

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 6.30pm
(*Public Forum at 6.35pm)
Large Front Room
Town Hall, South Lane, Hessle

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Adams, Craggs (Chairman), Davison, Hardy, Harrison, Keillor, Langdale (Vice-Chairman), Maw, Pickering, Toogood and Walker.

Mr Paul Hogan & Mr Bob Carroll – (Non-voting Advisory Members)

Humberside Police: PC Heather Collins

Clerk: Mrs Kim Cooper & Events Officer: Miss Sarah Rowland

7 Members of the Public

Apologies: Cllrs Bovill, H. Hogan, Nolan and Sutton

134887 PUBLIC FORUM

To hold the Public Forum at the appointed time of 6.30pm to allow any members of the press or public to speak.

There were no members of the public or press present that wished to speak at this point of the meeting.

134888 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

The Chairman now read out the following – Members must declare their pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in items at this meeting – *rather than personal and prejudicial interests* – and ensure that they act appropriately.

None given.

134889 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

(Adams/Davison)

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th September 2024 and authorise the Chairman to sign.

134890 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

None received.

134891

HESSLE WARD COUNCILLORS:

To receive any updates/information from the Hessle Ward Councillors.

As Councillors Bovill and Nolan were not present and Councillor Pickering has been in hospital, there were no East Riding Council updates or information to report from the Ward Councillors at this meeting.

134892

POLICE MATTERS:

To receive the latest figures/information on police matters pertaining to Hessle since the previous meeting. The latest October figures have currently not been sent from Humberside Police but will hopefully be received to be distributed by the Clerk at this meeting.

PC Heather Collins from our Local Policing team attended the meeting and provided that latest figures reported for October:

5 Burglaries (2 residential) – PC Collings confirmed that the local Policing team have put on more patrols and have changed their shift patterns to patrol later into the night and early mornings.

15 Thefts which were mostly shop thefts reported.

10 reports of Criminal Damage.

Public Order and Anti-Social Behaviour reports had gone up and this was expected due to the school holidays, Halloween and Bonfire Night. The large gang of youths gathering and causing problems in Hessle Square over a number of nights during the half term week has not been seen on their patrols since the Town Council reported the damage done.

As it has been National Knife Crime week, the team have also been visiting local schools to give talks as part of operation Sceptre, together with talks about Anti-Social Behaviour and ‘Stranger Danger.’

6.40pm As members had no further questions, the Chairman and members thanked PC Collins for taking the time to attend and she left the meeting.

134893

HESSLE VOLUNTEERING:

Mr Bob Carroll delivered a presentation and update on the Hessle Volunteering project and provided details on the aims, objectives and initial and potential projects. Originally the idea was to set up a volunteer group as a charity but looking into this further, he now feels that it would be more beneficial to keep this under the Town Council control. Mr Carroll and Events Officer, Sarah Rowland, have previously met with some businesses and have interest from some volunteers already but are also looking to undertake a presentation to the businesses at the Hesslewood Business Park in order to provide details of the volunteering project and discuss the possibility of receiving help from more local businesses, not just with funding, but with staff time and skills to help with projects.

(Walker/Hardy)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council continues to fully support the volunteering project and agrees that Hessle Volunteering be set up under Hessle Town Councils’ control rather than as a separate charity trust. Councillor Pickering thanked Mr Carroll on behalf of the Council for the continued work undertaken by him in order to set up the volunteering group.

6.50pm The Chairman closed the meeting to allow residents present to speak on the following item.

134894 TRANBY GATE WOODLAND & WILDLIFE HAVEN PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

- a) Council to receive the results of the Tranby Gate Woodland survey from the Clerk at this meeting and to discuss and ratify if Hessle Town Council wish to lease and take over the running and management of the Tranby Gate Woodland area.

(Harrison/Pickering)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council accepts the results of the survey, (128 responses received, 119 in favour, 9 against). Hessle Town Council fully supports the activity of the Friends of Tranby Gate but due diligence needs to be undertaken and the Town Council are prudent in gathering all relevant information and potential costs of taking on the lease and management of this area of land, including the additional insurance and Solicitors costs, together with details of the lease conditions and to also find out how much East Riding Council have actually spent on this land over the last 10 years in order to provide a better idea of what might need attention in the next few years. This information will then be considered by the council and how it is to be funded and budgeted for in 2025/2026.

