

Haverhill Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's



FULL COUNCIL

Held on Monday 24th November 2025 at 7.07pm at Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill

Present: Councillor L Miller-Jones, Deputy Mayor
Councillor A Brown
Councillor J Burns
Councillor B Davidson
Councillor P Firman
Councillor P Hanlon
Councillor M Martin
Councillor J Mason
Councillor D Page
Councillor D Smith
Councillor A Stinchcombe
Councillor J Teixeira

Apologies: Mayor Councillor Q Cox
Councillor A Luccarini
Councillor L Smith
David Roach Suffolk County Councillor

In Attendance: Colin Poole, Town Clerk
Vicky Phillips, Deputy Clerk
Inspector Matt Paisley
John French, Modern Slavery Advisor
Brian Thompson, Haverhill Museum

There was one member of the public present.

Welcome:

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

MINUTES

C25 It was proposed by Councillor L Miller-Jones, seconded by Councillor J
/151 Teixeira, that Councillor D Smith be elected as acting Chair.

C25 **Apologies for Absence**
/152 The above apologies were noted.

C25 **Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation**
/153 There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

- C25 /154** **Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held 27th October 2025**
 It was proposed by Councillor M Martin, seconded by Councillor L Miller-Jones that the minutes of the meeting held 27th October 2025 be agreed as a true record.
RESOLVED
- C25 /155** **To note progress of actions arising from the minutes not covered by this Agenda**
 C25/138 b) The Clerk confirmed he had written to Nick Timothy MP. Nick Timothy will be joining a meeting with Councillors and the East of England Trust on Friday 28th November. Councillor J Mason has made the Chair of Suffolk County Council's Scrutiny Committee aware that he will be speaking at the next meeting on this topic.
 C25/138 d) Haverhill Market – No further update
 C25/149 Health and Wellbeing Hub – Staff recruitment has started; there has been a good number of applicants. Shortlisting took place today, with candidates being invited to interview on Friday.
- C25 /155** **Reports from District/County Councillors on issues pertinent to HAVERHILL and the PUBLIC FORUM**
a) Police Report:
 Inspector Matt Paisley introduced himself and John French, Modern Slavery Advisor. Inspector Paisley and John French updated Members on the operation that had taken place recently on premises in Haverhill. He advised the council that John French's role is to identify victims of slavery, that is those who have been coerced into activities against their will, are underpaid and living in poor living conditions and to identify those who are putting these individuals into work and who may or may not be part of a larger criminal organised group.
 In answer to a question, Inspector Paisley explained that members of the press were present on the day of the operation, local press, Sky News and the Telegraph.
- That operation was one of many conducted across the country and they will be repeated in the future. The operation was highly successful, due to working in collaboration with the community and other partners. Such operations can sometimes attract negative perceptions, particularly when premises are identified publicly, but emphasised that the police and partner agencies will tackle any premises operating illegally. The work extends far beyond what is found on the day and includes examining ownership, tenancy, financial arrangements, immigration status, and potential links to wider organised criminality. The operation was collaborative, involving partners such as the National Crime Agency, the Fire Service, local authority teams, and Immigration Enforcement. The aims were to safeguard vulnerable individuals, protect the public, and educate communities about the wider issues of human trafficking, exploitation, illegal working, counterfeit goods, and unsafe trading practices. Communication with the public had been well received, and press coverage had helped address misconceptions around immigration by highlighting the realities of modern slavery and human exploitation.
- In response to a question about why the businesses in question were allowed to continue operating, Inspector Paisley explained that the police have limited specific powers to close premises, but closure decisions often fall to other lead agencies depending on the circumstances. Investigations

can take time and resource, but intelligence about any premises remains under continual review.

Three local premises were found to have people living on site in unsafe conditions. All were revisited by the Fire Service and local authority housing enforcement; one has since received a prohibition notice, and the others have sealed off areas previously used for accommodation. Ongoing checks will continue. One premises was found to have an illegal worker, and Immigration Enforcement is pursuing a civil penalty referral notice, fines of up to £65,000 per illegal worker, part of a wider county-wide approach that has so far resulted in nine notices being issued.

