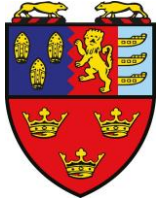


24.12.01

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd December 2024

Present: Cllrs. Joyce Moseley (Chair), Alison Cackett, Annette Dunning, David Fosdike (after Item 3) Rachel Kellett, Gareth Pattison and Jackie Wagner, ESC Cllr Geoff Wakeling, three members of the public and the Town Clerk.

1. **Welcome.** The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and confirmed that no recording was taking place.
2. **Apologies** - received from **Cllr Greenberg** and **APPROVED / Cllr Sibanda** (*confirmed by email prior to the meeting*) - both personal.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting.** The minutes of the monthly meeting held on **November 4th, 2024** were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.
4. **Applications for co-option as a member of the Town Council** (originally three applications, reduced to one by the time of the meeting). Gabrielle Maughan introduced herself, and discussed with councillors her experience, skills and attributes that she felt might be of value to the Town Council. Following a ballot, it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to elect Gabrielle Maughan to the post of Town Councillor, with the Acceptance of Office statement to be taken prior to the next meeting, along with other necessary paperwork. The Council Office would provide a 'welcome pack' in the next few days.
5. **Public Forum**
Nick Hoare introduced himself as a new member of (H-ASH) and spoke on various local initiatives. Cllr Kellett also advised on H-ASH's Net Neutral Carbon initiative, re-design of the website and collaborative work with Leiston.
6. **District & County Councillor Reports:**
ESC Cllr. Wakeling highlighted key points of his report, as well updates on the pile-driving situation in the Chediston Street development (estimated completion December 4th), the need for developers to engage more with neighbouring households on such matters, and the inertia surrounding the ESC/HTC Asset Transfer.
SCC Cllr. Annette Dunning submitted her report and was open to receive questions at any time. She commented on the key liaison required between the District Council's responsibility for clearing leaves and the County Council's responsibility for keeping road drains clear (preventing localised flooding), the former a significant impact on the latter.
7. **Town Councillor Reports:**
Cllr. Moseley had a busy month as Chair, attending the ESC Economic Development Workshop (with Cllr. Wagner and the Town Clerk, Remembrance Sunday (Cllrs. Cackett and Dunning also attended in different roles), Halesworth Volunteer Spotlight / Tamsyn Imison Award event, ESC's Community Partnership Forum (with several topics discussed), an ASB event at the Co-op and a Youth Outreach Meeting (which, unfortunately, was poorly attended).
Cllr. Cackett spoke about the collective disappointment in cancelling the Christmas Lights event because of adverse weather, but reported that Late Night Shopping appeared to be very busy.
Cllr. Dunning reported on her efforts to represent the Town Council on the Sizewell C Northern Transport Forum (which was declined because of Halesworth's location) and her success in encouraging the NTF Chair to attend future council meetings.
8. **Committee Minutes**
 - a) Finance & Governance Committee (18th November) – *preliminary draft Budget reviewed, finalisation next month*
 - b) Assets & Services Committee (20th November) – *Zoom meeting scheduled with Community Hub consultants*
 - c) Leisure & Environment Committee (26th November) – *H-ASH Governance status to be resolved.*
 - d) Planning and Highways Committee (20th November) – *New members required to ensure a consistent quorum.*
9. **Clerk's Report**
 - a) To **RECEIVE** the **Clerk's Report** as an update and further instruction on matters outstanding from previous meetings.
INK Festival request for additional funding. This item had been referred to F&G and the L&E Committee to identify potential alternative sources of funding. L&E suggested two budgets - Youth Development, Code 96 (£4k) and New Events, Code 512 (£1k). After considerable debate, it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to provide a commissioning award of £5,000 to the Ink Festival as exclusive funding for the new Youth Festival Day and related workshops, to be followed up by further projects and/or events specifically to encourage participation in the arts by the young people of Halesworth, supporting a key (child/youth-focussed) component of the Council's Four-Year Plan. There was strong concurrence that further work to engage the Town's younger generation was required.
East Suffolk Asset Transfer - no direct communication to date, but it appeared ESC preparations for a top-level meeting were being made. A key factor will be the awaited quote for underpinning the Town Park Bridge.



Halesworth Town Council

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Other Items – in hand

24.12.02

- 9+ b) To **RECEIVE** an update on the East Suffolk Council Asset Transfer proposal (*see Items 6 & 9a) above*).
- c) To **REVIEW** any correspondence not previously circulated.
- Adrian Ramsay MP** had kindly proposed attending future Town Council meetings (Clerk to liaise)
- There was discussion about the outstanding service to the Town provided by **PCSO Gemma King** and it was **AGREED** that this should be communicated to Gemma's superior officers by the Council.
- d) **Cyber Resilience Plan** – the discussion paper was noted/agreed in principle, with actual proposals to be fleshed out at the next meeting.
10. **RFO Reports** (to follow)
- a) **RECEIVED** - a monthly report of income and expenditure (year to date) against the budget and a bank reconciliation.
- b) **AUTHORISED** (in advance) - the remaining grant payments, awarded per F&G minutes for September and October.
- c) **RECEIVED** - a Reserves and CIL report (with a more positive update on future CIL receipts)
- d) **APPROVED** - the new Reserves and Investment Policy.

Date of next meeting – Monday 6th January 2025