- b) Information has been received by our Solicitors, Hamers, from East Riding Council and Hessle Town Council to instruct the Clerk to confirm to Hamers Solicitors to act for the Town Council in relation to a Lease for the Amenity Land (Tranby Gate) and for the Clerk to accept and sign their terms of business and conditions, including the costs.

(Davison/Pickering)

RESOLVED that this is deferred until the information at point (a) above has been received.

134895 DARLEY'S ROUNDABOUT:

Councillor Nolan has requested that Darley's roundabout is discussed again following the recent work undertaken by ERYC to replace the grass with gravel/stones in order to enable Hessle Town Council to express its disappointment to ERYC Highways of ignoring our views.

(Davison/Pickering)

RESOLVED that whilst the original correspondence from ERYC was to advise the Town Council that they were gravelling the surface of the roundabout and the only choice they were asking the Town Council for was for its preference on one of the three different gravel options, the Clerk writes to the ERYC Area Engineer to express the Town Councils disappointment and requests that in future, ERYC consults with the Town Council prior to any decisions being made on any changes to road/street infrastructure in Hessle as Hessle Town Council feels that too many things are being imposed in Hessle which Hessle Town Council and Hessle residents consider are below standard.

Councillor Pickering asked members to thank Councillor Langdale for her continued work on this since 2023 and for initially reporting and bringing the state of the roundabout to ERYC's attention.

7.10pm As he was feeling unwell, Councillor Pickering gave apologies and left the meeting.

134896

ERYC

a) ERYC – Overview & Scrutiny Committees

Council to consider putting forward any suggestions to ERYC for topics for scrutiny as part of the 2025/2026 municipal year. Topics must be of a strategic nature that affect the East Riding as a whole and not parochial.

(Davison/Chair)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council put forward two topics for scrutiny:

- I. That East Riding Council departments such as Highways, undertake consultations with Town & Parish Councils before any changes or proposed works in towns and villages are undertaken.
- II. To look into why there are not enough skilled staff for children with special educational needs across all Schools.

b) ERYC Anti-Social Behaviour Data

To receive and note the latest six monthly updates from the ERYC Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

(Harrison/Davison)

RESOLVED that the ERYC six monthly Anti-Social Behaviour data is received and noted.

c) Annual Rough Sleeper Snapshot 2024

The ERYC annual estimate of rough sleepers is due to take place on the evening of Thursday 21st November and into the morning of Friday 22nd November. If members know of or are made aware of anyone sleeping rough in the Hessle area on this date, please advise the Clerk with as much information as possible in order that the form can be completed.

(Harrison/Chair)

RESOLVED that the information is received and noted and members will advise the Clerk if they are made aware of any sleeping rough on the evening of Thursday 21st November.

d) Salt bin Maintenance visits

To receive and note the email from ERYC confirming that they will no longer be conducting routine maintenance visits to Town and Parish Council owned salt bins unless they are reported as requiring maintenance. The Clerk has therefore arranged for our Notice Board Warden to undertake regular checks of the council owned salt bins.

(Adams/Davison)

RESOLVED that the email is received and noted and that our Notice Board Warden will in future undertake regular checks of the town council owned salt bins.

e) Flood Warden

To receive and discuss the email and list of responsibilities and guidelines received from ERYC informing town and parish councils of a new initiative to implement local voluntary flood wardens. Hessle Town Council to therefore consider if Hessle would benefit from having a voluntary flood warden and a response to be sent to the ERYC Emergency Planning team.

(Davison/Toogood)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council do consider that Hessle would benefit from having a voluntary flood warden and the Clerk will respond accordingly to the ERYC Emergency Planning team.

