiting for some permissions from West Suffolk. I am chasing and will continue to chase this.
- High Street outside Specsavers has now been repaired. This was in excess of the 10 day working order. Highways explained this was lost off the system. This was repaired shortly after I discussed this with them in Ipswich.
- I am concerned at the damaged paving at the entrance to Queen Street and will be chasing a resolution this week.
- Dropped kerbs are being installed along Clements Lane and Duddery Hill Petrol Station. Highways inform me that works will be completed by the end of April. This will make access into Town from the Clements estate safer and easier for people using Mobility Scooters or Wheel Chairs.
- The Green Hero Award – SCC's Green Suffolk – Creating the Greenest County  
The public vote is now open! Click the link to vote. <http://www.greensuffolk.org/hero>

Please Vote for local resident [Nan Eshelby](#). Read her Bio on the Voting page. It would be great for Haverhill to have a Green Hero and Nan would be a very worthy recipient. The public vote will be open from Friday 17th February - Friday 3rd March 2023.

- Attended full Council meeting to agree Council Tax changes for 2023-2024. Suffolk County Council agreed its 2023-2024 Budget and 2023-2027 Capital Programme at its meeting on Thursday 9 February 2023. **As part of this, the council agreed to increase its portion of Council Tax by a total of 3.99% for the year 2023-24 (from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024) for Suffolk householders.**

The 3.99% rise comprises:

- an increase in the element relating to county-wide services equivalent to a 1.99% rise in Council Tax; and
- an increase in the element ring-fenced to help fund Adult Social Care (the Social Care Precept) equivalent to a 2.00% rise in Council Tax.

### **APPENDIX 3 – District Councillors’ reports**

#### **Councillor John Burns**

**NW Haverhill:** Work continues.

**Great Wilsey Park:** Work continues with occupations around the 55 level.

**Police Matters:** The crime stats for December 2022 were distributed on 7<sup>th</sup> February. The link to January 2023 edition of ‘Constables County’ was distributed on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

**SCC Highways:** Still no news on restoring the missing signs iwo the High Street following Covid closure - 16 months and still counting. They are now looking to redesign and reproduce new signs as they appear to have finally come to the conclusion the old versions have been lost.

**Combined Authority:** No further useful updates.

**Greater Cambridge Partnership:** Nothing relevant other than the work to extend the Linton Greenway near Hildersham continues causing some delays on the A1017 outside peak hours.

**Parking:** I continue to work on this but very little appears to be actioned by WSC. And nothing still about Strasbourg Square problems.

**Environment:** WSC are continuing to chase Havebury and SCC about the outcome of the walkabout on the Chalkstone estate.

**Markets:** I am awaiting a formal response to my email to management why nothing has been done about market review recommendations. Councillors from other towns are also having similar concerns and we are liaising.

**Fox PH (Wratting Road):** This is up for sale again. I did suggest to WSC it would make an ideal investment opportunity considering the location and houses being built around it. Probably typically no response after 3 weeks.

**Vixen PH (Millfields Way):** No further updates. The planning permission lawfulness certificate has not yet been issued and only have permission for the redevelopment of the site, not demolition or rebuilding. Any new owner would need to comply with that of come back to planning.

**Strasbourg Square:** Still awaiting plans by WSC regarding the planting – now some 20 months since they were agreed.

**Market Square:** WSC still not done anything to resolve the dips in the surface.

#### **Other work:**

- Continue to facilitate broadcast of TC council meetings at the Arts Centre.
- Continue to fix the occasional IT problems and supporting staff requests. Updated software for the digitals displays in HAC.

- Setup system for the Zone to provide local suitable advertising of events and also provide background music as/when required.
- Continue to regularly approve HTC/HCT invoice payments.
- Spent some time developing application for Duty Manager show report processing and zone/kiosk/coffee bar financial reporting.
- Preparing for reopening of Kiosk and Splash Pad in April.

Attended various HTC meetings including Leisure & Community, Finance, Planning, Civic & Community, etc. both physically and online.

#### **Appendix 4** Mayor's Report

Short period – but busy nevertheless.

Worthy of mention is my joint initiative with Get Suffolk Reading. Visiting 6 primary schools in both January & February and talking to specially selected pupils – seeing their work and presenting certificates & books to them. A real eye opener and it has gone down well with headteachers, teachers, parents and grandparents alike. Of course, the children are over the moon meeting the Mayor!! One more visit planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> March – World Book Day – should be very interesting!

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue &amp; Event</b>	<b>Attending</b>
1	25/01/23	Opening of The Link	Mayor & Consort
2	26/01/23	Get Suffolk Reading - Westfields	Mayor
3	26/01/23	Get Suffolk Reading - Coupals	Mayor
4	26/01/23	Get Suffolk Reading – New Cangle	Mayor
5	26/01/23	Get Suffolk Reading – Place Farm	Mayor
6	26/01/23	Get Suffolk Reading – Burton End	Mayor
7	26/01/23	Get Suffolk Reading – St Felix	Mayor
8	27/01/23	Holocaust Memorial Service	Mayor & Consort
9	28/01/23	Burns Night Dinner Dance	Mayor & Consort
10	31/01/23	U3A Presentation	Mayor & Consort
11	01/02/23	HTTA – Tree Planting – East Town Park	Mayor & Consort
12	02/02/23	Veteran Brass - Parkway	Mayor
13	03/02/23	Men's Group	Mayor
14	04/02/23	Re-opening Hundon Plough	Mayor & Consort
15	05/02/-23	Mid Suffolk Civic Service	Mayor & Consort
16	08/02/23	Colne Valley Arms	Mayor & Consort
17	08/02/23	Benny's 80th	Mayor & Consort
18	09/02/23	Get Suffolk Reading - Westfields	Mayor
19	09/02/23	Get Suffolk Reading - Coupals	Mayor
20	09/02/23	Get Suffolk Reading – New Cangle	Mayor
21	09/02/23	Get Suffolk Reading – Place Farm	Mayor
22	09/02/23	Get Suffolk Reading – Burton End	Mayor
23	09/02/23	Get Suffolk Reading – St Felix	Mayor
24	11/02/23	Haverhill & District History Group – Book Launch	Mayor