



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 13th March 2025.
The meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, GU27 2HG.

Mayor	*Cllr Leach
Deputy Mayor	*Cllr Arrick
Councillors	*Aslam, Austin, Banfield, *Bayliss, *Bridge, *Carroll, *Carter, *Davidson, *Keen, *Matthes, *Miller, *Nicholson, *Robini, *Waters, *Weatherburn, *Weldon

* present

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Leach, clerked by the Town Clerk, Lisa O'Sullivan and minuted by Jo Cork. Two members of the public were in attendance.

22/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED: Apologies are accepted from Cllr Banfield (unwell), and Cllr Austin (family commitments). Apologies are accepted from Cllr Banfield for the next 3 months due to illness.

23/25 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr Matthes and Cllr Bayliss disclosed an interest for item 10, as both volunteer for Transition Haslemere and the River Wey Trust who are requesting grant funding.

24/25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held 23rd January 2025 are adopted as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

25/25 REPRESENTATION BY THE PUBLIC

Mr Douglas Throw spoke to the Council about devolution and the reorganisation of local government. He believes that that the town would be better protected against housing expansion if they became part of West Sussex County Council, the town would also benefit from lower rates of council tax. Would Haslemere Town Council be prepared to support this move in principle, and help further develop it with consultations with both Surrey and West Sussex Councils?

Cllr Robini stated that he has been involved in talks with SCC for some months regarding LGR. The Government has stated that there will not be boundary reviews or cross border associations during the process.

Mr Throw is due to meet with the Local MP Greg Stafford to discuss further.

The Council will be discussing this in further details at the upcoming 'Update and Participate' meeting on the 24th March where the Town Clerk will clarify the issue of boundary review.

26/25 UPDATES FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Robini: A meeting is taking place on Monday with Surrey Highways, post meeting he is hoping to be able to report on the ongoing delay for resurfacing both Lower Street and Petworth Road.

Cllr Keen: Coppicing has recently taken place at Woolmer Hill and High Lane.

Cllr Weldon reminded the Council that the Red Court Appeal at WBC starts on 8th April.

27/25 MAYORS UPDATE

Cllr Leach spoke about a recent productive meeting that took place with the Borough Commander regarding planned monthly surgeries. It is hoped that Councillors will join these surgeries providing an opportunity for the community to engage with the Town Council, Borough and Surrey Police. Cllr Leach will forward dates for these meetings.

Cllr Robini stated that PCSO Savage would like to see CCTV being extended to the High Street Car Park and he supports this move. Cllr Leach reminded him that this is WBC land and therefore their responsibility.

28/25 CLERKS UPDATE

Noted.

The Car Boot will not go ahead on the 18th of May due to a clash with 'Little Lumpy' event.

29/25 FINANCIAL MATTERS

RESOLVED:

The schedule of payments as detailed in the Cashbook printouts for months 10 & 11 are approved.

The recommendations in the report at Appendix 5 are approved. The Town Clerk is authorised to make any other amendments necessary at year end.

30/25 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committees with delegated decision making:

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meetings, where committees hold delegated decision making powers, are noted.

Committees with no or limited decision making:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings where committees do not hold delegated decision making powers and any recommendations therein be adopted.

31/25 GREEN GRANTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Cllr Bayliss and Cllr Matthes left the meeting.

Transition Haslemere - £1,000 – Tree survey

Cllr Waters stated that this grant application was previously refused as a revenue grant, as it was felt that a survey and the creation of a tree database does not directly benefit the community and that much of the information, for instance trees on council's own land, is already held. Additionally, it was not clear what would be done with the data once collected.

RESOLVED: The Council voted that the application be refused.

River Wey Trust - £1,000 – Testing Kits

The grant application is fully supported by the Council who agree the town should be made aware of the water quality of our water ways. The Council would like the public to be informed of the results from this testing.

RESOLVED: That the full grant of £1,000 is awarded.

Cllr Carter seconded this motion.

Cllr Bayliss and Cllr Matthes rejoined the meeting.

32/25 COUNCIL INSURANCE RENEWAL

RESOLVED: The Clerk is instructed to renew the Council's insurance with Zurich, for a period of 3 years starting 1 April 2025, at a premium of £2992.24 per annum.

33/25 COUNCIL ASSET REGISTER REVIEW

Councillors requested that the list of benches owned by HTC is circulated.

Cllr Arrick commented that a number of benches in Beacon Hill need repair, BHWP will review list of circulated benches.

RESOLVED: The asset register as attached to the Agenda (appendix 12) is approved.

34/25 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY UPDATE

Council noted the update in Appendix 13 to the agenda.

Cllr Weldon commented that we still have over £553k of available CIL funding to spend, and the council are not getting CIL applications requesting funding. The following projects were put forward:

- Cllr Bayliss: Accessible Bridge linking Weyhill to Kings Road
- Cllr Carter: The Edge - Woolmer Hill still does not have a gym facility
- Cllr Miller: Pavement along Church Road to Health Centre
- Cllr Davidson: Nursery School at Beacon Hill
- Cllr Leach: Further funding for Health Centre/Hospital

Cllr Aslam stated that she has joined a steering group for the Health Centre/Hospital, and has agreed to be a Councillor link representative for this.

The Town Clerk will add CIL Funding Projects to the Update & Participation meeting on the 24th March.

35/25 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

The updates in appendix 14 to the agenda are noted.

Cllr Keen confirmed that Haslewey is to close for 1 month for water damage repairs. The Post Office will remain open.

Cllr Robin stated that Melanie Odell has resigned as Chair of the Museum and will be replaced by Alan Perry.

Cllr Bayliss stated that Active Travel has produced a survey for residents to complete to gauge support on future projects. He will forward this to the office to share via social media channels.

36/25 20 MPH WORKING PARTY REPORT

Cllr Bayliss reported that the 20MPH Working party recently met with Surrey Highways engineer Adrian Selby to discuss the proposals put forwards as noted in Appendix 15 to the agenda.

Cllr Robini will arrange a meeting for the WP to meet with Surrey Highways, Surrey LCWIP, Surrey Transport Portfolio Holder and Highways Safety to explore the options put forward.

A proposal to use CIL funding for the 20mph project, will be discussed at Amenities, Infrastructure and CIL meeting on 10th April.

Meeting finished at 20:15

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman of Meeting