



Waveney Local Office
London Road, Halesworth

Monday 9th January, 2023 at 6.30pm

Held in the Day Centre

Minute Book ref No 84

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE DAY CENTRE

Present: Councillors;

Peter Dutton, Anne Fleming, Keith Greenberg, Rosemary Lewis (Chair), Joyce Moseley, Rachel Kellett, David Wollweber (Vice-Chair).

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

Minutes

- 1) **Apologies:** County and Town Cllr Annette Dunning, Cllr Jackie Wagner and Cllr Maureen Took.
- 2) **Declarations of interest:** To receive declarations for pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests: None
- 3) **Minutes:** The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 5th December, 2022 and the extraordinary meeting held on the 12th December 2022 was accepted as a true record after two minor amendments.
- 4) **Matters arising from the minutes:** Following Cllr Forster's resignation and comments made by email, Cllr Greenberg wished it noted that the cost of operating and managing the Community Hub was vitally important and it was always intended to be self-funding.

There was a minute's silence for former Town Councillor; Mrs Jen Berry who had passed away recently. Mrs Berry was also well known for her tireless litter picking throughout the town. The Clerk's office would post a short tribute on the website.

- 5) **Chair's Report:** The Chair gave a report on her activities and meetings attended during December.
- 6) **Public Session:** [15 minutes on agenda items] No Questions.
- 7) **Reports on meetings and events attended by Council representatives:** The Council noted the reports provided by Cllr Moseley, Cllr Greenberg and Cllr Wollweber.
- 8) **District & County Reports:** District Cllr Alison Cackett gave a verbal update and the Clerk had circulated the Leader's Report previously. District Cllr Alison Cackett suggested a bench in memory of Mrs Jen Berry which she would be able to help fund if the project went ahead before the end of March.
- 9) **Reports:** The Council received and noted the draft Committee/WG reports and minutes for information as follows
 - a) **Finance & Governance Committee** held on the 19th December.
 - b) **Assets & Services** Committee held on the 14th December, 2022
 - c) **Community Hub** WG

- d) **London Rd Building:** Update
- e) **Leisure & Environment Committee** held on the 14th December, 2022
- f) **Planning & Highways** – There had been no meetings in December
- g) **Thoroughfare** – There had been no meetings in December
- h) **Neighbourhood Plan** The report of the meeting held on the 21st December, 2022 had not been completed but Cllr Moseley gave a verbal update.

- 10) **Budget and Precept:** To consider the recommendation from the Finance & Governance Committee and to agree the precept for 2023/24. The Chair read out a statement explaining the increase to the budget and why it would be necessary to raise the precept by the Committee's recommendation to provide better services, to employ more staff, etc. The Committee had felt that in order to minimise the increase to a reasonable level some expenditure would need to be taken from reserves and therefore the precept and budget figures would be at different levels for 23/24. The increase represented an 8.49% increase for a typical Band D householder once the adjustment had been made for the 23/24 tax base. The Council would put out a clear statement explaining the decision before the end of March.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council agreed to set the Precept for 2023 – 2024 at £159,626 and it was **RESOLVED** that the Council agreed the budget at £183,950

- 11) **Terms of Reference (ToR):** It was **RESOLVED** that the Assets & Services ToR was approved and that this layout would be used for all future ToRs. A draft copy of the Leisure and Environment Committee's ToR would be considered again after it was approved by the Committee members.
- 12) **Station User Group:** Still awaiting Greater Anglia's surveyors report.
- 13) **Events:**
- a) Market Charter – Cllr Wollweber had provided a written report, the next meeting was scheduled for Friday 13th January.
 - b) Coronation – It was agreed to advertise for volunteers again, ask local groups and discuss with the Churches on the venue and format. It was agreed that ideally the event would need a screen to show the event live.
- 14) **Maintenance:** It was noted that so far it seemed very unlikely that the image was a genuine Banksy but it may be worth preserving. The Clerk was awaiting an official response from East Suffolk Council since it was their building.
- 15) **Correspondence:** None
- 16) **Items for the Website/Noticeboard/Newsletters/Library:** It was agreed to start an early campaign of advertising for new councillors for the May elections rather than trying to fill the two positions in the last remaining months.
- 17) **Accounts for Payment:** The Council approved the following accounts for payment

4696.	Tim Perkins Bamboo removal test- (Open Spaces 1906 ss9&10)	250.00
4697.	HMRC Land Registry (GPoC)	3.00
4698.	123 Reg Domain Name renewal (10 years) LGA 1972 s142	143.88
4699.	[Transfer] Soldo Pre-paid Account – top up to £500	275.00
4700.	Royal Mail – NP Referendum leaflet/reminder (Localism Act 2011)	232.24 + vat
4701.	Hetty Little Copy Shop – A5 flyers (Localism Act 2011)	49.00

DD/Standing Orders:

4702.	Zoom (LGA 1972 s111)	11.99 + vat
4703.	Barclays – Bank Charges (LGA 1972 s111)	8.50

4704.	Unity – Bank Charges (LGA 1972 s111)	34.65
4705.	Monthly salaries (LGA 1972 s112)	2,820.31
4706.	LGPS Pension (LGA 1972 s112)	1,016.01
4707.	Wave water bill – Saxon Allotments (Allotment. Act 1908 s23)	113.60
4708.	Wave Water bill – Swan Lane Allotments (Allotment. Act 1908 s23)	250.10

Bank & Cash Balances at 6th January, 2023

Unity Trust Current	£69,342.02
Unity Trust Savings	£200,892.30
Current 728	£123,646.80
Community A/c	£5,301.83
Business Reserves 017	£92,798.76
Soldo Prepaid Acc.	£225.59
Petty Cash	£22.82

- 18) **Staff Matters:** The Chair requested any questions that councillors may have before the staff reviews on Wednesday 11th January.

The meeting was closed at 7.50pm