Inspector Paisley also addressed concerns about victim welfare and explained that support is offered through the National Referral Mechanism where individuals consent, and a “duty to refer” applies even when help is declined. Victims are provided with information on how to seek assistance in future, recognising that many have experienced trauma or distrust of police in their home countries. Specially trained Victim Liaison Officers are deployed on all operations to provide immediate support to vulnerable individuals.

b) Ambulance Report: (appendix i)

A report was circulated by Councillor Stinchcombe on ambulance response times, ahead of a meeting with EEAST on Friday 28th November. Councillor J Mason will also raise at Scrutiny.

c) County Councillors: (see Appendix ii)

Councillor Mason had circulated his report ahead of the meeting. Councillor Mason requested for Councillors to pass on any information they have on the Widdington Recycling site regarding their use of business.

Parking on Bypass: Councillor J Mason has reported the overnight parking on the bypass, which he has passed to West Suffolk.

d) District Councillors:

Councillor D Smith reported the District Council are working with the Football Federation on funding new changing rooms at Puddlebrook.

e) Town Councillors: (see Appendix iii)

Councillor Burns had circulated his report.

f) Public Forum: None.

C25 **Mayor's Report**

/156 Mayor Cox had submitted his report (appendix iv).

C25 **ONE Haverhill Partnership**

/157 The Clerk reported that the ONE Haverhill Board Meeting had met for two separate online meetings, with Nicola Beach and Ian Gallin who gave briefings on Local Government Reorganisation proposals. The Clerk to circulate the slides shown at the presentations.

Members requested that the town council submit a response to the consultation, being careful to stay neutral and non-political but to highlight what they felt was best for Haverhill. The Clerk will draw up a proposal.

CP

CP

C25 /158	<p><u>Financial Matters</u></p> <p>a) <u>Authorisation of payments</u>: It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor J Mason that the listed payments totalling £106,216.25 be authorised. RESOLVED</p> <p>b) Members noted that the insurances have been reviewed by the RFO and placed with Hiscox via Gallaghers insurance brokers for the Town Council. The Soft Play centre remains with DOA through David J Miller insurance brokers.</p> <p>c) The Clerk highlighted points in the draft budget. The £3,000 one-off event budget still had VE/VJ day against it, this would be updated to whatever one-off event was relevant in 2026. The Clerk requested two councillors volunteer to check over the budget figures, Councillor J Teixeira and Councillor Burns put their names forward. It was proposed by Councillor L Miller-Jones and seconded by Councillor J Burns that the first draft be adopted. RESOLVED</p> <p>d) <u>Grant Policy</u> It was proposed by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Miller-Jones that the amended policy be adopted. RESOLVED</p>	CP
C25 /159	<p><u>Consultation on proposed changes to the West Suffolk Council Tax reduction scheme</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor L Miller-Jones, seconded by Councillor D Page to approve the draft response. RESOLVED</p>	
C25 /160	<p><u>Grant Applications</u></p> <p>a) <u>Local History Museum, Trail Tale in Haverhill</u> For members to consider commissioning a joint project with the Local History Museum to promote the town to visitors. B Thompson explained to members about a free telephone-based app which can lead visitors on a trail around Haverhill's points of historic interest. Councillor J Burns proposed, and Councillor L Miller-Jones seconded that £2,995.00 be allocated to this project. RESOLVED</p> <p>b) <u>Abbeycroft Leisure HAF</u> It was proposed by Councillor A Brown, seconded by Councillor D Page, that the amount of £4,000.28 be awarded. RESOLVED</p>	
C25 /161	<p><u>Adoption of Committee Reports</u></p> <p>a) <u>Leisure</u>: It was proposed by Councillor J Burns, seconded by Councillor J Teixeira, that the minutes of the meeting held 11th November 2025 and any recommendations contained therein, be agreed as a true record. RESOLVED</p> <p>b) <u>Planning</u>: It was proposed by Councillor P Hanlon, seconded by Councillor M Martin, that the minutes of the meeting held 17th November 2025 and any recommendations contained therein, be agreed as a true record. RESOLVED</p>	

C25 Date of Next Meeting

/162 The next meeting will be held on Monday 15th December 2025.

C25 Exclusion of the Press and Public

/163 It was proposed by Councillor A Stinchcombe, seconded by Councillor M Martin 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.

RESOLVED

C25 Vision 2030

/164 It was proposed by Councillor L Miller-Jones, seconded by Councillor M Martin that the sum of £5,000 be allocated towards the cost of a business plan for the project.

