



# HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Haslemere Town Council Meeting held at 7pm on  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 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, minuted by Jo Cork. Also present were Bea Phillpotts from Haslemere Herald and 11 Members of the public.

Prior to the meeting prayers were said by Reverend David Muskett from The Haslemere Methodist Church.

### **74/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The following apologies are accepted by Council: Cllr Cole, Cllr Dullaway and Cllr Ellis (holidays)

### **75/19 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

The following disclosures were given:

- Cllr Dear      Agenda items 7,12,15 - Waverely Borough Councillor
- Cllr Barton    Agenda item 15 – CRP
- Cllr Keen      Agenda item 15 – A Place 2 Be (Trasurer)
- Cllr Robini    Agenda item 15 – Founder of ‘A Place 2 Be’
- Cllr Odell     Agenda item 15 – CRP Treasurer & Agenda item 4 – Haslemere Museum
- Cllr Round    (spouse)

### **76/19 DISPENSATIONS**

Town Clerk granted all Councillors dispensations relating to the approval of the budget.

### **77/19 QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

Jenny Condit (Haslemere Resident) stated that the Haslemere Climate Alliance has been formed by a group of residents who are concerned that measures to address climate change need to be taken at all levels of society. There is widespread support throughout the Town for the Haslemere Town Council to now adopt a full Climate Emergency Declaration. A petition containg over 600 signatures was handed to the Council to support this.

Jean Leston (Haslemere Resident) representing St Stephen’s Church, Shottermill which is 1 of 48 Eco-Church’s in the Diocese of Guildford, is asking Haslemere Town Council to declare a Climate Emergency this evening.

Adrian Le Porter (Grayswood resident) is also asking the Haslemere Town Council to declare a Climate Emergency Declaration this eveing.

It was agreed that Agenda Item 13, Climate Change Motion & Agenda item 17, Sturt Road Sang Management be brought forward.

**78/19 CLIMATE CHANGE MOTION**

**RESOLVED:** that the following motion, agreed by the Climate Change Working Party is adopted. Any Climate change projects to meet the objectives in the motion will be considered by the Strategy Working Party.

**Haslemere Town Council  
Climate & Biodiversity Emergency Motion**

In recognition of the global Climate and Biodiversity Emergency and to facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gases and conserve and promote biodiversity, Haslemere Town Council resolves to:

- 1) Commit to becoming a carbon-neutral organisation by 2030 including greenhouse gas emissions, with an earlier target of 2025 for all direct emissions. Set up a roadmap for achieving this aim based on an annual carbon audit (to include the Council's own carbon footprint) by the end of the 2019 financial year;
- 2) Encourage and enable reduction of greenhouse gas emission and mitigation schemes within Haslemere by creating a ring-fenced environmental grants fund. The primary criterion for assessing applications to the fund should be CO2 savings per pound spent, in addition to existing Grants criteria. The initial budget will be £10,000 per financial year;
- 3) Seek ways to facilitate and encourage our community to reduce direct and indirect CO2 emissions and conserve and enhance biodiversity, with two objectives:
  - To reduce and reverse Haslemere's contribution to the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency;
  - To improve local resilience to future changes caused by the changing climate;

This could include:

- a) use of more sustainable methods and systems of transport
- b) reductions in energy use in homes, shops, businesses and elsewhere
- c) co-operation with organisations seeking to develop low-carbon local housing, especially community-led, affordable and social housing
- d) development and use of renewable energy sources
- e) production, sale and consumption of locally sourced food
- f) reduction in consumption of animal products, including those from livestock
- g) adoption of wildlife-friendly land and water management practices
- h) actively stopping biodiversity loss and encouraging biodiversity gain and protection of habitat
- i) education within our local community, to inform and encourage actions to help resolve the problem.

The Council acknowledges that 'business as usual' is not an option in the face of this Climate and Biodiversity Emergency, and that society in its current form is unsustainable. To meet our obligations above we therefore resolve to assess and adjust our current activities, in terms of both their scope and undertake to lead by example.

#### **79/19 STURT ROAD SANG MANAGEMENT**

**RESOLVED** That Haslemere Town Council agrees in principle that it would like to take over management of the Sturt Road SANG, once it is completed to the required standard. The Town Clerk with Chair of Amenities / Mayor as necessary is authorised to continue talks with the developer and other interested parties and bring a detailed, costed, recommendation to Council as soon as practical.

#### **80/19 REPRESENTATIONS BY EXTERNAL BODIES**

Cllr Barton - Surrey County Councillor:

Lower Street (Haslemere) roadworks have been delayed due to asbestos being present, this has now been resolved and the repairs are due to be completed soon.

Cllr Barton is attending an urgent site meeting at both St Peters Hospital (Petersfield) and Haslemere Hospital regarding the recent UCT Consultations, she will report back to Council.

#### **81/19 MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED**: Cllr Nicholson to be removed from the Strategic Working Party (item 66/19). That the minutes of the meeting held 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and any recommendations be adopted. The minutes were signed as a true record.

#### **82/19 MAYORS UPDATE**

The Mayor gave an update for the past quarter and with his work at WBC hopes we will soon be benefiting from a plan to transform the Fairground car park, and the enhancement of the sports facilities at Woolmer Hill.

The Mayor also stated how pleased and proud he is to lead this new Council at Haslemere. All the Councillors are working together, across the various parties, to support the Community.

