



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2HG
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Infrastructure and CIL Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 6pm on 13 July 2023
Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere GU27 2HG

Chairman	Cllr Lesley Banfield*
Vice Chairman	Cllr John Robini*
Councillors	Arrick, Aslam*, Davidson*, Matthes, Nicholson*, Waters*, Weatherburn & Weldon*

*Present

Meeting clerked by: Pippa Auger, Deputy Town Clerk.

Members of the public: Mr Nick Moses on behalf of the Haslemere Lawn Tennis Club

21/23 Election of Chairman

Cllr Robini proposed Cllr Banfield and Cllr Waters seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations so a vote was taken and Cllr Banfield was elected Chairman.

22/23 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr Weldon proposed Cllr Robini and Cllr Aslam seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations so a vote was taken and Cllr Robini was elected Vice Chairman.

23/23 Apologies for absence

The committee accepted the absences of Cllrs Arrick (work), Matthes (prior arrangement) & Weatherburn (holiday).

6.05pm meeting suspended until 6.08pm for Cllrs Davidson & Nicholson to get some water

24/23 Declaration of Interests

(Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable and Non-Registerable)

None.

25/23 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2023 were agreed.

26/23 Representations by the public

None.

27/23 Dates for future meetings

RECOMMENDED: The committee dates are changed as set out in Appendix 2.

28/23 CIL year-end report

The committee noted the year-end report as set out in Appendix 3.

29/23 CIL Finances

The committee noted the finance & awards schedules as set out in Appendix 4 & 5.

30/23 Haslewey Solar Panels

RESOLVED: that payment in full of 65% of the solar panel project cost (amounting to £38,920) be made to Haslewey (Haslemere & District Community Centre).

31/23 Haslemere Town Council Projects List

The clerk reported on the Council's project list. The committee commented that it was an historic document, which they want to see updated. The new Council is in the process of putting together a strategy document for the Council term and that should determine how future CIL funds are used. There are initiatives and objectives in the Haslemere Neighbourhood Plan which should form part of the strategic document, together with aspirations from the Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan put together by Waverley Borough Council.

Cllr Robini would like to see the project for the path on Church Lane to remain as Surrey Highways is in the process of costing it up. He would also like to see the Tanner's Lane project remain, as he is waiting for Surrey Highways engineers to come up with an alternative solution to help with pedestrian safety.

ACTION: Clerk to find out who the Portfolio holder is with responsibility for Strategic CIL spending.

ACTION: Once the Council's strategy document is completed, Cllr Banfield will initiate a redrafting of the Haslemere Town Council Projects list.

32/23 Haslemere Community Rugby Club Application

The committee discussed this application at length. It felt that it required a lot more detail on the proposal before a decision could be made about whether or not to commit money to the project. There was no information about the kind of floodlights to be used. The town is on the edge of the South Downs National Park Dark Sky Reserve so any lighting installed should mitigate against light pollution and attracting nighttime biodiversity, and be energy efficient. Finally, it wants to see evidence of engagement with the community sports clubs mentioned and understand whether and when other community groups are able to use the pitches.

ACTION: Clerk to write to applicant to advise and obtain further information in relation the above and find out about membership numbers, completion of the lease with Waverley, state of planning application and other funding applications.

RESOLVED: A decision is deferred until the Haslemere Town Council Strategy for 2023-2027 is agreed and the CIL committee has compiled a list of projects arising out of the strategy document.

33/23 Haslemere Lawn Tennis Club Application

The committee discussed the issue of light pollution again but noted from the application that the LED lights will be focussed on the courts with less light spill, and the electricity usage will be half that of the lights being replaced. An application to Your Fund Surrey for £10,000 has been made and received, but no decision has been given. Planning permission has been granted, and whilst the lights were installed 2 weeks ago it was noted the application to the committee was made well in advance of the installation date.

Mr Moses was asked about accessibility of membership and confirmed that adult membership is £120 per year, and £20 per year for a child. The club supports local community organisations through free and subsidised use and is starting a programme with Sport in Mind to help those with mental health issues.

The committee were supportive of the application but felt again that the decision had to be deferred pending completion of the Council's strategy document.

RESOLVED: A decision is deferred until the Haslemere Town Council Strategy for 2023-2027 is agreed and the CIL committee has compiled a list of its projects arising out of the strategy document.

34/23 Shottermill Junior School

It was immediately proposed that a decision is deferred for the same reason as the previous applications.

RESOLVED: A decision is deferred until the Haslemere Town Council Strategy for 2023-2027 is agreed and the CIL committee has compiled a list of its projects arising out of the strategy document.

35/23 Applications rejected for consideration – Haslemere Swimming Club

The clerk reported that CIL should not be used for revenue funding. The committee asked that when responding to the applicant they be invited to apply for capital items in the knowledge that the strategy document took priority.

RESOLVED: the application is not eligible for CIL funding as it is for an ongoing revenue cost.

36/23 Link Project – St Bartholomew’s Church Link building

The clerk reported that there are opposing views regarding the ability of Parish Council’s to fund church buildings. The National Association of Local Council’s state in the absence of statutory clarification the matter can only be resolved by a decision of the Court. A number of opinions suggest the 1972 Local Government Act provisions override the 1894 provisions, but other organisations oppose this view.

ACTION: the clerk to provide Cllr Aslam with the documentation she has compiled on the matter.

37/23 Next meeting

10 August 2023 at 6pm

Meeting closed at 6.58pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman of Infrastructure and CIL Committee