RESOLVED

C25 Closure

/165 The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed Date.....
Chairman

Appendix i) – Ambulance Response times

Appendix ii) - County Councillors' reports

Appendix iii – Town Councillors' reports

Appendix iv) – Mayor's report

Appendix (i)

Ambulance response times statistics report

Although it might be unreasonable to expect C1 response times in Haverhill to equal those in Cambridge, the contrast between Haverhill and Cambridge is informative:

Averages of monthly C1 response times over last 12 months ¹			
	Haverhill ²	Cambridge ²	Percentage by which Haverhill exceeds Cambridge
C1 Mean	00:12:25	00:06:39	87% (5.8 minutes extra)
C1 90th Percentile	00:24:02	00:11:23	111% (12.7 minutes extra)

We should remember that the 90th percentile is the minimum response time for the greatest 10% of response times. It does not tell us how long the longest response times were. To see any improvement over time, the following table extends the contrast between Haverhill and Cambridge over the last three 12-month periods:

Percentage by which Haverhill's rolling 12-month average of monthly C1 response times exceeds Cambridge's			
	Nov 2022- Oct 2023	Nov 2023 – Oct 2024	Nov 2024 – Oct 2025
C1 Mean	102%	102%	87%
C1 90 th Percentile	106%	116%	111%

The large gap in C1 90th Percentile performance has not significantly reduced. The most recent 12-month period shows a small but welcome reduction of the gap in C1 Mean performance, but we should remember that:

- The gap in C1 Mean performance is still an extra 5.8 minutes.
- In only eight out of the 46 months since the beginning of 2022, has Haverhill's C1 Mean been less than Cambridge's C1 90th Percentile.

¹ Monthly C1 response time statistics fluctuate as a result of seasonal variations in weather and infectious diseases, particularly for Haverhill, which has a much smaller number of C1 incidents each month than Cambridge. So, a good statistic is a rolling 12-month average.

² Haverhill and Cambridge data are drawn from pages 2 and 6 of

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjojODZjMDQyOTAtNzAwOC00MGnkLWFjZGItYTBiMGwZjg0M2UxIiwidCI6IjVhMTcxNzNjLTc3YWYtNDk3Ny05OTNkLUUxZjhiYTU5ZWY1ZiJ9.>

Appendix (ii)
County and District Councillor Report, November 2025

Cllr Joe Mason
In this report

1. Suffolk County Council News
2. Relief Road
3. Highways Update
4. Active Travel, Cyclists, Pedestrians and Rights of Way
5. Haverhill Library Toilet
6. Widdington Recycling Limited (MRF Application)
7. Ambulance Service and Response Times in Haverhill
8. EV Charging Installations
9. Banking Hub Cash Point
10. Persimmon & Havebury (Landscaping & Maintenance Issues)
11. Blue Lights Hub
12. West Suffolk Council News & Updates
13. Community

1. Suffolk County Council News

One Suffolk plan gains county-wide backing as Government launches consultation

Suffolk community leaders from the worlds of business, health, social care, agriculture and tourism, have backed a plan to scrap Suffolk's six councils and replace them with one council delivering all county-wide and local services.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/one-suffolk-plan-gains-county-wide-backing-as-government-launches-consultation>

Suffolk County Council continues to drive electric vehicle progress

Suffolk County Council recently welcomed Keir Mather MP, government Minister for Aviation, Maritime and Decarbonisation, to the county to show how the council is leading the way with electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure for its residents.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/suffolk-county-council-continues-to-drive-electric-vehicle-progress>

Ofsted Focused Visit finds 'early signs of improvement' in Front Door Children's Services

Following on from last year's Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS), Ofsted has carried out a Focused Visit to assess the progress of the authority's 'Front Door services'. These are initial contacts and responses to requests for help from children and families. The report, which noted 'early signs of improvement beginning to emerge' found:

- Children identified as at risk of harm receive prompt and appropriate responses with strong oversight and swift multi-agency collaboration
- Clear investment and support from the whole council for children's services
- High staff morale, stable workforce, strong peer and managerial support maintaining consistency for families despite leadership change

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/ofsted-focused-visit-finds-early-signs-of-improvement-in-front-door-childrens-services>

New Armed Forces Covenant for Suffolk

A new pledge to support our serving and former personnel has been signed by Suffolk County Council.

