

**Parish of HIGHAM FERRERS
NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT –
A Meeting of the Town Council will be held virtually using zoom video conferencing
on the **THIRTIETH day of MARCH 2021 at 7.30pm.**

The meeting will be open to the public unless the Council otherwise direct.

If you wish to speak at the meeting or attend the meeting but not speak
please use the zoom joining details below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81827362542?pwd=RTNGMjcwUTBOOEtsWUs0emI1bUpLQT09>

Meeting ID: 818 2736 2542

Passcode: 305489

One tap mobile

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+442039017895,,81827362542#,,, *305489# United Kingdom

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Meeting ID: 818 2736 2542

Passcode: 305489

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81827362542?pwd=RTNGMjcwUTBOOEtsWUs0emI1bUpLQT09>

AGENDA (UPDATED)

1. **APOLOGIES**
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Interests and the nature of those interests relating to items on the agenda.
3. **MINUTES**
To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd February 2021.
4. **PUBLIC FORUM (15 minutes)**
To allow any member of the public to address the meeting for a period of no longer than three minutes each. If the item raised by the member of the public is not on the agenda the Clerk will advise how the issue will be addressed. No decisions can be taken under this item.
5. **MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**
To receive a verbal report from the Mayor.

6. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

To receive and note the Town Clerk's Report.

7. **QUESTIONS**

An opportunity for Councillors to ask questions pursuant to standing order 9. (Questions must relate to business of the Town Council and not be related to items of business on the agenda. Every question shall be put and answered without discussion.)

8. **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**

To receive reports from Councillors on meetings they have attended as representatives to other bodies.

9. **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

To receive written reports from the Ward District Councillors and the County Councillor.

10. **FINANCE**

10.1. To approve accounts for payment as at 30th March 2021.

10.2. To approve the bank account reconciliation as at 28th February 2021.

10.3. To receive and note the budget report as at 28th February 2021.

10.4. To approve the following expenditure: -

- (i) Annual membership of Northants ACRE, £35.
- (ii) External decoration of the Town Hall, £1300.
- (iii) Additional fencing and 2nd gate to the Dogs Off Lead area, £795.
- (iv) Heritage Trail Interpretation Panel, Market Square, £1895

11. **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

To receive and adopt the minutes of the following committees: -

11.1. Planning and Development Committee held on the 16th March 2021.

11.2. Environment and Recreation Committee held on the 16th March 2021.

Recommendations

(i) **BEDE CLOSE BOUNDARY HEDGE AND ACCESS TO THE OPEN SPACE TO THE REAR**

That a licence with an annual fee of £25 be granted to the resident of No. 25 Bede Close. That the licence permit the removal of the hedge and installation of a fence to block off access to the open space.

(ii) **UPGRADE OF PATH TO TENNIS COURTS**

That a budget of £9000 be set to allow for the upgrade of the path by the tennis courts, improved ramp access and renovation of concrete area. Costs to be met from s106 Reserve for Off Site Recreation.

12. **COVID-19 UPDATE**

To receive an update from the Clerk on current status of services and facilities delivered by the Town Council. (to follow)

13. **REVIEW OF DELEGATED POWERS**

To extend the time period of the delegated powers given to the Clerk as a response to the Covid-19 outbreak. Review Date June 2021.

14. **REQUEST TO BLOCK HOLES AT THE DOGS OFF LEAD AREA**

To consider a response to the request to block the animal holes at the Dogs Off Lead area.

15. **TOWN WORKING PARTY**
To receive and note the minutes of the Town Working Party held on the 24th March 2021.
16. **CHARTER WORKING PARTY**
To receive and note the minutes of the Charter Working Party held on the 11th March 2021.
17. **CONSULTATION ON PAVEMENT LICENCE**
To consider a response to the consultation on:-
Pavement Licence: The Garrison - Gentlemens Hair Tailors, 1C Wharf Road, Higham Ferrers.
18. **CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**
To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the following items of business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting
19. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**
To receive and adopt the minutes of the Personnel Committee held on the 23rd March 2021.
20. **RE-OPEN THE MEETING TO PUBLIC AND PRESS**
To resolve that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.
21. **ITEMS TO REPORT**
An opportunity for Councillors to report items and to request future agenda items. No decisions can be made under this item.

Mrs S J Mitcham BA (Hons), FILCM

Town Clerk: S J Mitcham

Date: 24th March 2021.

The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting. Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 members of the public are permitted to photograph, film, broadcast and report on the meeting, subject to the efficient running of the business and the meeting not being disrupted.