**Minutes of the Haslemere Annual Town Meeting**

**Thursday 14th March 2019**

**Haslemere Museum**

1. The Deputy Clerk, Pippa Auger introduced the meeting and gave a brief outline of the local council election process.
2. The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 28th March 2018 were agreed.
3. Report from the Town Mayor, Councillor David Round:

Cllr Round stated that during his Mayoral year the following points have been key within the Town:

* WW1: Wonderful events and projects happened across the Town and Haslemere commemorating the Centenary very well.
* Regaining Control of Green Spaces: We are hopeful of a quick resolution in taking over green spaces owned by WBC in particular Town Meadow and St Christopher’s Green.
* Haslemere Public Conveniences: We have now taken over the operation of the toilets, they are currently undergoing refurbishment and are due to re-open shortly.
* ATM’s within Town: The Council is aware of a shortage of ATM’s within the Town, we are currently investigating possible locations for them to be placed.
* Policing: The Council is aware that crime and lack of visible policing is an issue for some residents, the Town Clerk has been in contact with the Neighbourhood Police, the Borough Commander and dedicated PCSO, for your information there are two meeting scheduled:
* 15th March 2019, 10am – 2pm, Tesco’s Haslemere
* 21st March 2019, 7pm – 9pm, Engagement Roadshow, Rodborough School, Milford (This is a free ticketed event, tickets available from Surrey Police).
* CCTV: We are investigating the reinstallation of CCTV in the High Street.
* Lion Green: HTC installed 2 table tennis tables and new football goalposts which have proved very popular.
* Car Parks: WBC will be reviewing parking across the borough this year.
* Fairground Car Park: The Inspector ruled against us and the land will cease to be common land, we will still address the future use of this valuable site to include development as well as parking.

 **2019**

* We have been alerted to the potential withdrawal of financial support for the following services in the Town:
* Sure Start Centre
* Haslemere Library

The above are both subject to consultation by Surrey County Council, do respond to any SCC consultation when they occur.

* The Budget: for 2019/2020 the cost per Band D equivalent household does not change from last year (remaining at £40.57 for the year).

4. Resident Representations

Michael Barnes commented on the rise of traffic issues within the town and how we can improve communication with Surrey County Council in resolving these. There is a need for a dedicated Surrey County Councillor who we can liaise with.

John Robini commented on the development of 77-79 Weyhill and asked what was being done to improve the development? Cllr Edwards stated that WBC have recently met with the architect and improvements will be made.

Brian Howard would like it noted that a by-election was held last autumn after the death of much loved Councillor Michael Dover.

Tony Whitcomb resident commented that the hoardings next to Majestic look very shabby and should be removed and also would like to know what is happening with the site? Cllr Edwards agreed that the original hoardings (pictures drawn by local school children) now look very tired. The school will be contacted to see if they would like them back before they are removed. Planning permission has been granted for flats/houses to be built on the land.

5. Haslemere Penny Ha’Penny Trust – Cllr Malcom Carter

The above trust was set up in 2016 for the purpose of raising and distributing funds within the Haslemere area to organisations whose activities will benefit local residents.   Within the last 2 years 12 local organisations have been given grants totalling £35k.

The trust also acts as a Host Charity to other smaller organisations in order to help them achieve their fundraising projects.

If you would like to apply for funding please do get in contact with the Charity.

*The Annual Town Meeting was closed, the Mayor thanked all of those who had attended.*

*The meeting was followed by the Volunteer Awards.*