



Waveney Local Office
London Road, Halesworth
Monday 4th April, 2022 at 6.30pm
Held in the Day Centre
Minute Book ref No 73

MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE DAY CENTRE, HALESWORTH

Present: Councillors;

Annette Dunning (HTC and SCC), Peter Dutton, Anne Fleming, Rachel Kellett, Rosemary Lewis (Chair), Joyce Moseley, Maureen Took, David Wollweber (Vice-Chair), Jackie Wagner.

In Attendance: Nick Rees (Town Clerk), 1 member of the public.

Minutes

- 1) **Apologies:** District Cllr Alison Cackett; it was noted that in the absence of one District Councillor the other District Councillor could have attended instead.
- 2) **Declarations of interest:** Non-pecuniary interests: None
- 3) **Minutes:** The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 7th March, 2022 were accepted as a true record.
- 4) **Matters arising from the minutes:** Cllr Dunning reported that many residents had complimented the Council on the decision to fly the Ukrainian Flag in the Park.
- 5) **Chair's Report:** The Chair asked for a minute's silence for the sad loss of Patricia (Paddy) Flegg, a former Chair of the Town Councillor (1989 – 1991) and District Councillor for many years.

The Chair reported that she had attended nine meetings during March and had included written reports on many of them under item 7. The Chair wished to congratulate all involved with the very successful Day of Dance and the Twinning Association's arrangements with looking after the large contingent of dancers from our twinned town of Eitorf. The Chair reported that the German group had thoroughly enjoyed their stay and were keen to return again, perhaps in 2024. The day had ended with a traditional folk dance at Holton Village Hall.

The Chair reported that she had attended a photoshoot with District Councillor Tony Goldson for the placement of the Queen's Jubilee Plaque in front of the oak tree donated by ESC and recently planted by Cllr Rachel Kellett in the Town Park.

- 6) **Public Session:** [15 minutes on agenda items]: A resident drew attention to a disabled parking space notice, opposite the Library and asked if this was an official parking space. County Cllr Annette Dunning would investigate.

A resident reported that he had written to the Clerk to ask if the Council would be filling the vacant places for council appointed HCSL trustees as he was concerned that there were now only three appointed trustees. The Chair explained that there were only nine councillors at present instead of twelve and it was difficult to fill all these positions. The resident was asked whether he would be interested in becoming a Council appointed trustee and he accepted but wished it noted that he already had an interest in the Tennis club. It was then **RESOLVED**

that the Council appointed Simon Thackray as a council appointed HCSL trustee, subject to acceptance by HCSL.

Emma Healey of Halesworth Volunteer Centre gave a tribute to Paddy Flegg and offered her condolences to the family. Paddy Flegg had also been the Chair of HVC for many years, she had been well known in the town and concluded the tribute by saying that Paddy had been an extraordinary spirit who had loved Halesworth.

7) **Reports on meetings and events attended by Council representatives:**

- a) To review the list of committees and reps on outside bodies. The Clerk noted the agreed amendments to the list and after a proposal from Cllr Dutton, Cllr Mosely was formally appointed as Chair of the Leisure & Environment Committee.
- b) The Council received and noted the following reports:
 - i) Jubilee report
 - ii) Halesworth Twinning Society
 - iii) Campus
 - iv) HCSL
 - v) Unappropriated Estates
 - vi) Reclaim the Rain report. The Clerk explained that the Council needed to confirm its intention to bid for the £1,000,000 project funding and this would involve rallying local groups, residents and landowners in the town. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerks would liaise with the Leisure and Environment Committee members to start to organise this process which would hopefully give evidence that Halesworth would benefit from this project.
 - vii) Rifle Hall Trust minutes; 6th October 21 & 8th December, 21

Cllr Kellett had attended the Woodbridge Climate Action event and would circulate a report shortly.

Cllr Mosley distributed samples of the Halesworth Circular Walks leaflets.

