

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Email: admin@haverhill-tc.gov.uk Web: <http://www.haverhill-tc.gov.uk>

6. Public Forum

To hear from the public on any matters within the terms of reference of the Leisure and Working Party.

7. Essex County Bus Service Consultation

To consider the implications of Essex County Council's consultation on supported bus services, including potential changes to routes serving Audley End. (Link circulated prior to the meeting)

8. Zone Charging Structure (attached)

To review party package pricing

9. Reports (attached)

- a) Creative Director and Arts Centre
- b) Youth Skills Manager
- c) Zone Manager
- d) Community Wardens

10. Grant Requests

None.

11. Grant Recipient reports

- a) Haverhill Singers (appendix i)
- b) Families Together (appendix i)
- c) Haverhill Town Twinning Association (attached to email)
- d) Rotary Children's Fun Day (appendix i)

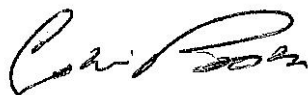
12. Working Parties

- a) To adopt the minutes of the Civic Events Working Party meetings held 17th March, 20th May and 7th July 2025, and any recommendations therein.
- b) b) To adopt the minutes of the Community Events Working Party meetings held 14th April and 8th July 2025, and any recommendations therein (to follow)

13. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 11 November 2025

14. Closure



Colin Poole

Haverhill Town Clerk

Date: Tuesday, 02 September 2025

Copies of this and other Council agendas, minutes and supporting reports are available to download from the Council's website (www.haverhill-tc.gov.uk) or on request from Haverhill Arts Centre.

HAVERHILL ARTS CENTRE, HIGH STREET, HAVERHILL, CB9 8AR

Tel: 01440 712858 Fax: 01440 718931

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Appendix i)
Grant Reports

b) Haverhill Singers

Haverhill Singers – grant awarded to help fund shortfall in costs to present *The Armed Man* in St Mary’s Church on 22nd March 2025.

Following our success in securing funds of £895 from Haverhill Town Council I can confirm that this financial support allowed us to proceed with complete confidence. It gave us the security we needed to ‘pull out all the stops’ (to use a musical analogy) and hire the services of a much acclaimed organist, 8 professional wood and wind musicians and to cover the expenses of 6 top-of-class students (all locally sourced). Collectively the choir and orchestra succeeded in doing full justice to this extraordinary piece of music.

Without HTC funding (and without the certainty of guaranteed ticket sales) our in-house finances would have been under enormous pressure.

Needless to say, it was a resounding success with a capacity audience (circa 130) from whom we received enthusiastic praise and gratitude, many people asking us when an event like that will be repeated.

Addendum for your additional interest, here are some examples of post-concert praise:

A Prominent local councillor

Wow! All your months of practice certainly paid off! Can I say it was the most professional event that I have ever been invited to, so please give my congratulations to your singers for the most amazing performance and, of course, to your MD Matthew who brought it together with an orchestra of professional, amateur and young talented musicians in such a way as to make it so special. Thank you again for a most enjoyable evening, everyone that talked to me said that it was a very moving and an amazing performance.

Choir members in audience from Halstead Choral (with whom we often collaborate)

We wanted to say how much we (and everybody else we spoke to) enjoyed last night! Please tell everyone involved just how good it was. The orchestra made the whole thing extra special. Several parts of the work relied heavily on the percussion section: the talented percussionists created depth and drama that could not have been achieved with other instruments.

Long term supporters of the choir

We would like to send our heartiest congratulations to Matthew, the Singers, the Soloists, the Orchestra and to everyone else who was involved in last night's concert.

The balance between the choir and orchestra was good at all times, even during the loudest passages, and the canon/thunderflash effect certainly caused the audience to jump!

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Congratulations again on a truly splendid concert. I am sure that everyone there was extremely impressed.

c) Families Together

End of Grant report to Haverhill Town Council January 2025

Families Together Suffolk £4,892 Grant for Haverhill Perinatal Support Group

Since receiving a £4,892 grant from Haverhill Town Council, our *Chill, Chat & Play* perinatal support group has flourished, creating a vital space for mums and babies. With 18 families currently registered and weekly attendance averaging six mums and their children, the group meets its goal of being an intimate, supportive environment to build confidence and connections.

Over the past year, the group has supported 27 mums and their babies, offering a nurturing environment where parents can share concerns, receive guidance from our Family Support Coordinator, and connect with each other. Weekly activities encourage meaningful interactions between mums and their babies, with suggestions provided to extend these experiences at home.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Recent evaluation forms show:

- 100% of parents feel less isolated and more connected to their community.
- 80% report improved confidence and self-esteem.
- 67% feel the group has enhanced their parenting skills.
- 10 out of 12 mums noted a significant improvement in their overall wellbeing.

The impact is evident. For example, two mums who were initially hesitant to participate are now sharing advice and ready to transition to our larger Haverhill group with renewed confidence. New attendees also report noticeable benefits, with one mum highlighting the weekly support as transformative for her wellbeing.

The group fosters strong parent-baby bonds, with 10 out of 12 mums reporting deeper connections with their babies. Our coordinator observes how mums grow more comfortable, engage in activities, and replicate them at home—evidenced by shared photos and stories in our group WhatsApp chat.

This thriving group is making a real difference, and we are now seeking funds to ensure its continuation and continued positive impact on families.

Below is a selection of comments from parents explaining what they love about our Chill, Chat & Play group in Haverhill:

I enjoy being able to talk without worrying about being judged by anyone, we're all in the same boat being mums and always support each other.

I have made friends and enjoy socialising with other mums and like that my baby can play with other babies which is good for her.

My baby boy loves the variety of toys and being able to try some new things that we probably wouldn't have thought of to try at home otherwise

I love that everyone here feels able to be honest about motherhood without judgement, it makes me feel less alone, and I am more confident about being a parent.

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The funding of £4,892 provided by Haverhill Town Council contributed to the full running cost of the group for a year which was £8,688

Budget Item	Total Spent £
Group Coordinator- Running, promoting, supervising and admin for the group	3,214
Staff travel	336
venue	557
Refreshments & snack	127
Materials for activities	180
Overheads - Direct overhead cost of Family Support Coordinator including communications, IT, organisational support, quality assurance, insurance, rent, utilities, postage, stationery, printing, marketing, subscriptions, training, accountancy and governance. Calculated by hours.	478
Total	4,892

d) **Rotary Children's Fun Day 18th June**

REPORT

Thanks to the HTC grant we took 40 children from Clements Primary and Churchill School to Wimpole Hall to go round the farm and afterwards to the field where we provided numerous games, face painting, train rides, kite flying as well as lunch and ice creams !

They joined in with about 50 children from the Cambridge area.

The weather was very hot but we provided plenty of cold drinks and shade.

Thanks again to HTC.

Regards

Robin

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