

Present: Councillors;

Anne Fleming (Chair), Tracy Gardner, Peter Dutton, Keith Greenberg, Rosemary Lewis, Sandra Leverett, Andrew Payne, David Thomas, Maureen Took, Paul Widdowson, David Wollweber.

In Attendance: Nick Rees (Clerk), District Cllr Tony Goldson, District Cllr Letitia Smith and 27 members of the public

Minutes

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Declarations of interest:** Non-pecuniary interests: Cllr Thomas for 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 & 16, Cllr Wollweber for 8, 9, 10 & 11 Cllr Payne for 9b, 11a, 14 & 15, Cllr Widdowson for 11, 12, 14 & 16, Cllr M Took for 16c, Cllr Greenberg for 6, 9 & 10, Cllr Gardner for 10 & 16, Cllr Leverett for 9b, 10, 11, 13, 16 Cllr Dutton for 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 & 15, Cllr Lewis for 10, 14 & 16, Cllr Fleming for 8, 9, 10, 13, 14 & 16
3. **Minutes:** The monthly minutes of the meeting held on the 7th November were accepted as a true record.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes:** Cllr Lewis asked whether the parking figures from WDC had been received, the Clerk confirmed that no figures had been sent. Cllr Leverett asked whether there was any news on the Teen Shelter, the Clerk confirmed that one of the PCSOs had confirmed that the Police had received around a dozen complaints but there was no other news to report. Cllr Leverett asked whether Hughes had been thanked for supplying the Media Screen in the Library, the Clerk confirmed that he had thanked Hughes in an email (Note and also in the Community News). Cllr Leverett also wished to thank Cllr Wollweber for his involvement in getting the Media screen installed. Cllr Lewis asked if there was any news on the phone box in Station Road, the Clerk confirmed that no decision had been made.
13. **(Item brought forward) HPFA:** Update: The Chair of the Council, Anne Fleming read out a statement which clarified that, where Councillors were appointed as trustees to any charity, they then represented the best interests of that charity and not the Council (statement available upon application). Cllr Thomas, Chair of the HPFA, speaking on behalf of the HPFA, read out a statement explaining HPFA's view point of why the negotiations with Campus had broken down (statement available upon application). The Chair invited questions from members of the public. Dr Simon Weeks (Campus) read out a series of questions and stated that he refuted the majority of Cllr Thomas' statement. There followed a discussion about the provision of a Swimming Pool which Halesworth residents had indicated was their most popular choice (31.7%) with Football being the next most popular choice (9.3%). There also followed a discussion about the former swimming pool and members of the public asked who had decided to close it. There was no one present who was able to offer any accurate information on the decision. District Cllr Tony Goldson then made a statement, expressing the importance that the groups involved should get together and urging the Chair of the Council to assist if possible. Cllr Goldson then made an accusation that the Town Councillors would be seen to be responsible for the closing of the Patrick Stead Hospital. Several members of the Council took exception to this, Cllr Wollweber reminded the District Cllr that he had nothing to do with the HPFA. Cllr Goldson corrected his statement by saying

that he was referring to the Town Cllrs that were trustees on the HPFA. The Council members were left baffled by this statement. The Chair reminded everyone present that this was a Council meeting and not an HPFA meeting. The Chair of the HPFA, Cllr Thomas stated that there would be a public meeting on this subject at a later date. The meeting was left open for other questions by members of the public. One resident asked about the Council's process behind the decision over the structural survey and the valuation of the London Rd Building. The Clerk would write to the member of public to explain the process. The same resident asked for a copy of the 'Extraordinary' meeting held in October 2015 which were not on the website. The Clerk would investigate further. Another resident wanted to know how long it took to answer an email. The Clerk explained that he had not answered this particular email (received a week ago) as Cllr Took had since then answered the query in person. The query had been a misunderstanding about advertising an event in Halesworth. The Clerk advised that if anyone wished to have an event advertised would they please address the email directly to the Clerk.