As Britain prepares to honour its war dead in Remembrance Week a new pledge to support our serving and former personnel has been signed by Suffolk County Council. The council is a signatory to the Armed Forces Covenant, a formal pledge by the nation to ensure that members of the military community—those who serve or have served, and their families—are treated fairly and with respect...

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/new-armed-forces-covenant-for-suffolk>

2. Relief Road

The relief road is open and continues to be well received. The signage is now up, though Persimmon are waiting sign off from county on the Lorry route signs.

Heras Fencing is not functioning as intended. Speed data is being analysed and a decision will be made regarding whether to keep or remove the Hera Fencing.

3. Highways Update

- **Haverhill Town Centre Signs & Ehringhausen Way**

Signs have been ordered and the order is now with M Group (previously Milestone) – awaiting installation

- **Allington Walk**

This road is still scheduled a resurface but has been pushed back to February – No further update.

- **Bypass/ A1307 cutback and signage issues**

Both Cllr Roach and I have continued to lobby for additional funding to prioritise a cutback. This has not been an easy discussion as there are similar issues across the county, and the issue is not just restricted to Suffolk. We have offered Highways locality funding to help get this over the line and I hope to have an update for the December Town Council meeting.

4. Active Travel, Cyclists, Pedestrians and Rights of Way

- **Haverhill Local Transport Plan**

I again made representations to officers given to me from Town Councillors comments following discussion last February. The HLTP is progressing and officers are identifying projects for delivery across the Town. When I have more, I will share.

- **New Pelican/Toucan Crossing on Wratting Road**

This is progressing well, though still no date for the installation.

- **Consultation on Raised Table on Ann Suckling Road**

A consultation has been taking place for the raised table crossing point on Ann Suckling Road. This is something I have lobbied Highways and Persimmon for the last 4 years, based on concerns raised to me by residents. This raised table will act as both speed mitigation and providing a safer crossing point from the Persimmon development to the Boyton Hall Estate. I am awaiting the outcome of the consultation from officers.

- **Greenfields Way dropped Kerbs & Path from Clements School to The Doctors Surgery (Bus Stop)**

Still awaiting notification of an installation date. It had been paused due to other planned works on Greenfield Way. This has not been lifted but is still likely 12 weeks away from delivery.

- **Bus Improvement Scheme**

Carried out public engagement on RTI boards for the bus station and passed on to officers at SCC. Proposal endorsed by Cllr David Roach & myself. Some technical hurdles remain but I am hoping that an announcement can be made in the months ahead. Representations have been made for improvements to Bus Shelter infrastructure for Chivers Road and Chimswell Way.

5. Haverhill Library Toilet

No further update – awaiting S106 monies to be released to fund the Toilet project. Persimmon are now very close to 500 occupied units triggering the release of funds. Awaiting confirmation so that monies can be released for works to commence.

6. Widdington MRF Planning Application

This is now slated for Decembers Development & Control meeting. My intent is to attend and speak on this application when it goes to committee. I would welcome representations made to me by local members that I can share on your behalf.

7. Ambulance Service and Response Times in Haverhill

I have spoken with the new Chair of the committee Cllr Liz Harsant and I plan to speak at the public Questions part of the next meeting in January. I have emailed Cllrs Stinchcombe and Cllr Brown seeking guidance on what they would specifically like raised. I am happy to receive representations made by other members.

8. EV Charging Installations

Believ, who are currently integrating the “A” sites that haven’t already been looked at into their survey programme. Meanwhile Ash Grove is still likely to be the first installation. There has been a slight delay as SCC had to approve some additional funding to subsidise this one, as the grid connection cost came back higher than first quoted. It is not therefore going to be in the sites installed this side of Christmas; however, it will be in the first build batch of the New Year. I was consulted by officers on further representations from Cllr Alan Stinchcombe relating to some additional roads to be considered, which I was happy to support.

We have had positive feedback with Havebury Housing Partnership last week and shared the locations on the list where it was thought they might be the landowner for their feedback. They are keen to help and are already surveying their tenants to ask who owns an EV – It has been explained the project is about futureproofing as well as meeting existing demand.

Regarding the Leiston Road car park – West Suffolk Council have confirmed which areas of this site they own and are happy for us to progress to survey; they own the side that is adjacent to Harewood Terrace and so Believ has been asked to look there first.

