

MINUTES

of the Meeting of **HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL**
 held at
The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich
 on **Tuesday 26th November 2019 at 7.15PM**

Present:	Councillors Calver, Chant, Davidson, Fay, Ferguson, Fowler, I Henderson, J Henderson, McLeod, Morrison, C Powell, Richardson, Saunders, D Smith and G Smith
In the Chair:	Councillor Todd
Clerk:	Ms Lucy Ballard
Also present:	3 members of the public, 0 member of the press

086/19	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> None
087/19	<u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS</u> Cllrs Calver and Fowler declared a personal interest as trustees of the Harwich Society.
088/19	<u>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</u> None
089/19	<u>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> The Mayor referred to recent engagements attended since the last meeting, which were previously circulated to members. He mentioned the Harwich International Shanty Festival reception in the Crown Post was very good. Cllr I Henderson, as Deputy Mayor, attended a Politics and Democracy event for the Brownies and Guides of Gt Oakley, which he thoroughly enjoyed.
090/19	<u>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</u> RESOLVED: That the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the meeting of Harwich Town Council held on 15 th October 2019 (circulated separately) were approved as a correct record.
091/19	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIN 75/19 – Confirmation was received that Code of Conduct training for members will be delivered by Lisa Hastings, Monitoring Officer, at 6.30pm on Monday 16th December at the Guildhall. The Clerk informed members that for those unable to make this session, two further sessions had been arranged for February which would be held at the TDC offices in Weeley. • MIN 75/19 – Members considered a response from the PFCC following a recent letter of concern regarding the 2020 Integrated Risk Management Plan. Cllr Morrison was pleased a response had been received and found it

	<p>interesting. She referred to the part where he provided assurances that the changes wouldn't go ahead until sufficient numbers of 'on-call' personnel had been recruited. The Clerk confirmed that 15th Jan has been suggested as a date to meet with Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept the date for a meeting with Harwich Town Council on 15th Jan 2020.</p> <p>Cllr Henderson informed members that on 14th November, prior to the date of our letter, firefighters received a letter saying whole time firefighters will cease in March as it'll be an 'on call' only station and would no longer be 'day' crewed. On 1st April the mobilisation times will be 6 minutes across the board and mixed crews will apply. Some current full-timers will be there until July due to family commitments. If the position hasn't changed after this time, the turnout times will be longer, as they'll need to be drafted in from other towns.</p> <p>Cllr Calver reiterated that until the second pump is onsite, firefighters can't go into a building to rescue people so either public lives will be at risk or firefighters' lives will as many will not stand by and wait.</p> <p>Cllr Morrison previously attended Dovercourt and 'on-call' station, Maldon and said the two stations were not comparative.</p> <p>Cllr Henderson believes they still don't get the turnout they require and have recruited about 18 new on-call members.</p> <p>Cllr Chant felt that Harwich's position as a port made it deserved of full-time cover.</p>
092/19	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIN 145/18 – Members considered the consultation report from Historic England regarding the Train Ferry Gantry along with draft proposed comments. Members commended Cllr Todd for pushing this subject. Cllr Todd thanked Cllr Calver for assisting with putting together the draft proposed submission. Cllr Calver asked if a copy of the report could be given to the Archivists as well as the Harwich Society as David Whittle often gives talks on the Train Ferry Gantry. <p>RESOLVED: To submit proposed comments to Historic England and provide a copy of the report to HTC's Archivists and the Harwich Society.</p>
093/19	<p><u>HARWICH & DOVERCOURT COMMUNITY EVENTS TEAM</u></p> <p>Members considered a grant funding application.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To award £1197 s137 grant.</p>
094/19	<p><u>MAYFLOWER 400</u></p> <p>Members considered the following motion:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That Council uses its powers to promote tourism by allocating £4,000 from the Mayflower 2020 earmarked reserve for the purpose of assisting the Harwich Society to carry out the necessary alterations and improvements to Esplanade Hall to allow it to be used as the Visitor Reception Centre for Mayflower 2020.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To contribute £4000.</p>
095/19	<p><u>NATIONAL EVENTS WORKING PARTY</u></p> <p>Members considered setting up a Working Party to oversee any national events that may impact upon the parish.</p>

	<p>RESOLVED: To set up a National Events Working Party comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chair & Vice-chair of F&GP and the Clerk.</p>
096/19	<p><u>VIREMENTS</u> Members considered the following mid-year virements:</p> <p>Debit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £8k from the Economic Development budget heading; £3740 from the External Support Contingency Fund budget heading; £15k from the S137 budget heading. <p>credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £6200 to the Allotments Key Priority EMR; £4k to the Flood Memorial Garden EMR; £9k to the Hill School Refurbishment EMR; £4k to the Mayflower 2020 EMR; £2540 to the Disabled Access & Guildhall Improvements EMR. <p>Create:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Events EMR and credit £1k <p>RESOLVED: To authorise the virements.</p>
097/19	<p><u>BRIEF REPORTS BY MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES BY THE COUNCIL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Chant attended a meeting of the RBL and took the wreath laying at Upper Dovercourt. They are genuinely grateful that the Council is taking an interest in them. • Cllr I Henderson said, on behalf of the Tourism Group, the lights on the Quay will be turned off this Friday and Saturday until 10pm and the council's Christmas displays will be turned off also for this period. This is to maximise the effect of the light projection as part of the Illuminate Festival. He confirmed that road closures are also in place but these would not be all day. • Cllr Powell attended an Environmental Liaison Group meeting at Haltermann Carless and reported that they'd had a bad year and they've got to start the job of building a storage tank for waste water as they can only put so much back into the river. This will cost about £4.5m but the funding is secured. They're hopeful for a better year ahead. • Cllr McLeod reported that TDALC are still putting on pressure on the necessary groups about the condition of the A120. • Cllr J Henderson attended a recent Teen Talk committee meeting and will be approaching the council to arrange for one of the group members to come and speak to council about environmental issues. They're still struggling to get funds in to keep them afloat. There are so many services which have been withdrawn so they have a huge workload.
098/19	<p><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE MEETING</u> Members received the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 7th November 2019 (circulated separately).</p> <p>Members also considered the recommendation of the committee in relation to the demolition of the former Allotment Association Hut at an estimated maximum cost of £6200.</p>

	RESOLVED: To proceed with making the necessary arrangements for the former Allotment Association Hut to be demolished.
099/19	<u>ACCOUNTS</u> RESOLVED: To accept the financial update and to approve accounts for payment as per the schedule (circulated separately).
100/19	<u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE POST OR RAISED BY MEMBERS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members noted the latest report by PCSO Amy Robinson. Cllr McLeod referred to the playpark at Heron Way is being troubled with anti-social behaviour (drug taking and fire starting). • Members received a copy letter from All Saints Learning Council, which was for information. Cllr Calver felt it appropriate for a response to be drafted from the Mayor which indicates our support for their request to TDC and to thank them for their efforts. The Clerk agreed to assist the Mayor in compiling a response.
101/19	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The next meeting of Harwich Town Council will be held on Tuesday 7th January 2019 at The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich , at 7.00pm , or at the rise of the Town Planning Committee, whichever is the later.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.07pm

CHAIRMAN

DATE