5. **Chair's Report:** To receive a monthly report from the Chair of the Council.
On the 8th of November, Cllr Greenberg and the Chair attended a Public Meeting with the Police Commissioner at Holton Village Hall. Cllr Greenberg provided a report of the evening. On the 11th November, Cllr Thomas and the Chair attended the Armistice Day ceremony in the Market Square. This event was very well attended by the public and Edgar Sewter School pupils attended and sang at the ceremony.
On the 13th November, Cllrs Thomas, Payne, Leverett and Lewis and the Town Clerk attended the Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church.
On the 16th November there was a Photo shoot in the Park for the hoisting of the Green Flag which was well attended by Councillors and members of Halesworth in Bloom. The flag will stay up until the New Year.
On the 17th and 24th of November, the Chair and Cllr Dutton attended a Councillor course in Claydon.
On the 23rd of November, Cllrs Payne, Leverett, Wollweber, the Chair and the Town Clerk attended the official switch on of the information screen in the library.
On the 24th November, Cllrs attended the Lights Switch on in the Thoroughfare. The lights were even better this year and the Chair congratulated Halesworth Events Management team and a letter of appreciation and thanks would be sent.
6. **Police:** Mr Alastair Macfarlane presented a report on the meeting with the Police Constable on the 8th November, an update on the closure of the front desk in the Police Station, Crime reduction, Police Specials as well as other Police matters in the town.
7. **Public Session:** [15 minutes on agenda items] Item 13 (taken earlier) had used up the allotted time for public questions and had also been used for questions on other subjects.
8. **Communications:** The Council received the report of the meeting held on the 14th November, 2016.
9. **Planning Committee:**
 - a. The Council received the report on the meeting held on the 23rd November, 2016. Cllr Dutton explained that the Committee had agreed that in certain circumstances the Clerk had delegated powers to decide minor planning applications. The procedures for this decision making process would be written up and presented to the Planning Committee and the Council in due course.
 - b. To consider Cllr Dutton's 'Strategic Evaluation' for submission to WDC's Strategic Planners. It was agreed that this amended document would be deferred to the next Town Development Committee meeting on the 12th December, 2016.
10. **Town Development Committee:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th November, 2016 were accepted as a true record.

11. Reports on meetings and events attended by Council representatives:

- a. To receive any reports on meetings or events attended by Councillors: The Council received the reports for the Rural Housing presentation, SALC AGM and the friends of Halesworth County Library meeting.
- b. To consider any amendments to the list of 'reps on outside bodies'. Cllr A Payne explained that he would not be able to continue as a Council representative on the Halesworth Playing Fields Association or on the Halesworth Events Management team. It was agreed that Cllr Gardner would replace Cllr Payne on the HPFA. The Council did not have the authority to appoint anyone on HEM.

12. **District & County Reports:** There were no reports from the District & County Councillors. Cllr Leverett asked District Cllr Smith what the situation was with the London Rd Building and Cllr Dutton also asked District Cllr Smith if she would chase up the parking figures for August through to November which the Council still had not received from WDC

14. **Health:** There were no further updates on the Patrick Stead Hospital and the Rayner Green Resource Centre.

15. **Bridge Street:** The Council considered the request for HTC to licence two additional planters in Bridge Street and it was RESOLVED that the licence was approved.

16. Financial Matters:

- a. The report of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on the 21st November, 2016 required minor corrections and would be approved at the next Finance meeting.
- b. The budget recommended by the Finance Committee was approved by the Council (copy attached).
- c. Parking Update: The Clerk reported that the contributions were still coming in and it looked as if the target would be reached.

17. **Forum Meeting:** To consider topics for the Forum meeting on the 24th January, 2017. The Chair would be looking at ideas of how to obtain the opinion of the town's residents on various matters such as the free parking for future years and also the London Rd building.

18. **Halesworth TC Logo:** It was noted that the Logo was a design and was not a registered Coat of Arms. The Council therefore held the copyright. It was agreed in principle that the Council would permit the use of the design for sports clubs and non-commercial organisations. It was then RESOLVED that the Council approved the request for the Halesworth Archery Club to use the HTC logo.

19. **Correspondence:** To consider any correspondence

20. **Accounts for Payment:** To approve the accounts for payment.

3876.	Cllr A Payne (Expenses – SALC AGM) (LGA 1972 s175)	47.35
3877.	Cllr A. Fleming (Travel expenses – training) (LGA 1972 s175)	54.00
3878.	SALC – Councillor Training (Cllrs Fleming & Dutton) (LGA 1972 s137)	200 + vat
3879.	Viking – Stationary (LGA1972 s111)	112.14 + VAT
3880.	Halesworth Property Maintenance (LGA 1972 s137) Roof repairs to Station	185.76
3881.	Cllr M Took (Mileage; representing HTC at Newmarket event) (LGA 1972 s175)	54.00

DD/Standing Orders:

3882.	Barclays Bank Charges (LGA1972 s111)	29.05
--------------	--------------------------------------	-------

3883. Salaries (LGA1972 s112)

2127.29

Bank & Cash Balances at 2nd December, 2016

Current 728	£128,257.48
Community A/c	£5,269.42
Business Reserves 017	£92,231.11
Petty Cash	£115.11

The meeting was closed at 8.47pm