I am awaiting details from County regarding which roads will be confirmed for the first phase of installation.

9. Banking Hub Cash Point

As I am sure you are all now aware, the external cash point has now been installed on the High Street, which is a major step forward after the long delays we've all been hearing about from residents and businesses. Although the unit isn't yet switched on, the final technical checks are underway and I'm continuing to press Cash Access UK and the Post Office to get it activated as soon as possible. The lack of out-of-hours cash access has been a real frustration locally, so it is good to see this finally getting this over the line.

I also want to acknowledge the role of the late Michael Simpkin, who was instrumental in pushing for the Banking Hub in the first place. He approached me with detailed research back when the idea was still new nationally, and his determination helped Haverhill become the first permanent banking hub in Suffolk. With the cash point now in place, we are close to finishing what he set in motion.

10. Persimmon & Havebury (Landscaping & Maintenance Issues)

Recently I have been quite publicly critical of both Havebury and Persimmon regarding landscaping and maintenance. Havebury to their credit responded quickly by improving the landscaping around Saxon Close (Off Ann Suckling Road) I have submitted a detailed report to West Suffolk Planners and Persimmon relating to issues still present on the estate. I have a meeting planned with Persimmon in the new year where I am hoping much needed progress can be made.

11. Blue Lights Hub

After some extensive lobbying and work with Nick Timothy MP & Tim Passmore PCC and meeting with key Stakeholders from the Police and Ambulance Service, it would appear this is slowly gaining momentum. West Suffolk Council are now engaged and a meeting is currently being planned for the coming weeks. Hopefully this will continue to progress and I look forward to seeing whether finally this can begin to progress. It is very early days and might not come to fruition. But discussions are taking place, even if it is just currently at a discussion stage with key stakeholders, which hopefully will eventually lead to a more concrete proposal.

12. West Suffolk Council

News and Updates WS

News

Haverhill Health and Wellbeing Hub set to open in early 2026

A health and wellbeing hub to support residents in and around Haverhill is set to open its doors in January.

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/news/pr20251114ws01.cfm>

Electric vehicles to drive down emissions in council services.

New electric vehicles (EV) have been introduced into West Suffolk Council's property services fleet, continuing the work to reduce the council's carbon footprint. <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/news/pr20250918ws01.cfm>

Consultation on new checklist for planning applicants in West Suffolk

West Suffolk Council has opened a consultation on changes relating to the documents that have to be submitted as part of planning applications.

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/news/pr20251119ws01.cfm>

Council Leaders back ‘Suffolk to the Power of Three’ option as part of local government reorganisation consultation

Suffolk residents, businesses and local organisations are being urged to take part in a once in a generational opportunity to shape how council services are delivered for their local communities.

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/news/pr20251119ws03.cfm>

Clean sweep to help West Suffolk thrive in Haverhill

A series of action days and events has kicked off to help keep West Suffolk streets clean, safe and support civic pride in the local area.

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/news/pr20251117ws01.cfm>

West Suffolk residents urged to recycle their electricals with 18 new small electrical recycling points across the district

West Suffolk Council today unveils its plans for increased local small electrical recycling with the installation of 18 new striking pink electrical recycling bins across the district. <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/news/pr20251106ws01.cfm>

Other updates

- **Markets**

No further updates, other than a news update that I can not support or endorse and attempts to mask continued failings in supporting Haverhill's Market. <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/news/pr20251029ws02.cfm>

- **Haverhill Town Centre Enhancement Group**

WS Cabinet Planning has agreed to begin three quick-win projects aimed at making the town centre more welcoming and strengthening its identity. These projects reflect stakeholder feedback and will deliver visible improvements while supporting longer-term ambitions.

The three projects are:

- **Wayfinding:** replacing outdated and inconsistent signage with a clear, unified system that improves accessibility and reflects the town's character.
- **Public Realm Lighting:** improving lighting to make the area feel safer and more inviting, particularly in the evenings.
- **Street Furniture Renewal:** updating worn or mismatched benches, bins and other features with a coordinated set that improves the look and feel of the streets.

Together, these projects mark an important first step in refreshing the town centre. Initial design work will focus on Queen Street, Peas Market Square, Market Hill and the main High Street gateways.