The Mayoress Jacquie Keen, is going to walk over the O2 this Sunday, to raise money for The Mayor's Charities despite being terrified of heights. There is still time for donations to her just giving page.

#### **83/19 TOWN CLERKS UPDATE**

The Clerk's Report had been distributed to the Council prior to the meeting.

#### **84/19 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**RESOLVED**: The schedule of payments as detailed in the Cashbook printouts for months 4&5 and any variances in the Council's accounts are approved.

#### **85/19 CONCLUSION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT 2018-2019**

**RESOLVED** Council notes sections 1-3 of the Annual Return (attached) and agrees no further action to be taken in relation to 2018-2019 audit of accounts.

#### **86/19 AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

**RESOLVED**: That the draft Financial Regulations at Appendix 5 are adopted by Council.

#### **87/19 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 – 15<sup>TH</sup> August, 12 September 2019
- Amenities Committee – 22 August 2019

#### **88/19 BUDGET WORKING PARTY**

**RESOLVED** A Budget working party is formed of Councillors Dear, Hewett, Lloyd, Dullaway, Round, Davidson and the Town Clerk to to put together the draft budget for consideration at November council and sign off at January council

#### **89/19 BUDGET ITEMS FOR INCLUSION 2019-2020**

**RESOLVED:** That the budget items proposed be put forward to the Budget working party for consideration.

#### **90/19 COUNCIL STRATEGY WORKING PARTY**

**RESOLVED:** The following Terms of Reference were adopted:

The Strategy Working Party (SWP) shall produce a draft strategy, with the aim of being adopted by Full Council at its meeting on 28th November 2019 and can hence inform the budgeting process that is due for completion by end January 2020, and in subsequent years.

The SWP will take the original strategy document produced after initial consultation with councillors as its starting point, but will canvas the opinions of all councillors before drawing up the strategy. The WP will endeavour to produce a strategy that reflects the views of all councillors and can be adopted by the council in full.

The strategy shall be written such that it clearly sets out both HTC's longer term goals and to the specific immediate objectives it is adopting to further these goals. It should provide sufficient detail that residents can understand how these goals and objectives relate to one another, ascertain whether they objectives have been met, and so hold the council to account. It should provide sufficient detail to inform the annual budgeting process.

The SWP should recognise that the council's longer term goals may last the lifetime of the council, or beyond, but that the list of specific objectives will change over time. The strategy document shall make clear how possible future objectives should be assessed to ensure they continue to promote the long term goals. To promote consistency the Council's long terms goals and immediate objectives should also be used to help inform Council decision making on an ongoing basis, including within our Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Parties.

#### **91/19 HASLEMERE CEMETARY MANAGEMENT**

**RESOLVED:** Due to the cost and staff time implications, Haslemere Town Council will not be taking over the manangement of any of Haslemere's cemeteries.

#### **92/19 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)**

The CIL replaces the 106 funding by Waverley Brorough Council and has strict regulations on what funds can be used for, projects put forward will need to be agreed by WBC prior to funding. A CIL working party has been formed of Cllrs Lloyd, Weldon, Barton, Whitby, Odell, Dear and Isherwood to cost and recommend future projects to be put forward.

## **93/19 REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES**

### **Haslemere Health Group – Concern over the future of the Minor Injuries Unit**

The Haslemere Health Group have asked the Town Council for financial help for printing leaflets to campaign to secure the future of Haslemere Minor Injuries Unit (approx. £500).

Cllr Barton urged the council to wholeheartedly support this issue that currently faces the town and for them to publicly support and highlight the cause. Cllr Barton to obtain reply cards for distribution and to circulate link to website. The council agreed to support the campaign to protect the Haslemere Hospital Minor Injuries Unit.

Cllr Weldon to produce initial leaflet for printing. It was agreed that Haslemere Town Council would fund the £500 printing costs.

### **94/19 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council re-uses wreaths bought for last year's WW1 project but that the usual donation of £200 is made to RBL (as budgeted for)

### **95/19 CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**RESOLVED:** That the 2019 Christmas Carols will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at Haslemere Educational Museum. Council to consider next year if they wish to move venue.

### **96/19 WATER FOUNTAIN – HASLEMERE PUBLIC TOILETS**

**RESOLVED:** that the Toilet Sub-Committee is requested to investigate the installation of a water fountain at the Haslemere Public Toilets and, if appropriate, may proceed with the installation from the toilet refurbishment budget.

### **97/19 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Cllr Odell stated that WBC have now confirmed that a Strategic Environment & Habitat Assessment is not required for the Neighbourhood Plan, and although this decision is welcomed it has caused delays. The next stage is for the plan to go out for public consultation.

Cllr Isherwood commented that once in place this will aid future planning decisions.

**98/19 RESOLVED** That the press and public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

### **99/19 INTERNAL AUDIT**

**RESOLVED** That Haslemere Town Council engages Farsight Consulting for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years then reviews its IA provision again for the 2021-22 financial year.

### **100/19 TOWN HALL HEATING**

**RESOLVED:** That the quote from Surrey AC is accepted and the Town Clerk is instructed to enter into a contract on that basis, subject to first gaining any planning permission being required.

There will also be some small work outside the Town Hall to build a timer enclosure to accommodate the condenser. Some financial allowance will need to be made in the budget to be paid from Council reserves, to a maximum of £14,000.

Meeting finished 8.40pm

Signed.....  
Chairman of Meeting

Date.....