



# HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Haslemere Town Council Meeting held at 7pm on  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019  
Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere

<b>Mayor</b>	*Cllr J Robini
<b>Deputy Mayor</b>	*Cllr S Dear
<b>Councillors</b>	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. Also present were Deputy Clerk, Pippa Auger, Mayor’s Secretary, Jo Cork, Bea Phillpotts from Haslemere Herald and 11 Members of the public.

## **55/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The following apologies are accepted by Council: Cllr Arrick (Holiday), Cllr Cole (Holiday).

## **56/19 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Dear is a trustee of The Haslemere Penny Ha’Penny trust, for which Mr Malcolm Carter will be giving a presentation under Agenda Item 5 (Non Pecuniary)

## **57/19 DISPENSATIONS**

None.

## **58/19 QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

Clive Davidson (Transition Haslemere) highlighted the Climate Emergency that we are faced with and the ramifications of this, will Haslemere Councillors follow other Councils within the County and declare a Climate Emergency Motion?

Katherine Higham who has a son with asthma has been monitoring the ‘Air Quality’ in the Town which is often in the unhealthy range. Will the Council commit to reducing Carbon Omissions within the town by promoting use of more sustainable methods of transport and to consider pedestrianising West Street?

Jenny Condit stated that Climate Change is widely understood as existential and pleads for Councillors to adopt a ‘Climate Emergency Plan’ as a matter of urgency which can be adopted as part of The Council’s Strategic Plan. Haslemere has always been a Visionary Town and urges Council to allow it to continue to be so.

Rob Wainwright fully supported Jenny Condit’s plea and urged the Council’s to allow Haslemere to be on the right side of History.

## **59/19 REPRESENTATIONS BY EXTERNAL BODIES**

### **Haslemere Penny Ha'Penny Trust – Malcolm Carter**

A briefing paper had been given to Councillors with the Agenda. Mr Carter gave an overview of why the Charity was formed in October 2016 and explained recent changes to its constitution. It has raised the following over the last 3 years:

- 2017           £42,006
- 2018           £17,307
- 2019           £10,520

The grants awarded are small grants given to local organisations, should an organisation wish to apply for a grant then this can be done via the website or by contacting Malcolm Carter directly.

### **Surrey Police – Inspector Gary Smith**

Inspector Gary Smith has been in his post as Borough Commander for a year, Waverley is the largest Surrey borough and is also the safest. Although there are no longer officers on the 'beat', a Specialist Neighbourhood Team is in force, initiatives include:

- More engagements at Public Events
- Greater presence in Schools
- 'Drop in' monthly sessions planned for key towns in Borough (including Haslemere)
- Haslemere will benefit from own 'Officer in Charge' in 2020 following the announcement of extra funding from the Government.

Insp Smith noted the recent press article about thefts of cars from Haslemere Station and confirmed that he would be seeking to work with colleagues in British Transport Police to combat this.

Any further questions to Insp Smith to be submitted via the Town Clerk.

### **Surrey County Council – Cllr Barton**

The County Council is considering making a Cycle Tracks Order over the route of Public Footpath No. 19 (Weydown Road-Bunch Lane) this will be advantageous for all cyclists; commuters, school children etc.

The above has come about as The CRP is launching a 'Rail to Trail' scheme from Haslemere Station up to the Hindhead Common (via Farnham Lane) to link with 90Km of off-road cycle ways. Cllr Barton recently met with both Godalming and Farncombe Councils who are both on board with this scheme with the Surrey Hills to South Downs Community Rail Partnership

The Station Hub is being refurbished and extended.

Cllr Barton to update Councillors regarding the Rail Partnership prior to next meeting.

It was agreed that Item 11 on the Agenda, Climate Change Motion, be brought forward.

## **60/19 CLIMATE CHANGE MOTION**

Cllr Lloyd presented the 'Climate Change and Biodiversity Motion' which documented recognition of the global Climate Emergency and the need to facilitate the reduction of carbon emissions and conserve and promote biodiversity (Appendix 1 on the Agenda). Cllr Lloyd accepted that further work might need to be done to figure out the detail of how the motion could be implemented and asked the Council for 1) Solidarity and 2) a sense of urgency.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Lloyd and seconded by Cllr Weldon.

Cllr Robini stated full support for the emergency motion agenda item, however noted that at present there are no costings or resources set out. He therefore proposed the following (under Standing Order 10(a)(iii)):

That a working party is set up to explore the costing and resources for Haslemere Town Council and incorporated into this emergency environmental motion. This should be prepared and brought to the next full Council meeting for consideration

Cllr Dullaway seconded this proposal.

The Mayor invited councillors to ask questions and there was considerable debate on the subject. Some councillors urged for the motion or a statement of intent to be adopted by the Council as a matter of urgency, others felt that with issues to resourcing and cost being unknown the motion could not be passed. It was also questioned whether the Town Council was the right body to be trying to influence climate change at all. Cllr Dullaway asked for consistency in any document when mentioning biodiversity.

The following amendments to the motions proposed by Cllr Lloyd were proposed:

1. That the following is added to the climate change motion: "Haslemere Town Council agree that all energy calculations on climate change emergency work should be made by professional qualified staff employed by an appropriate organisation". Proposed by Cllr Nicholson, seconded by Cllr Davidson.

