

MINUTES of the Meeting of the HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL
 held at
The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich
 on **Wednesday 7th March 2018 at 7.15pm**

Present:	Councillors Calver, Fay, Fowler, I Henderson, J Henderson, McLeod, C Powell, F Powell, Smith, Struth, Todd and Urwin
In the Chair:	Councillor J Brown
Clerk:	Ms Lucy Ballard
Also present:	1 member of the public, 0 members of the press and Rev. Rosie Tallwin

150/17	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Cllrs Ashley, B Brown and Morrison
151/17	<u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS</u> None
152/17	<u>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</u> Betty Holbrook asked about the discarded barrels outside the Harwich Town brewery by Harwich Station and asked if the council had any powers about their removal. Cllr Powell confirmed he's already liaised with the brewery owner and Cllr J Brown said he'd take this up with them also.
153/17	<u>STREET ART PROJECT</u> Members received a presentation from Peter Davis, Artistic Director of the Harwich Festival of the Arts (HFA), regarding the proposed art project at the Skate Park. He said the previous Panel Project saw 400 panels painted by over 3000 local school children and sited by the old skate park. He said having liaised with the local park users, they had decided to pursue the project again on a permanent basis. He hoped local people would be involved and that it would attract visitors to the skate park. They've calculated there would be 15 panels to stretch the length of the skate park and would be attached to the dividing fence between that and the MUGA. He's met with Martyn Webb at Dovercourt Lifestyles and they've approved the scheme on certain conditions. One of which is that TDC don't want to maintain the panels if they brake and are looking for an organisation to maintain them. Peter asked if HTC would take this on. The HFA would look after the artwork and deal with graffiti or vandalism and HTC would look after any maintenance of the actual panels. They are looking for funding towards the project including local sponsorship and a contribution from HTC. The timetable is a bit tight to be ready for the festival but it would be nice if it can be delivered by then, otherwise later on in the year.

154/17	<p><u>SPEAK & EAT</u></p> <p>Members received a presentation from Rev. Rosie Tallwin about the work of the English Conversation Group. In October '16 she met with Fresh Beginnings which later became Essex Integration, a non-profit support service for new migrants to the county. Rosie relayed a story of a couple of families who had been assisted by the scheme. English classes were up and running by November and the support has expanded but they've struggled getting the word out to the community and find new families to join them. They currently deal with families with 6/7 different languages. She asked if HTC could give some thought as to how to promote the service as many of the target audience are out at work during the day and at present there are more volunteers than attendees.</p> <p>Cllr McLeod said it's nice to hear that people are making use of the service and agreed that language is a real barrier.</p> <p>Cllr Calver asked if she would be happy for the local press to be made aware of the service. Rosie said yes but personal invitation/recommendation is usually better as new attendees then have someone to attend with as this is also a barrier.</p> <p>Cllr F Powell thought about a flyer system through the schools as generally the children with EAL are often more proficient at English than their parents and this may be a route to those who would benefit from the service.</p> <p>Cllr I Henderson also suggested another measure to attract families.</p> <p>Cllr Urwin suggested writing to schools and issue targeted information to families with EAL which may be more effective than newsletters.</p>
155/17	<p><u>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u></p> <p>A list of the Mayor's recent engagements was circulated to members. Additionally he attended the Pride of Tendring Awards and the Essex CC Chairman's Civic Service at Chelmsford Cathedral.</p>
156/17	<p><u>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of Harwich Town Council held on 16th January 2018 (circulated separately) were approved as a correct record. IH/CP with a correction of changing 2016 to 2017.</p>
157/17	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIN 110/17 and 129/17 – Members considered a response to letters to Bernard Jenkin MP regarding the local rail ticket office closures. Cllr I Henderson said the MP hadn't answered what we asked of him and referred to a couple of points in the letter, raising concern that the relevant Government department (DfT) didn't appear to have been contacted to demand they refuse to agree to any request to close the ticket offices. He suggested we go back and ask the MP to respond to the questions we asked. <p>RESOLVED: Write back to Bernard Jenkin and ask him to answer whether he did intervene or raise concerns with the relevant Government department(s) and if so, can he share with us the correspondence between them.</p> <p>Cllr I Henderson also referred to the response from Transport Focus reply and said Greater Anglia has assured them there would be no reduction to assistance to passengers as there'll be on-board staff. He was concerned that once a passenger is on board, they'll be threatened with being penalty fared and he suggested we write to Transport Focus and relay these concerns.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To write to Transport Focus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIN 134/17 – Members considered a response to the letter to Highways England regarding delays to improvements works on the A120. Cllr I