The Steering Group has been thanked for its continued support and contributions, which have helped shape the priorities to date.

Next, the team will:

- Work with the town council to involve the public in the design process through local arts groups.
- Establish a Town Centre User Group, drawing on feedback from the recent benchmarking survey.
- Engage with community groups, forums and local businesses as designs develop.

Work is also under way to explore development opportunities at Jubilee Place, building on last year's £2m investment in Provincial House to support jobs, improve

access to services and increase footfall. Ideas for Jubilee Place are being informed by survey feedback and early discussions with developers, reflecting changes in town centres since the 2015 masterplan.

The team will continue working closely with the Steering Group as the project develops, with the aim of producing concept designs that can attract further investment into Haverhill town centre.

I remain frustrated at the lack of progress and slow delivery of High Street improvements

13. Community

- a. Burton Centre Court – Announcement has been delayed and will now be end of December/January
- b. Burton End Camps Road Maintenance. Many thanks to the Town Council Wardens who have completed works on Burton End including cutbacks and the painted railings. I can see across town the impact the community wardens are having.
- c. Burton End Windmill & Clements Estate Shopping Plaza Makeover. I have been approached by a local landscaping business and put in contact with the Town Council and Havebury regarding improvements to the areas. Hopefully this will progress.
- d. I have attended a number of meeting and engaged in community liaison with the Police. I attended a CAP (Community Action Partnership) meeting with PC Jack Oakley and other stakeholders across the town. CAP sets up and supports local partnerships that aim to reduce alcohol harm in children and young people, improve their health and well-being and enhance their communities. Surveys have gone out and the local community police team are planning a second meeting with updates on what is being planned over the next months and year.
- e. PC Jack Oakley contacted me regarding a Christmas campaign asking people not to purchase e-scooters and e-bikes, which I was happy to support.

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Please note this report does not my any means include all the casework I am undertaking now or projects I am engaged with and trying to move forward for the betterment of the community. Where I have stated 'no further updates' or 'ongoing,' please refer to previous month's reports.

Members are always welcome to contact me should they need any information or assistance relating to issues across the Cangle Division.

For Reference:

There have been some further changes to committees I have been appointed to. At **Suffolk County Council (SCC)** I am responsible for Property & County Farms and I would welcome representations made to me on any SCC owned property owned in the area. At SCC I now sit on:

- Development & Regulation Committee (Planning)
- Education & Children's Scrutiny Committee
- Scrutiny Committee
- Budget Working Group
- Minerals & Waste Policy Working Group

At **West Suffolk Council** I now sit on

- Performance & Audit Scrutiny Committee

At **Haverhil Town Council** I don't currently sit formally on any committees, but I will of course attend if summoned or need to act in capacity e.g. as a County Councillor such as the Haverhill High Street Enhancement Group or if the agenda requires my attendance such as the Planning Committee, Energy & Sustainability Committee and Community & Leisure Community, which I have attended on a number of occasions over the last year.

Appendix iii) **Town Councillor Reports:**

Report by Cllr John Burns on Town activities November 2025

Police Matters: Crime stats for September 2025 were distributed on 8th November. Not much else to say as police due to attend the meeting.

SCC Highways: I understand the new signs are being built and due to be installed by no later than early 2026.

Parking: I am not seeing any benefit from the so-called increase in enforcement. Vehicles parked for hours in the High Street, without any reason, as well as in the loading bay alongside the Market Square. In meantime it seems those popping into the Doctor's or Pharmacy in Camps Road are being over penalised when they are not creating an obstruction or endangering pedestrians.

Markets: Still awaiting another meeting.

Vixen PH (Millfields Way): No further information. Yet another local resident fell on the steps leading from the car park to the Square damaging their elbow. I have reported this to the planners who escalated to the relevant lighting teams but there is/was no problem with the lights. The steps are owned by the owner of this property and have been reminded of their obligations. I have recommended, as such a vital part of the walkway from the Chalkstone Estate to town, that WSC should take ownership and maintain them considering they own the land in between.

Strasbourg Square: See above.

Other work:

- Worked the entire day until late at night on the Halloween Trail.
- Took up & collected from New Croft barriers for Rovers' firework night.
- With others helped organise and execute the annual Remembrance Service.
- Attended meetings regarding LGR and possible Community Alcohol Partnership for the town.
- Helped with installation of the Xmas tree.
- Currently setting up 5 x new computers for the Tech Office systems. Supporting other systems.
- Provided usual weekly financial income stats from the till system for the various sites to HTC management plus attending various HTC meetings.

