

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 18th March 2025 at 6.30pm
*(Public Forum at 6.30pm)
Large Front Room
Town Hall, South Lane, Hessle

MINUTES

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

Clerk: Mrs K Cooper

Mr Nick Russell, ERYC Local Growth Programme Manager & Mr James Sissons – ERYC Principal Engineer

1 Member of the public

Apologies: Cllrs Bovill, Harrison, Nolan and Pickering

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

135035 PUBLIC FORUM

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

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

135036 DECLARATION 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.

Councillor Sutton declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no.135043 as she is the Town Council representative for the Community Centre Organisation and a Trustee for The Hourne Community Centre Development Trust.

Councillor Paul Toogood declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no.135043 as he is Trustee for The Hourne Community Centre Development Trust.

Councillor Adam Maw declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no.135043 as he is Trustee for The Hourne Community Centre Development Trust.

135037 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

(Sutton/Walker)

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2025 and authorise the Chairman to sign.

135038

CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no communications the Chairman may wish to lay before the Council.

6.35pm Mr Fisher attended the meeting and spoke to his request.

135039

FLAG FLYING:

A resident attended this meeting and had made a request for the Town Council to discuss and consider displaying/flying the National Flag (St George's Cross Flag) instead of the Union Flag in the Square and at the Town Hall.

(Chair/Davison)

RESOLVED that as the government guidance is to fly the Union Flag on all government buildings, including those owned by local authorities as a symbol of national unity and pride, the Town Council will continue to fly the Union Flag on the Town Hall (following completion of the renovations). The request to fly the St George's flag permanently in the Square will be discussed and considered further at the next meeting.

135040

POLICE MATTERS:

To receive the latest information/figures on police matters pertaining to Hessle since the previous meeting.

(Davison/Sutton)

RESOLVED that the latest figures are received and noted. The Council are pleased to see that the Local Policing Team are holding surgeries in and around Hessle Square which is considered a better option for residents to be able to engage with them rather than holding surgeries in a room in the Library or Town Hall. However, it was felt that they do need to make more residents aware of the surgeries and the Clerk will liaise with the Local Policing Team to see if they could do more advertising of their surgery dates.

135041

CARRIAGEWAY REFURBISHMENT SCHEME:

Please note that this briefing is to remain confidential until it has been discussed at the Full Council meeting and the formal consultation can proceed.

Mr Nick Russell the ERYC Local Growth Programme Manager and Mr James Sissons, ERYC Principal Engineer attended this meeting and delivered a presentation/briefing for a highway maintenance improvement scheme to be delivered in 2025/2026 for Prestongate. The proposed planned highway maintenance improvement scheme will enhance the carriageway and pedestrianised route along Prestongate in Hessle by replacing the existing worn and damaged block paving with a more suitable material that aligns with the local area's character and samples of these were handed around for Councillors to look at. This scheme will be funded through an in-year grant from Hull and East Yorkshire's devolution deal and will address;

All current street furniture, including benches, bins, and signage, will be carefully dismantled.

Items that are in good condition will be stored for reuse, while those that are no longer serviceable will be sent for recycling to ensure minimal environmental impact.

The existing paving flags and blocks will be removed.

The underlying foundation will be excavated to the necessary depth to ensure a stable base for the new construction. This will involve removing any unsuitable material and replacing it with

layers of construction material, compacted to provide a solid foundation.

Any existing drainage issues will be addressed during the construction process. This may include repairing or replacing damaged drainage pipes, ensuring that the new paving does not contribute to water pooling or standing.

New planters will be installed to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the area. These planters will be designed to complement the new paving and street furniture, providing a cohesive look and feel to the pedestrianised route.

High-quality block paving will be laid to replace the old, worn materials. The new blocks will be chosen to match the local area's character, ensuring that the improvements are in keeping with the surrounding environment.

Once the paving is complete, new street furniture will be installed. This will include benches, bins, and signage, all selected to enhance the functionality and appearance of the pedestrianised route.

