

MINUTES
of the Meeting of HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL
 held at
The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich
 on
Tuesday 29th November 2022 at 7.18pm

Present:	Councillors Calver, Chant, Davidson, Fay, Ferguson, Fowler, J Henderson, McLeod, Morrison, Powell, Richardson, Saunders, D Smith, G Smith and Todd
In the Chair:	Councillor I Henderson
Clerk:	Ms L Ballard
Also present:	2 members of the public and The High Steward, Chris Strachan

095/22	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> None
096/22	<u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS</u> None
097/22	<u>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</u> None
098/22	<u>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> Members acknowledged a list of recent engagements attended by the mayor, which had been previously circulated. The mayor referred to meeting with the new Chief Executive of Harwich Haven Authority, Sarah West, and suggested a meet and greet with councillors in due course.
099/22	<u>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</u> RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of Harwich Town Council held on 18 th October 2022 (circulated separately) were approved as a correct record. FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of Harwich Town Council held on 8 th November 2022 (circulated separately) were approved as a correct record.
100/22	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> Cllr Calver raised concern over the lack of response from the MP regarding our letter about the reduction in Royal Mail services in Harwich and Dovercourt and it was RESOLVED: to write again to chase up.
101/22	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS</u> MIN 048/22 – Members acknowledged that the first HTC newsletter had been published. The mayor offered a vote of thanks to Asst. Clerk, Marie Snell for her great efforts.

102/22	<p><u>PARISH OF THE HARWICH PENINSULA</u> Members considered a grant funding application for the Arrival of St Nicholas event. RESOLVED: To award £160 s137 grant</p>
103/22	<p><u>PCSO</u> Members considered the PCSO provision for Harwich and Dovercourt beyond the current contract period which ends on 31st March 2023. Members were keen to commit to a new 3-year provision but were aware that TDC wouldn't be considering this until next week. RESOLVED: To continue with the current arrangement for a period of 3 years, commencing 1st April 2023 on the proviso that TDC is also content to continue on the same terms.</p>
104/22	<p><u>KEY PRIORITIES</u> Members considered the key priorities of the council for the 2023/24 year. RESOLVED: to agree to Key Priorities as detailed in Appendix A.</p>
105/22	<p><u>REQUEST FOR USE OF ARCHIVED MATERIALS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members considered a request for permission to copy/photograph archived materials relating to research into the Zeppelin Air Raids over Harwich in WWI and to be used as part of a Framed Text, Maps and Photographs Exhibit. • Members also considered a request for permission to copy/photograph other, as yet not identified, items for use by the Harwich Museum. <p>RESOLVED: To grant permission for the use of archived materials relating to research into the Zeppelin Air Raids over Harwich in WWI and to be used as part of a Framed Text, Maps and Photographs Exhibit, however not permit blanket use of other, as yet not identified, items and to request that permission is sought direct from the Archivists on each and every occasion that materials are required. If there are any doubts or irregularities then the decision can be brought back to the council. Mr Pugh confirmed that the maps have now been located and was content with the decision of the council.</p>
106/22	<p><u>BRIEF REPORTS BY MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES BY THE COUNCIL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Powell received some passenger data from the Harwich Harbour Foot Ferry over the last year and read these to the council. He mentioned there is a forthcoming meeting on 13th December where he will confirm the council's partnership contribution subject to budget provision approval. He also attended a Carless meeting and reported on a new wastewater project where they're putting in a new treatment plant with trials underway. They've taken on 3 local apprentices. He reported that local police were helpful in the disruption caused by the recent 'Just Stop Oil' campaign, which had a knock-on effect with their operations. • Cllr G Smith attended a trustee meeting at the Ark Centre and reported that the nursery is full and there are a number of families receiving support. The value of grants received are in line with monies received for the same period last year and Harwich Angels have donated them a metal shed for storage. The Ark Centre will be the beneficiary of this year's annual charity swim. • Cllr J Henderson attended a Teen Talk trustee meeting and reported they're struggling for funds. They have recruited more staff as they weren't able to deliver what the grants had been received for. Still managing to continue providing their services but are experiencing financial difficulties.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Todd reported there had been no meeting of the Harwich International Port (HIP) Port Liaison Committee for some time and he's concerned about the current economic situation and how this will impact on future operations. He asked if HTC could write to HIP and ask if they can re-establish the Port Liaison Committee as members have concerns about the current and future operations, which they would like to discuss. RESOLVED: to write to Paul Davey. • Cllr I Henderson attended a meeting of the MNWB on behalf of Cllr Ferguson and reported that container numbers are down this year quite considerably, likely due to the economic downturn. He also reported that they were monitoring the situation surrounding the Ukraine conflict in terms of the vessels entering British ports containing both Russian and Ukrainian crews to identify any issues, however there appear to be none and all are working well together.
107/22	<p><u>COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES</u></p> <p>Members received the Minutes of the following meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotments Committee – 1st November 2022
108/22	<p><u>ACCOUNTS</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept the financial report and to approve accounts for payment as per the schedule (circulated separately).</p>
109/22	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE POST OR RAISED BY MEMBERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members noted receipt of latest PCSO report(s), <i>for information</i>. There was discussion over the new style reports, which are brief in comparison to those provided by the previous PCSO. Cllr I Henderson suggested a meeting to discuss the reports should the council proceed with extending the PCSO arrangement. Cllr Fowler suggested that the police could send the same reports to council that are sent to Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators. • Members noted a Letter of acknowledgement of the permanent loan of the topographical maps of Harwich & Dovercourt to the Harwich Museum. • Members noted a letter of thanks in response to the condolences letter sent to the Palace following the death HM Queen Elizabeth II, from King Charles III. Members agreed that these items of correspondence should be given to the Archives for safe keeping.
110/22	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>The next meeting of Harwich Town Council will be held on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich at 7.00pm, or at the rise of the Town Planning Committee, whichever is the later.</p>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.32pm

CHAIRMAN

DATE