Cllr Moseley gave a report on the formation of a Youth Group, which she explained was not currently an HTC group. Cllr Dunning had offered to chair the group and terms of reference had been drafted. There were 15 stakeholders and the initial purpose was to conduct a survey, using professional consultants, to ascertain what the youth actually wanted in the town. The Town Council had previously agreed to commit £1,000 towards the cost of the survey and agreed Cllr Moseley would head up the project but had not defined exactly how this would be implemented. The option was to either adopt the group as a Town Council committee or to keep the group independent. It was agreed that it was preferable that the group was independent but clarification was needed regarding holding the funds. It was then **RESOLVED** that the Council agreed to hold all the funds (including the contributions from ESC/Community Partnership and District Councillors) on behalf of the group for payment directly to the consultants for this survey only, the Clerk would administer the necessary paperwork and the Council or Finance Committee would need to approve the payments. If the group wished to undertake any other activities or apply for any grants in the future it would need to establish itself as a charity or constituted body so that it could have its own bank account, etc.

Cllr Kellett reported that SCC were still considering whether the town was suitable for the overnight Electric vehicle charging points currently being offered, this was complicated by the fact that HTC did not currently own any land but hopefully this would be **RESOLVED** soon.

Cllr Wagner reported that the Day Centre accounts were being prepared by a local accountancy firm and it was hoped that the accounts would be filed in April. The future of the Day Centre charity was still uncertain due to the lack of trustees but if it was not able to continue then access to the room and services would need to be closed down.

It was agreed that the vacancies for town councillors would be advertised again, the Clerk would liaise with Cllr Fleming with regard to a newsletter in the format agreed at the last meeting.

- 8) **District & County Reports:** The ESC leader's report, sent previously by email, was noted as the District councillor's report. The Council received a written 'parish' report from County Councillor Annette Dunning, which the Council appreciated. County Cllr Dunning reported to the Council that unfortunately Suffolk County Council's Bus Back Better bid had been unsuccessful which was very disappointing news for the area.
- 9) **Jubilee:** The group had sent a report in under item 7 but it was further noted that plans to have flags in the tree holders in the Thoroughfare had been discussed with Pearce & Kemp, the group were hoping to reuse the flag poles and would liaise with the Ink Festival organisers.
- 10) **Finance & Governance Committee:** The Council received and noted the report of the meeting held on the 21st March, 2022
- 11) **Planning & Highways Committee:** The Council received and noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th March, 2022
- 12) **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group:** The Council received and noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th March, 2022
- 13) **Leisure & Environment Committee:** The Council received and noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th March, 2022
- 14) **Assets & Services Committee:** No further updates to report.
- 15) **APM meeting:** To agree the date & venue for the Annual Parish meeting, the Clerk suggested the 4th May, 2022 at the Edgar Sewter Primary School, however two councillors were unable to attend on that date and so the Clerk would circulate some alternative dates. The Council agreed that providing refreshments may entice some residents to attend the meeting, the Clerk would check with the school.
- 16) **Correspondence:** None
- 17) **Maintenance:** Following a report last month the Clerk had obtained a quotation to replace the fencing along the Swan Lane Allotments and also along the Saxon Way Allotments. The Council asked the Clerk to obtain some alternative quotes for comparison.
- 18) **Newsletter:** Cllr Dutton suggested that the Council advertises the fact that the precept had not been increased for 2022 – 2023, Cllr Dunning suggested using an image showing the council bill at 0% for social media etc.
- 19) **Items for the Website/Noticeboard/Newsletters/Library:** Suggestions; Paddy Flegg tribute, Day of Dance report and Ukraine war images & sirens of concern for dementia sufferers.
- 20) **Accounts for Payment:** The following accounts were approved for payment:-

4696.	Navigus – Neighbourhood Plan support (Localism Act 2011)	2170 + vat
4697.	N Rees –Payment – Parking fee for Day of Dance	35.00
4698.	N Rees Zoom subscription (LGA 1972 s111) March	11.99 + vat
4699.	HMRC Employers liabilities (LGA 1972 s112) (5 th April) - CORRECTED	2,755.33
4700.	Halesworth Men's shed – adjustment to bench (GpoC)	97.00
4701.	Windiman – secondary glazing Station Bldg (LGA 1972 s144)	1912.50

DD/Standing Orders:

4702.	Monthly salaries (LGA 1972 s112)	2,820.31
4703.	LGPS Pension (LGA 1972 s112)	1,016.01
4704.	Barclays – Bank Charges (LGA 1972 s111)	8.50
4705.	Unity Trust – Bank charges	3.00

Bank & Cash Balances at April 4th, 2022

Current 728	£125,758.04
Unity Trust	£175,167.86
Community A/c	£5,296.85
Business Reserves 017	£92,711.48
Petty Cash	£22.82

The meeting was closed at 8.30pm