For:

Cllr Nicholson

Cllr Dullaway

Cllr Davidson

Against

Cllr Lloyd

Cllr Robini

Cllr Dear

Cllr Isherwood

Cllr Lloyd

Cllr Hewson

Cllr Odell

Cllr Keen

Cllr Barton

Cllr Round

Cllr Whitby

Abstained

Cllr Weldon

**The amendment was not carried.**

2. That the entire wording of the motion be deleted except for paragraph 1. Proposed by Cllr Weldon, seconded by Cllr Dullaway.

For:

Cllr Lloyd

Cllr Dullaway

Cllr Weldon

Cllr Ellis

Against:

Cllr Robini

Cllr Dear

Cllr Isherwood

Cllr Hewett

Cllr Odell

Cllr Keen

Cllr Barton

Cllr Round

Cllr Whitby

Cllr Matthes

Cllr Davidson

**The amendment was not carried.**

The following amendments to the motions proposed by Cllr Robini were proposed:

That the following statement is added "In recognition and acknowledgement of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency, Haslemere Town Council tonight pledges its commitment to bring forward proposals and measures to examine how we as a Council will respond. We wish to send a clear message to our community that we are listening to their concerns about climate change and signal that we intend to take action" Proposed by Cllr Ellis, seconded by Cllr Round.

For: All Councillors

**The motion was carried.**

Councillors then voted on the substantive motions (Cllr Lloyds unamended, Cllr Robini's as amended by Cllr Ellis' proposal).

Motion from Cllr Lloyd, seconded by Cllr Weldon

For:

Cllr Lloyd

Cllr Matthes

Cllr Ellis

Cllr Barton

Cllr Weldon

Against:

Cllr Robini

Cllr Dear

Cllr Isherwood

Cllr Hewett

Cllr Odell

Cllr Keen

Cllr Round

Cllr Whitby

Cllr Davidson

Cllr Dullaway

Cllr Nicholson

**The motion was not carried.**

Motion from Cllr Robini (with Cllr Ellis' amendment)

For: ALL Councillors

**RESOLVED:** That the following motion is adopted:

In recognition and acknowledgement of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency, Haslemere Town Council tonight pledges its commitment to bring forward proposals and measures to examine how we as a Council will respond. We wish to send a clear message to our community that we are listening to their concerns about climate change and signal that we intend to take action.

A working party is to be set up to explore the costing and resources for Haslemere Town Council and incorporated into this emergency environmental motion. This should be prepared and brought to the next full Council meeting for consideration

**RESOLVED:** that the working party is to consist of Councillors: Lloyd, Robini, Ellis, Dear, Isherwood, Hewett, Odell, Round, Barton, Whitby, and Matthes.

**61/19 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and any recommendations be adopted. The minutes were signed as a true record.

**62/19 MAYORS UPDATE**

The Mayor gave an update for the past quarter. His charities for the year are Haslemere Museum, Haslewey and the Stroke Club. All of which support the Community in their own way. To help raise money the Mayoress, Cllr Keen has volunteered to walk over the O2 building, despite being afraid of heights, a date has been set for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 1pm. If anyone wishes to go with her, then please come forward. The Mayor also confirmed that he will be cycling along the old railway trackbed between Godalming and Cranleigh for The Mayors Charities, a date has yet to be set for this.

**63/19 TOWN CLERKS UPDATE**

The Clerk's Report had been distributed to the Council prior to the meeting. Waverley Borough Council have commissioned a Borough wide parking survey for which Haslemere Town Council will be consulted.

**64/19 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**RESOLVED:** The schedule of payments as detailed in the Cashbook printouts for months 2&3 and any variances in the Council's accounts are approved.

**65/19 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the below meetings and any recommendations therein, not already made under delegated authority, be adopted.

- Planning & Highways Committee - 23 May, 20 June, 18 July 2019
- Grants - 11 July 2019
- Amenities Committee - 13 June 2019
- Finance and Governance – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**66/19 COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN**

**RESOLVED:** A Working Party is formed of Councillors Robini, Lloyd, Matthes, Ellis, Barton, Weldon, Round, Dullaway to finalise the plan, progress to be reported to September Council.

**67/19 REDUCING RISK TO COUNCIL FINANCES**

**RESOLVED:** That accounts are opened and £85k transferred to Tridos and Nationwide banks since these meet all criteria. The Clerk, Cllrs Round, Lloyd and Dullaway are delegated to investigate and chose a third account to open, again with £85k transferred from Unity Trust. Bank signatories for all new accounts to mirror those currently set up for Unity Trust.

**68/19 REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES**

The report from representatives that was circulated with the Agenda was noted. Cllr Dullaway confirmed the Haslemere Walking Festival takes place 27 - 29 th September 2019.

**69/19 VE DAY CELEBRATIONS**

Cllr Odell confirmed that the 2020 May Bank Holiday had been moved to the 8th May, VE day. Following a Civic Service a procession will take place in Haslemere, currently being discussed by Haslemere Events and Rotary. Further details will follow.

**70/19 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY**

**RESOLVED:** The Equal Opportunities policy at Appendix 9 of the Agenda is adopted

**71/19 LGPS DISCRETIONS POLICY**

**RESOLVED:** The LGPS Discretions policy at Appendix 10 to the Agenda is adopted.

**72/19 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

**73/19 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

**RESOLVED:** That the contract with Light Angels to provide Christmas lights is extended to cover Christmas 2019 under the terms set out in the Clerk’s report circulated with the Agenda. Tender process for the rest of the Council term to be started early 2020.

Meeting finished 8.50pm

Signed.....  
Chairman of Meeting

Date.....