

HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: Susan Anderson

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON 10th MARCH 2010 at 7.25pm
at THE 1912 CENTRE, COW LANE, HARWICH**

**Present: The Mayor, Councillor J Wares, in the Chair
Councillors B Brown, R Callender, G Calver, A Colbourne,
S Henderson, D McLeod, L Payne and D Rutson**

Clerk to the Council, Mrs S Anderson

**Also present: Bernard Jenkin MP,
Dr P Watson, CEO of North East Essex PCT,
1 member of the press and 8 member's of the public.**

Mr R Colley, Vice Chairman of Harwich Connexions thanked the Council regarding the request from Harwich Tourist Information Centre for additional grant funding of £5000 to help offset recent difficulties. Mr Colley confirmed that £11000 had been received from Tendring District Council also a further £14000 from Essex County Council and requested release of the £5000 grant from Harwich Town Council to retain a valuable service for the town. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed when press and public were excluded from the meeting.

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149/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Burke, B Howlett, M Gardner, S Tyrer, A Morrison, L Double, J Brown and Revd P Watkins.

150//09 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None.

151/09 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor gave details of engagements she has recently undertaken including a visit to Electric Palace to watch a film created by local school children called Electric Waves.

152/09 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 27th January 2010 (previously circulated) be approved by the Chairman and signed as a true record.

153/09 MEN'S HEALTH CLINIC AT THE FRYATT HOSPITAL, HARWICH

Further to Minute 138/09 Councillor Calver proposed that Standing Orders be suspended after members had submitted their questions to Dr Paul Watson, Chief Executive of the North East Essex PCT.

Dr P Watson gave an update of the current situation of providing a Men's health Clinic at the Fryatt Hospital, Harwich which was considered by the PCT and declined in 2009 over two issues.

- 1) Duplication of services and, 2) practical management checks. Dr Watson confirmed that male/female health checks were about to be launched to patients aged between 40 to 75 as a preventative measure.

Councillor Rutson confirmed that Dr P Zollinger-Read had attended the Harwich Town Council meeting in January 2009 where the whole council agreed unanimously for a men's health clinic to be provided at the Fryatt Hospital. Councillor Rutson stated that Professor C Booth had also had a meeting but told there was no need for a men's clinic in Harwich.

Councillor Calver stated his concern that Dr Watson had no information on the outcome of previous meetings between clinicians and Professor Booth.

Dr Watson requested that both he and Council should go back to square one and start again.

It was proposed by Councillor Calver and seconded by Councillor Payne to suspend Standing Orders at 7.55pm

Sheena Parsons, Secretary of the Harwich Fellowship of the Sick asked when the proposal of a Men's Clinic was declined as the Fellowship has pledged £25,000 towards this project.

Dr Watson stated that it was declined during 2009.

Mr Chris Strachan, President of the Fellowship of the Sick, stated that there are issues and questions regarding duplications that should come from the PCT.

Dr Watson stated that this was the criteria and could not see what was different with what has already been offered.

Mr Strachan stated that this was the first time he had heard plans for male/female health checks.

Dr Watson confirmed that health checks do not cover urology problems.

Mr Strachan further stated that health checks cover some part of urology currently provided throughout Urology Clinics but was frustrated to see the new hospital under-used.

Dr Watson agreed that the hospital it is currently under-utilised and needs to develop with new local services but asked, what kind of services?

Mr Bernard Jenkin stated that he supported the proposal by Professor Booth and was surprised that after some considerable time, this was then dismissed and suggested the possibility to offer Men's Health Screening as a partnership between practitioners, rather than the provider of secondary care and achieved centrally at the hospital.

Dr Watson stated he was happy to look into Mr Jenkins proposal.

Standing Orders were resumed at 8.05pm

- 154/09** **WASTE BINS**
Further to Minute 139/09, a response from Environment Services Department at Tendring District Council was noted. A member informed Council that the waste bin situated outside Reynolds Newsagent in High Street, Dovercourt had slipped down the post and was currently resting on the pavement.
RESOLVED: to write to Environment Services Department at Tendring District Council to request the matter be investigated.
- 155/09** **LANDSLIP BETWEEN MANNING AND HARWICH RAILWAY**
Further to Minute 140/09, a response from Network Rail was noted.
- 156/09** **EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS**
Further to Minute 142/09, the responses from (a) Chairman of Tendring District Council, Councillor N Turner and, (b) Mr A Bligh of Essex County Council were noted.
- 157/09** **ENTRANCE ROADWAY TO UNITED SERVICES CLUB, BRITISH LEGION AND NAVIGATOR**
Further to Minute 142/09, the Council **RESOLVED:** to chase a response from Tendring District Council regarding the serious condition of the entrance roadway leading to United Services Club, British Legion and Navigator.
- 158/09** **MUSIC FESTIVAL 2010**
Further to Minute 98/09, the Council considered a request for assistance to put on a Music Festival this summer. Members were informed that the Clerk had sought advice from all areas to assist with the request, but was advised that the Council were unable to do so.
RESOLVED: to write to Mr Woods and advise that he seeks an organisation, within the town, to help with his request.
- 159/09** **WASTE BINS – HARWICH SCHOOL, HALL LANE**
The Council considered a request for extra litter bins to be provided in roads most frequently used by pupils travelling to and from the Harwich School.
RESOLVED: to refer this matter to the Environment and Highways Committee and for a site meeting to be arranged between an Officer from Tendring District Council, members of the Committee and Mr D Smith.
- 160/09** **MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**
RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Allotments Committee held on 21st January 2010 (previously circulated) be approved by the Chairman and signed as a true record.
- 161/09** **MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**
RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Highways Committee held on 2nd February 2010 (previously circulated) be approved by the Chairman and signed as a true record. Councillor Tyrer requested all councillors to take “before and after” photographs of any inconsiderate parking within their wards ready for the Considerate Parking Initiative which commences on 6th April 2010.
- 162/09** **BRIEF REPORTS OF MEMBERS**
Councillor McLeod informed members of the new appointment Rachel Fryer, Town Centre Co-ordinator for the Tendring area, who will be responsible for the regeneration of town centres.

163/09 ACCOUNTS

Payments and receipts, current balances, financial activity against budgets and earmarked funds were noted.

RESOLVED: to authorise payments as listed Appendix A.

164/09 DOVERCOURT SEAFRONT

Members noted a letter received from a Dovercourt resident who was concerned at the lack of amenities along Dovercourt Seafront. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent and the comments noted.

165/09 ESSEX TOURISM AND LEISURE SHOW

The Council noted a report of the recent Tourist Exhibition manned by The Harwich Society, on behalf of Harwich Town Council. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks.

166/09 POTHOLES

The Council noted a letter from a local resident who expressed concerns at the large number of potholes throughout the town. The Council agreed for a letter to be sent explaining that Essex County Council has set up an emergency hotline to deal this problem.

167/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Harwich Town Council will be rescheduled and held on Tuesday 20th April 2010 at Long Meadows Community Centre, Dovercourt at 7.00pm, or at the rise of the Town Planning Committee, whichever is the later.

The Chairman closed this part of the meeting at 8.40pm

TOWN MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN

DATE