CLERK'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – JANUARY 2023

Christmas events

The Christmas Carol event in the Town Centre was very well attended and a good time was had by all. Nearly £400 was raised for the Mayor's charities, much of this coming from the mulled wine and mince pies that the Chamber of Trade organised – a massive thank you to them. But the biggest thank you to Jo and Martin (aka Santa Claus) who held the fort whilst the Clerk and Deputy Clerk were out with Covid. Fantastic job!



The Christmas lights were also a great success, we had a lot of feedback from residents saying how wonderful the town looked and how uplifting they were in these difficult times.

Public toilets at Lion Green

We are still awaiting a date for the groundworks, which have been delayed for a number of reasons, however the delivery of the actual prefabricated toilet block is scheduled for the week commending 6^{th} March.

Lion Green football surface

Work is complete however the area remains fenced off to allow the reseeding to take. It is anticipated that this could take a few weeks, we hope to officially open the new surface in the Spring.

Warm Hubs

Warm hubs across the Town have been set up with varying levels of success. Whilst the Museum, The Link, Town Hall and Pathways community centre have seen little or no visitor numbers, unsurprisingly Haslewey and Haslemere Methodist Church have received a good number. I have secured £400 for each participant from SCC to offset costs. Where little or no costs are incurred this money can be used for other initiatives.

Household Support Fund

Since the latest tranche of £15,000 was received in mid December, we have used over £12k to support local families in financial hardship. Once the remaining money has been spent the Council will not be seeking further funding, administration of the scheme will be done by a dedicated Waverley officer.

May Council elections

Waverley has estimated that there will be 13,027 electors and that the costs for Haslemere Town Council will be £19,100.

Newsletter

I am hoping to get a newsletter to all residents in the next month or two. Please let me have any ideas for articles.

New light on the pathway from the fire station to Town Meadow

Town Hall officers arranged for a new light to be installed following feedback from local residents that the old light was no longer working.





New whips at Town Meadow

150 whips (mixed native species) have given to the Town Council by SCC – they will be planted in Town Meadow to bulk out the new hedge that was installed last year.

AJR Tree

Arno Spaarkogel (WBC) has provided us with a new native oak, to replace the one that was planted at last year's ceremony to mark the 80th anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees. The original oak suffered through last year's drought conditions.

<u>CIL funds</u>

Total received to date £161,024.06, with at least a further £76,000 due to be paid in April 2023.

Total spent/committed to date £110,538.95

Dates for the diary

Mayor's Quiz night 17th February, Haslewey.

Annual Town Meeting (councillor attendance expected) Thursday 9th March., 7pm Haslemere Museum.