134897

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL FORTHCOMING MEETINGS 2025 AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DATE:

To note the new list of Committee and Full Town Council meeting dates for 2025. This will be emailed to all members and will be available on the website. The Annual Town Meeting must take place between 1st March and 1st June (Local Government Act 1972, S12, para 14(1) and is usually scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday in April, however as this date falls within the 2025 Easter Holidays, Council to consider if this date is acceptable or to agree another date from the dates available; Tuesday March 25th, Tuesday 29th April or Tuesday 27th May 2025.

(Hardy/Adams)

RESOLVED that the new list of Committee and Full Town Council meeting dates for 2025 is received and noted and that the date closest to the Easter Holidays is chosen, which will be Tuesday 29th April, for the Annual Town Meeting.

134898

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

a) TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL'S NEW DUTY TO PREVENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Council to receive details of the new legislation (s40A Equality Act 2010) which creates additional legal requirements for Councils, along with all employers, to take pro-active steps to prevent Sexual Harassment at work.

Council to therefore adopt the new HTC Bullying, Sexual and General Harassment Policy and Procedure written by Personnel Advice & Solutions Ltd for Town & Parish Councils and recommended by ERNLLCA. All Councillors and staff are to sign the policy acknowledgement and disclaimer form and if anyone does not understand the new legislation, ERNLLCA will be offering training sessions.

(Maw/Langdale)

RESOLVED that the HTC Bullying, Sexual and General Harassment Policy and Procedure is adopted by Hessle Town Council and that all Councillors and staff sign the declaration to confirm that the policy has been read and the information is understood and that this is undertaken on an annual basis.

134899

FINANCE

a) Schedule Nos: 299, 300, 301 and 302 (Receipts & Payments up to 31st July 2024, 31st August 2024, 30th September 2024 and 31st October 2024):

(Davison/Harrison)

RESOLVED to approve the copies as given that were duly signed by the Chair of Finance & Personnel at the meetings held on 11th September 2024 and 13th November 2024.

Councillor Davison brought attention to members present of the ERYC increased costs for By-Elections. The Westfield By-Election held in March on Schedule 302 cost Hessle Town Council £9,736.66 and a further bill is due shortly for the recent Southfield By-Election and that this needs to be considered by the Budget Committee and moving forward, carefully by the Council if the situation of a Councillor vacancy occurs again

b) Budget 2025-2026

The Clerk would like to remind Councillors that as well as our regular items of spending, attention is given for any additional requirements for any projects by each Committee for the next financial year and details passed to the Clerk and Chair of the Finance Committee. These will be considered by the Budget Committee in January.

(Chair/Davison)

RESOLVED noted.

c) Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee

Following the Southfield by-election and Councillor Maw joining the Town Council, he has expressed an interest in joining the Finance, Personnel and Asset Management Committee which under the Terms of Reference is fully subscribed for 2024/2025 (7 members appointed at the AGM in May). Council to consider allowing Councillor Maw to join the Finance Committee as an additional member until the next full Town Council AGM in May 2025.

(Davison/Harrison)

RESOLVED that Councillor Maw is permitted to join the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee as an additional member until the Town Council AGM meeting in May 2025 when Councillors determine the Committee structure.

d) Speed Indicator Devices

RECOMMENDATION received from the Planning & Traffic and Finance Committees to discuss and ratify the purchase 2 x Speed Indicator Devices. A report from the Clerk and further information is enclosed about Speed Indicator Devices for perusal.

(Toogood/Davison)

RESOLVED that subject to available grant funding from Humberside PCC, Hessle Town Council purchases 2 x Speed Indicator Devices and the Clerk completes the ERYC Expression of Interest Form required for the initial assessment of eligibility.

134900

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings (minutes previously circulated) and approve any recommendations and resolutions contained therein;

Planning & Traffic – 1st October 2024 – (Adams/Hardy)

Planning & Traffic – 5th November 2024 – (Adams/Hardy)

Environment & Open Spaces – 12th November 2024 – (Toogood/Adams)

Events & Communications – 2nd October 2024 – (Walker/Maw)

Events & Communications – 6th November 2024 – (Walker/Maw)

Finance, Personnel & Asset Management – 9th October 2024 – (Davison/Toogood)

Finance, Personnel & Asset Management – 13th November 2024 – (Davison/Toogood)