	<p>Henderson raised concern with the responses from both highways England and Bernard Jenkin MP. Suggestions were made to ask the MP, along with Highways England and Essex CC, to come to a public meeting. Cllr Henderson suggested HTC ask Highways England if it could be arranged for HTC representatives to join the next inspection of the road. Cllr Calver said it would be better to exhaust other channels before asking for a public meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To write to Zoe Lambert and ask for HTC to be present at the next inspection of the road from the Wix turnoff to Horsley Cross.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIN 136/17 – Members noted confirmation that S106 monies had been secured to fund a Youth Shelter adjacent to the Skate park and RESOLVED: to front fund the purchase of a shelter (Quotations considered in confidential business) and submit an S106 claim for reimbursement.
158/17	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIN 113/17 – Members considered a response to a letter to Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust regarding All Saints House. Cllr Smith said he wasn't impressed with the response and referred to points in the letter. He proposed that we write back to Sally Morris and ask her what is the criteria within the stated individual needs and requirements that results in an appointment at All Saints House? And is transport poverty one of them. Furthermore, to make it known that one of Cllr Smith's constituents was informed that they would have to travel to Colchester for an appointment with a consultant psychiatrist or one of his team as these were no longer available at All Saints House. It should be stressed that it's vital this services remains available locally for those adults who require it. <p>RSOLVED: To write back to Sally Morris.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIN 109/17 – Cllr Todd updated members on his discussions with Jane Stanbridge of Hutchison Ports regarding the Train Ferry Gantry. He mentioned that she had been in touch with various heritage agencies and has been given other contacts including one at TDC which would be pursued. Cllr Todd will report back when he knows more.
159/17	<p><u>COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW</u></p> <p>Members considered the consultation being conducted by Tendring District Council. Cllr Calver said he felt we didn't need to submit comments because the request to conduct the review came from HTC originally and TDC has our comments. He thought we should thank them for agreeing to conduct the review and confirm our views remain the same.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To write to Karen Neath.</p>
160/17	<p><u>STREET ART AT THE SKATE PARK</u></p> <p>Cllr McLeod declared a non-pecuniary interest as a committee member of the Harwich Festival of the Arts.</p> <p>Members considered a request from the Harwich Festival of the Arts for Harwich Town Council to take responsibility for any repairs required to the street art panels which are proposed for installation at the site of the skate park and to contribute an initial £250 towards the project. Cllr Todd asked if it would be sensible to set a limit for the repairs. Cllr Calver confirmed that if a situation arose where repairs might become costly, the option would be to remove the panels altogether, so the cost would never be more than the cost of doing that. Cllr J Henderson said the panels would likely need refreshing after a few years anyway.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To agree to take responsibility and to contribute an initial £250 to be funded from the Youth Projects EMR.</p>

161/17	<u>KEY PRIORITIES 2018/19</u> RESOLVED: To approve the Key priorities for 2018/19.
162/17	<u>EMPLOYER GRANT</u> Members noted receipt of £500 employer grant and RESOLVED: To allocate £250 to the Training Budget and the remaining £250 to the salaries budget.
163/17	<u>BRIEF REPORTS BY MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES BY THE COUNCIL</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Fowler has received no correspondence from the HDCA regarding meeting dates, and that also the 2016 and 2017 AGMs have not been held as far as she's aware. She mentioned that the next HIP LALC meeting hasn't been advised but is expected in March, and the Harwich Conservation panel meetings were held as and when and there was nothing to report. • Cllr C Powell referred to the Mayflower Conference on 12th March to be held at Parkeston Cruise Terminal. • Cllr McLeod reported that the HFA are very busy and the programme is complete for this year's festival. • Cllr J Henderson informed members that Teen Talk has signed up to the ECC lottery. She said they still struggle with referrals and funding. • Cllr Struth reported similar struggles with the Ark Centre, including trouble with their heating. • Cllr J Brown reported that he's received his first invite to the Harwich Mayflower Heritage Centre for a trustees meeting.
164/17	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING</u> Members received the Minutes of the Environment & Community Committee meeting held on 15 th February 2018 (circulated separately).
165/17	<u>ACCOUNTS</u> RESOLVED: To accept the financial report and to approve accounts for payment as per the schedule (circulated separately).
166/17	<u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE POST OR RAISED BY MEMBERS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members noted insurance premium of £4102.75 for 2018/19 (year 2 of a 3-lear Long-term agreement), to be expended from the Premises budget. • Cllr McLeod informed members that some organisations are short of funds and said he can assist with applications forms as a trustee of Grassroots. • The clerk referred to an update from the Harwich Speed Watch Partnership which had been previously circulated.
167/17	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The next meeting of Harwich Town Council will be held on Wednesday 11th April 2018 at The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich , at 7.00pm , or at the rise of the Town Planning Committee, whichever is the later.
168/18	<u>EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS</u> Pursuant to Sub-section 2 of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the meeting was closed to the press and public for the transaction of the under-mention business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Shelter

The Chairman closed the public part of the meeting at 8.45pm

CHAIRMAN

DATE