A comprehensive traffic modelling study of the highway network in Hessle town centre has been completed in response to aspirations to upgrade the existing the public realm in Prestongate and The Square. This study considers exploratory ideas designed to address concerns raised in recent years, such as vehicle traffic in Prestongate, the potential implementation of a one-way system on The Weir, and the development of a more welcoming built environment in The Square. The aim of this preliminary analysis is to assist in identifying feasible solutions to tackle the longstanding issues identified in the town centre recovery plan produced in 2021, satisfy the needs of town centre users and support improved high street performance.

The proposed programming for the Prestongate scheme is;

- Finalise of the detail design by July 2025.
- The intention is to get tendered prices and programmes back in August 2025.
- Works are estimated to commence on-site in September 2025, allowing the contractor time to order materials and mobilise.
- Work will proceed in short lengths to ensure access to all businesses and properties served off Prestongate.

Temporary traffic management

- The road will be closed to through traffic, with a suspension of the one-way order to allow vehicle access from either side of the works for deliveries and access to properties.

Stakeholder/media plan

- Portfolio Holders to be consulted in early March 2025.
- Ward councillors and Hessle Town Council to be consulted up to 5 days after the Portfolio Holders.
- Initial letters drop informing residents/business owners in March 2025.
- Finalise detail design in July 2025 – circulate with key stakeholders.
- Second resident letter outlining the contractors programme of works.
- Press Release – 4 weeks before start of the construction works weeks prior to start date.
- Advanced warning signs to be provided for road user's – 2 weeks before start.

Members were asked if they had any questions and one of the main points raised was about utility companies coming in and digging it up again. Mr Sissons confirmed that the works will be procured externally via the YORcivil Framework Agreement, administered by Infrastructure and Facilities. Utilising the Framework ensures that the work is procured legally and in accordance with EU directives. It also prevents the repetition of work in checking potential suppliers' financial viability, health and safety records/policies, insurances, and competence and they will go out to all utility companies to ask if any work is needed to be undertaken before the program begins. ERYC will be looking to put a "Section 58" protection order notice on the work after completion, which under the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991, allows local authorities to protect newly surfaced or

reconstructed roads and footways from utility companies digging them up for a period of 3 to 5 years, unless for emergencies or new customer service needs.

As there were no further questions, the Chairman and members present thanked Mr Russell and Mr Sissons for attending the meeting and for providing this initial briefing on the proposed plans, which is very welcome. If members do have any further questions they are to send them to the Clerk who will contact Mr Russell and Mr Sissons. Councillor Davison requested that this item is also put on the next Planning & Traffic Committee meeting for discussion.

Mr Russell and Mr Sissons left the meeting.

135042 HESSLE WARD COUNCILLORS:

To receive information/updates from the East Riding Council Ward Councillors for Hessle.

As none of the Ward Councillors were present at this meeting, there were no East Riding Council updates or any information to report.

135043 HESSLE COMMUNITY CENTRE:

Council to discuss and review the Draft Lease now received from Hamers Solicitors between Hessle Town Council and the Hourne Community Centre Development Trust. Mr Bob Carroll has provided some feedback and comments.

(Sutton/Langdale)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council concurs with Mr Bob Carrolls comments and the Clerk will instruct Hamers Solicitors to amend the wording in section 8.3.1 (d) of the Lease document and that a suitable sub agreement be drawn up for the Town Council to continue paying the running costs and receive the income and that the Trust will only be responsible for the maintenance and improvement of the building.

135044 HUMBER BRIDGE BOARD – BYELAWS

To receive information from the Humber Bridge Board and a copy of their revised Byelaws. Any comments or feedback is to be sent to the Humber Bridge Board by Friday 21st March.

