



24.01.01

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 8th January 2024

Present: Cllrs. Joyce Moseley (Chair), Alison Cackett (Vice-Chair), Keith Greenberg, Peter Hedges, Gareth Pattison, Gugue Sibanda and Jackie Wagner, ESC Cllr Beth Keys- Holloway, the Town Clerk and one member of the public.

1. **Welcome.** The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, wishing them a Happy New Year, and confirmed that no recording was taking place.
Apologies - received from **Cllrs Dunning, Fosdike** (business) and **Took** (family matters) and **APPROVED**.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting.** The minutes of the monthly meeting held on **December 4th, 2023**, were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.
With the Council's approval, the Chair moved Item 5 forward so that Cllr Keys-Holloway could leave shortly afterwards to attend another meeting
5. **District & County Councillor Reports:**
ESC Cllr. Keys-Holloway, from her report, highlighted the affordable school uniform scheme (with grants still available until 28th January), the re-styled Warm Welcome network, and a number of initiatives to support residents of all ages in difficult circumstances. In discussion, experiences were shared on the recent flooding locally. **Cllr. Cackett** reported suffering a fall in the Angel North Car Park caused by a pothole and no lighting – ESC to be contacted to effect repairs.
SCC Cllr. Dunning, due to pressure of work, sent her apologies as the SCC Councillor and a message that her report would become available later in the week, but she would be pleased to answer any matters raised in the meeting in the interim.
Cllr. Greenberg said that he would be enquiring, copying in Cllr. Dunning, about the awaited costs related to the White Bridge.
4. **Public Forum** - It was reported that ESC had apologised for the vegetation overgrowth around the War Graves in the Cemetery (although clearance was yet to be done). The Council's attention was drawn to the Giant Redwood in the Town Park, citing safety concerns - the Leisure and Environment Committee was directed to consider the situation. In response to a query on the ownership of the underpass, advice was given that ES Council was the likely owner, given its location between two ESC assets and therefore responsible for maintenance.
6. **Town Councillor Reports:**
Cllr Hedges advised about the recent HCSL AGM, noting significant expenditure outlay, progress with the accounts and a need to clarify aspects of the proposed Wayfinding Sign.
Cllr Cackett reported on Halesworth Dementia Carers Fund, commenting that they were unique in supporting carers through respite, etc. Awareness and funding needed to be raised and it was suggested that Community Partnerships be approached for the latter.
Cllr. Moseley updated the meeting about Town Branding and Website projects, with 120 contacts on the Marketing Communication list, the soft launch later in the week and the full launch in early March. Acknowledging the excellence of the work, the Council recorded its thanks to Lyndsay Want and Philippa Salvoni for their talented contributions.
7. **NOTED** – the following draft Committee minutes for information
 - a) Finance & Governance Committee (18th December 2023)

Although no meeting of the Assets and Services Committee took place in December. Cllr Greenberg provided an update on the Museum (re-engagement of dialogue re required repairs), the transfer of ESC assets (removal of one small item, to accelerate legal work on the remainder) and the Community Hub (the imminent receipt of contractor expressions of interest).

8. **Clerk's Report**
 - a) **Applications for co-option** – NONE.
 - b) **Clerk's Report** – The completed Halesworth 800 "Levelling Up" reporting form had been received by ESC / Councillors were requested to contribute to the Town Council's response to the SCC Library Service Consultation
 - c) **Items for publication** - NONE.
 - d) **Correspondence** – – **SALC** had highlighted the upcoming D-Day 80 celebrations on June 6th this year. The Air Museums at Holton and Flixton would be contacted to see if either had any plans to participate.

*It was moved and **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting by 15 minutes*



Halesworth Town Council

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24.01.02

9. RFO Report.

- a. **NOTED** - the monthly report of income and expenditure (year to date) against the budget and a bank reconciliation. A report on expiry dates for CIL funds was provided, showing that they are being utilised well within statutory time limits.
- b. **AUTHORISED** - accounts for payment (for significant items, see below).

Halesworth Town Council PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
325 Market	02/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		Weekly Clean after Market	East Suffolk Services	S	174.99	35.00	209.99
331 General Expenses	02/01/2024		6 Soldo Prepaid Accou		Defibrillator Pads	Defib Store	S	121.00	24.20	145.20
335 London Rd Imp. Reserves	08/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		Plumbing	G Hambling (plumbing & hea	S	2,065.12	413.03	2,478.15
336 London Rd Imp. Reserves	08/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		Maintenance	EPS Transfers	S	34.00	6.80	40.80
337 Stationery	08/01/2024		6 Soldo Prepaid Accou		void	Void or Duplication	S			
338 London Rd Imp. Reserves	08/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		London Rd Building Improvem	Katherine Thistlethwayte	Z	1,500.00		1,500.00
341 Halesworth 800 Event	10/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		Banner	EPS Transfers	S	212.00	42.40	254.40
342 Training	10/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		Training	SALC	S	90.00	18.00	108.00
343 Pension Costs	10/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		Pension Contribution	Suffolk County Council	X	504.44		504.44
344 CCTV	10/01/2024		1 Unity Trust Current		CCTV (New)	BSA Security & Fire	S	567.52	113.50	681.02
Total								5,269.07	652.93	5,922.00

Staff salaries and items less than £100 +VAT have been removed from this list.

- c. After presentation and discussion, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Budget and Precept for **FY 2024/25**. The Precept was increased by 2.5% (£167,400), the per household Band D equivalent of £90.46.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.45pm

Date of next meeting – Monday 5th February 2024