END

Appendix iv) **Mayor's Report**

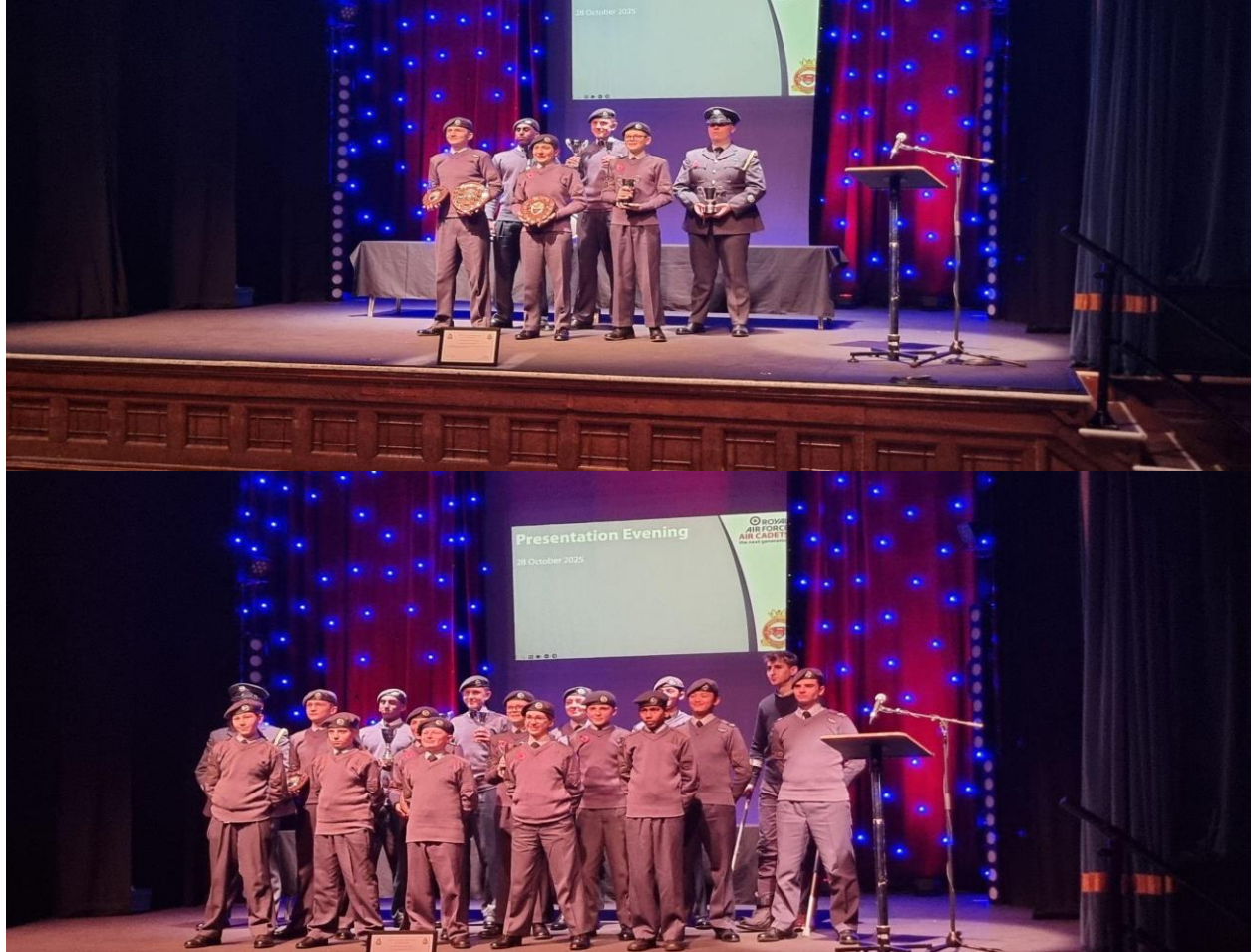
Cllr Quinn Cox Mayoral Report: October 27th to November 24th

A great month with some really positive events and occasions in which it has been a privilege to have taken part.

