



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2HG
01428 654305 / town.clerk@haslemeretc.org

Minutes of the Haslemere Town Council Meeting held at 7pm on
Thursday 23rd July 2020. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Mayor	*Cllr J Robini
Deputy Mayor	*Cllr S Dear
Councillors	*Arrick *Barton, *Cole, *Davidson, Dullaway, *Ellis, *Hewett, *Isherwood, *Keen, *Lloyd, *Matthes, *Nicholson *Odell, *Round, *Weldon, *Whitby

* present

The meeting was clerked by the Town Clerk, Lisa O’Sullivan and minuted by Jo Cork.

60/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Cllr Dullaway who is on holiday are accepted.

61/20 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr Robini declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5 as member of The Rotary Club and former President.

62/20 DISPENSATIONS

None.

63/20 QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

None.

64/20 REPRESENTATIONS BY EXTERNAL BODIES

Anne Downing - The Hunter Centre:

The Hunter Centre has suffered tremendously over the past few months due to the having to close their doors on the 20th March because of Coronavirus. The Hunter Centre has both sufferers and carers who hugely depend on this service which is due to re-open in August. The biggest cost for the centre is staff and due to cancelled fund-raising events they have not been able to raise the funds that they previously had. They are currently running at a monthly loss of £4K, if there is a further lockdown this could increase to £9K. Ann is requesting funding from the Council to help keep The Hunter Centre open.

The Town Clerk stated that the Town Council had previously ringfenced £7k to underwrite the Hunter centre lease. This had not been used and returned to general reserve.

Cllr Dear raised concerns that if given, the funding would only be a temporary fix and would not resolve the problems. He suggested that if the Council should support this funding request it should be from General Reserve instead of Grants.

RESOLVED: That the Council awards £4k to the Hunter Centre, to be taken from General Reserves.

Liz Burton/Philippa Guest – Neighbourhood Plan

Liz Burton and Philippa Guest gave a presentation to the Council (Appendix 1) on the top line consultation results, mostly concentrating on Housing and Habitat protection. The next steps will be to meet with WBC Planning officers in August.

The Neighbourhood Plan with revised policies and wording will be put forward at September's Full Council meeting.

If Councillors have any questions, then please do email the office who will forward on to the Working Party.

Ian Coult - The Rotary Club

The Rotary Club is looking to establish a hardship fund to provide support to those in need in the aftermath of the Covid crisis and has asked Haslemere Town Council to contribute. The aim of the fund is to raise money from the community who are willing and able to support others, provide support to all residents and to provide advice to claimants with the help of the CAB who will help ensure that money is given to those most in need.

There was some discussion over whether Council should fund an organisation which then distributes funds to third parties and whether such a project as this should be run more locally.

RESOLVED: that whilst Council has respect and admiration for all that The Rotary do, the Council will not fund on this occasion.

65/20 GREEN GRANT APPLICATION

Wendy Varcoe from Surrey Hills Enterprises is hoping to secure funding for 'Developing Sustainable Businesses in Haslemere' project which they are looking to implement in September; the aim of this project is to inform and inspire business to become more environmentally sustainable, encourage local people to buy local and to encourage networking and collaboration between businesses. Surrey Hills Enterprises are requesting £1500 towards the project.

The Town Clerk confirmed that if we were to fund the project the funds would come from the Green Grant Fund.

RESOLVED: that Council funds this initiative to the full amount of £1500 which will come from The Green Grant Fund

66/20 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 28th May 2020 are approved.

67/20 MAYORS UPDATE

The Mayor gave his update highlighting the following:

- Plans are in place for a Shopping Open Day on the 15th August, for Haslemere, Wey Hill, Hindhead and Beacon Hill.
- The Mayor's Community award has been awarded to 2 local children for clearing a local stream
- Thanks to HTC Staff for supporting Councillors and volunteering for various support groups
- CCTV installation has been installed for the High Street in Haslemere, CCTV is due to be installed in Wey Hill shortly.

68/20 CLERKS UPDATE

The Clerk's Report had been distributed to the Council prior to the meeting. The Clerk would like to add that we have now received the disposable (recyclable) cups as part of our 'Back to Business' campaign; these have been handed out free of charge to local coffee shops for which they have been gratefully received.

69/20 FINANCIAL MATTERS

RESOLVED: That the schedule of payments as detailed in the Cashbook printouts for months 2&3 and any variances in the Council's accounts, including reported overspends and virements are approved.