(Davison/Hardy)

RESOLVED that the information and revised Byelaws documents are received and noted. Whilst Hessle Town Council has no comments to make regarding the revised Byelaws, the Council asked the Clerk to respond with feedback about concerns the impact the removal of the toll booths might have on both the Humber Bridge and Humberfield roundabouts, and to suggest again that to ease some of this congestion, the Bridge Board would re-consider opening the slip road that they closed in order to prevent and alleviate some of the heightened traffic problems especially for local residents and commuters travelling into Hessle.

135045

ERYC

a) Bus Shelters: BSIP Town / Parish Owned Bus Shelter Replacement Programme

Referred from the Finance, Personnel & Asset Management Committee for Full Council to receive a copy of the letter from ERYC Principal Public Transport Officer confirming a successful bid from the DfT for capital funding. One of the ways they are utilising the funding is to offer Town and Parish Councils support to replace existing bus shelters, or to install new bus shelters at stops where they currently don't exist. Council to therefore consider submitting an expression of interest in order to receive DfT funding support to either replace existing bus shelters (in the Square) or procure a new shelter. ERYC will seek a financial contribution from the Council for the cost of any replacement or new shelters.

(Sutton/Hardy)

RESOLVED that Hessle Town Council submit an expression of interest to replace all three existing bus shelters in the Square with specification no.2 shelters and that a new shelter is installed along the South side of Boothferry Road between Darley's roundabout and the Hull boundary as there are currently 3 shelters on the North side of Boothferry Road (heading towards Hull) and none on the South side (heading from First Lane towards Darley's roundabout).

b) Community Governance Review

Council to receive and note the email received regarding the ERYC Community Governance Review update on some of the developments and queries received and how ERYC will be able to help Town and Parish Councils who will be affected by these changes with property changes, asset transfers, highways and signage etc in order to be ready for 2027 when the boundary changes will take effect.

(Sutton/Chair)

RESOLVED that the email is received and it is noted that Hessle Town Council will not be affected by any major boundary changes that will take effect in 2027 other than a small area to be transferred over from Swanland (known as area SW-5) along Jenny Brough Lane. The Town Council will not have to take over the maintenance of any other town/parish council assets or roads.

135046

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Council to discuss concerns regarding offensive or defamatory posts about council staff and individual councillors appearing on councillors' personal or political social media pages.

Key Discussion Points:

Councillors' Responsibilities – Reviewing the expectations for councillors in managing and moderating discussions on their social media accounts.

Impact on Staff and Councillors – Addressing the effects of offensive, defamatory, or harassing content on individuals and the broader council environment.

Existing Policies & Legal Considerations – Examining current social media policies, potential breaches of the code of conduct, and legal implications.

Possible Actions – Considering measures to ensure accountability, such as guidance on moderating posts, training, or policy updates.

Recommendation:

That the council considers adopting clearer guidelines and measures to ensure that social media platforms are not used to facilitate harassment or reputational harm.

(Sutton/Hardy)

RESOLVED that the Clerk looks into what other Town and Parish Councils have implemented and formulates a Social Media policy in line with the Code of Conduct and the Civility and Respect project and one which all members will approve, sign and comply with.

135047 FINANCE MATTERS:

a) Schedule Nos: 305 and 306 (Receipts & Payments up to 31/01/25 & 28/02/25):

(Sutton/Langdale)

RESOLVED to approve the copies as given that were duly signed by the Chair of Finance, Personnel & Asset Management at the meetings held on 12th February 2025 and 12th March 2025.

135048 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

To accept the minutes of the meetings (minutes previously circulated) and approve any recommendations contained therein;

Events & Communications - 5th February 2025 – (Craggs/Sutton)

Events & Communications – 5th March 2025 – (Craggs/Maw)

Finance, Personnel & Asset Management – 12th February 2025 – (Davison/Sutton)

Finance, Personnel & Asset Management – 12th March 2025 – (Davison/Hardy)

Planning & Traffic – 4th February 2025 – (Adams/Toogood)

Planning & Traffic – 4th March 2025 – (Adams/Langdale)