28th October 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron Award Evening and AGM

A great evening seeing the Squadron cadets receive many awards for their achievements over the year. The were numerous and wide-ranging with a strong amount of cadets. It was also nice to see the AGM go smoothly and all positions positively filled so the committee is full and strong.

The Cadets Squadron are a real asset to the Town and I'm pleased to see it thriving.



31st October (HTC) 2025 Halloween Trail

What an incredible event that is put by the Town Council for our Town. A free event that took lots of time planning and setting up. I attended to help collect donations as people exited. The feedback was really positive and many laughs and jokes were had when leaving.

Our scarers clearly hit the mark many times as there were many screams through the night.

This event wouldn't happen if it were not for the efforts of those working within the Town Council so thank you so much for what you have done, including the volunteers without whom the event couldn't happen. It would have been an early start for many with a late night finish to ensure all had been collected and cleared away.

A huge thank you to all those involved that made it happen and to those that attended to make the whole event worthwhile.

5th November - A presentation by Chizubel Beluchi on his book *Get Risky or Get Lost*

An interesting evening with the author who has a financial background and has written a book diving into the concept of risk and how we see it. I wish him every success. He is a very enthusiastic and passionate individual who has moved to Haverhill. He has a positive view of the town and is keen to see how he can be of support. I welcome him to the town and look forward to seeing him becoming an integral part of the town.



8th November Remembrance Service Abbie Gardens - Rose Garden Service

It is the time of year when we reflect on those that gave their lives fighting for their country. A service of remembrance was held in the Rose Garden in Abbey Gardens, Bury St Edmunds, where there are monuments for all our armed services together with American Military to be remembered.

I was there representing Haverhill, laying a wreath and paying our respects. It was a privilege to be able to represent our town and be part of the moments of reflection.



Sunday 9th of November Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade.

This is a day I will remember for many reasons; a day to lay a wreath marking our remembrance of those that lost their lives, particularly being able to reflect on those that lived locally.

It was a very dignified service with an outstanding band with a very well attended parade. The atmosphere created to mark the occasion was amazing, incredibly dignified and I feel the town can be proud of itself. Hundreds of people came to pay their respects, adding to a very remarkable tribute.

I want to thank all those that came and made it the occasion it was. The pride I felt in seeing it come together as it did is what will stay with me. I continue to be amazed at our incredible community, and I cannot say how proud I am to have been part of it.

11th November Remembrance Service

A gathering to mark a special day, people stood in peace on the high street marking their respects. Lead by Rev Max Drinkwater who is a continual inspiration. Thank you to those that came and made it happen.

12th November - Celebrating 5 years of the Epicentre

A very well attended event that marks 5 years since its opening, the impact has been great with plenty of businesses coming into the town, bringing £10million of investment into our town. Included a quote below from the EpiCentre Booklet created for this event.

"Celebrating five years of The EpiCentre is a proud moment for all of us. From day one, our mission has been to create a space where innovation thrives and businesses can grow. Today, we stand as a vibrant community of entrepreneurs and innovators who are shaping the future of science and technology - having supported 172 companies and helped secure £150 million in funding. This milestone is not just about the past five years, it's about the exciting opportunities ahead and the continued impact we will make together."

- Jo Stevens, Managing Director of Oxford Innovation Space

15th of November Unity Stars Nursery

A small but great event to see a Nursery open and on day one having parents sign up. To see Unity School Partnership grow and supporting nurseries is very exciting and hopefully supporting the development of learning from cradle to 18. I wish the Nursery every success on their new journey and may all those involved flourish.

19th of November - Sunflower SEN Hub

A great event personally as this is the charity I am supporting this year. A small event to mark their movement forward. They are open and supporting your people with SEN difficulties, but it is just the start of the support they want to offer. Individuals have given up their full-time jobs to focus on this project, It is already showing benefits of the support they could provide.

It was great that the Beavers had a fundraising event and raised nearly £500 for the Hub which is absolutely amazing. Thank you to them for their events and great to see them turn up at the Sunflower Hub. It was equally tremendous to have a member of staff from Bradnams there to present a cheque for £1500.

I hope our community continues to provide support for this group and as always our town and surrounding villages are incredible. The community spirit is amazing.

November comes to a close with some significant events to come in December.

Mayor Quinn Cox