70/20 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

RESOLVED: that the minutes of those meetings and any recommendations therein, not already made under delegated authority, be adopted:

- Planning & Highways Committee –18th June & 17th July
- Amenities 11th June
- F&G 22nd June

71/20 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TENDER

HTC is inviting tenders for the Christmas lights in Haslemere and Hindhead; the core requirements are detailed in Appendix 6

Cllr Dear confirmed that in addition to the proposed tender, icicle lights will be placed in both the High Street and London Road, Hindhead.

Cllr Barton asked if the Council had investigated costs for buying Christmas lights, it was confirmed that they had and it was not a viable option.

RESOLVED: That the Christmas Lights tender as appended to the Agenda is agreed. The Christmas Lights working party together with the Clerk is authorised to decide which contractor the contract is awarded to so long as it is within budget, and all tenders have been properly evaluated according to the Council's tender regulations

72/20 CIL WORKING PARTY TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED: That the attached Terms of Reference and process for the CIL working party are adopted.

73/20 CCTV

The installation of cameras on the Town Hall has now been completed the full cost of this was £1637. Permission has been granted to install CCTV in Wey Hill (2 cameras) Wey Hill and at the Tesco Junction, the quote for this is £6545. Once authorisation is given, we will need to apply for the relevant permission from Skanska (these costs are significantly less than the £14k remaining in the budget).

Cllr Isherwood requests that we consider the installation of CCTV in London Road, Hindhead.

Cllr Nicholson requests that we consider the installation of CCTV at the shelter at Lion Green, Wey Hill.

Cllr Whitby requests that we consider the installation of CCTV in the Car Park at Beacon Hill.

The Town Clerk asks that the above councillors submit a proposal for their requests which will be brought to September's Full Council Meeting for discussion.

RESOLVED: The Town Clerk is authorised to make necessary arrangements with Sleep Tight Security for the installation of CCTV in Wey Hill.

74/20 FOOTFALL COUNTER FOR TOWN CENTRE

To access European Regional Development Fund to help with the reopening of the high streets and other commercial areas, we would need to implement a footfall counter within the Town. The installation and costs of running the footfall counter (£4200) would be paid for by WBC out of the ERDF fund, which Haslemere has been allocated £12,800. The contract with the supplier is only for one year with no obligation to renew at the end of that period.

RESOLVED: The Town Clerk is authorised to agree the installation of the footfall counter with Waverley Borough Council.

75/20 COMMUNITY PAVILION

As part of the investigation for alternative sites for the Community Store, the disused pavilion in George Denyer Close was viewed, and although it is unsuitable for the Community Store (due to delivery access) it would make a great space for community use, particularly as the community adapts to challenges and changes that Covid-19 brings.

Proposed plans for the pavilion include:

- Covid Response/Resilience Hub
- Community Group Use – CLT have shown an interest
- Employment support such as CV writing/help for those without a computer or internet
- Host a Community Fridge for people who are financially struggling

WBC have agreed to a rent-free period of 6 months and would potentially subsidise utility bills for the same period.

Cllr Dear voiced concerns that by taking this on we would lose our small business rate exemption which would result in increased rates for the Council, this would need to be investigated further.

Cllr Keen and Cllr Odell both have concerns on the size and responsibility of this project, sourcing volunteers with the relevant specialised experience will be difficult.

RESOLVED: The Council approves a project to provide a community project at the pavilion in George Denyer Close, with a budget of £2000 from Haslemere Community Fund (where possible costs to be sourced from grants). Subject to indemnity from Waverley Borough Council that our business rates would not be affected.

76/20 REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES

A report has been submitted to the Council prior to the meeting. Cllr Dear commented that Haslemere Hall have since decided that they will now not re-open until September. All other reports noted.

77/20 18. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RECOMMENDED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

78/20 WBC LAND TRANSFER / BIN COLLECTION

The paperwork for the transfer of freehold from WBC to HTC (Grover's Gardens, St Christopher's Green, Town Meadow) has now been prepared, there is however the following issue:

Waverley Borough Council have stated that they will not continue to pay for the bins to be collected from these sites resulting in additional costs for HTC.

The Clerk has obtained the following two quotes from Waverley's current contractors:

Contractor			Cost for remainder of Financial Year (Aug)
Biffa	£500.00	£6000.00	£4000.00
Continental (WBC's Current Contractor)	£479.7	£5756.52	£3837.68

Cllr Isherwood and Cllr Odell both commented that HTC have been waiting for these freeholds for a long time and are supportive of this recommendation.

RESOLVED: The quote from Continental is accepted. The amount of £8000 that was budgeted for the outdoor gym is vired to external grounds maintenance to cover the bin servicing and any other ad hoc repairs which may be required on the land transferred from WBC.

Meeting finished 9:20pm

Signed.....
Chairman of Meeting

Date.....