

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 at the
TOWN HALL, MARKET SQUARE, HIGHAM FERRERS on the
TWENTY- FOURTH day of SEPTEMBER 2019 at 7.30pm.

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

AGENDA

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 27th August 2019.
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.
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**
An opportunity for Council to receive written reports from the Ward District Councillors and the County Councillor.
10. **FINANCE**
 - 10.1. To approve accounts for payment as at 24th September 2019.
 - 10.2. To approve the bank account reconciliation as at 31st August 2019.
 - 10.3. To receive and note the budget report as at 31st August 2019.
 - 10.4. To approve the following expenditure:-
 - (i) Annual tree works with a budget increase to £20,500.
 - (ii) Works to 5 & 5A College Street with funds to be transferred from Asset Maintenance

Reserve.

- (iii) 2 desktop computer upgrades and laptop upgrade £1,863.
- (iv) Transfer to cloud based phone and broadband system.

11. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

11.1. Planning and Development Committee held on the 10th September 2019.

11.2. Environment and Recreation Committee held on the 13th August 2019.

Recommendations

Footpath Repairs to Little Castle Fields

- (i) That repairs to the footpath running through Little Castle Fields to Midland Road be undertaken at a cost of £8839 to include the motorcycle inhibitor section of path leading to Castle Fields. Funds from Asset Maintenance Reserve.

Interpretation Panel in St Mary's Church

- (ii) That a budget of £1570 be agreed to allow for the provision of an interpretation panel in St Mary's Churchyard. Funds allocated in Projects budget.

Wooden Bench and Replacement Seats at Castle Fields

- (iii) That two replacement wooden benches on the grass area and two cast iron seats alongside the footpath be installed at Castle Fields at a cost of £1488 plus installation and delivery. That, if possible, one of the cast iron seats be raised to help accommodate the elderly/disabled. Funds from Higham Ferrers Improvement Reserve.

Fencing to Fitzwilliam Leys Play Area

- (iv) That the fence to Fitzwilliam Leys Play Area be replaced with galvanised playsafe specification bow top fencing with an agreed budget for the works of £7995 to include in built hydro self-closing gates. Funds from Section 106 Maintenance Reserve.

Bark Chip and Repair Work to Fencing and Wooden Edging, Villa Rise Play Area

- (v) That the bark chip be replenished at Villa Rise play area at a cost of £1625. That works to replace a number of base boards to the fence and sections of the wooden edging to the wetpour areas be undertaken at a cost of £954.

12. PLANNING

To consider responses to the following planning applications:-

- (i) 19/01110/FUL: Workshop at 85 Wharf Road, Higham Ferrers.
- (ii) 19/01318/FUL: Change of use from agriculture to provide a new football facility by providing a full 3G football pitch and a pavilion incorporating changing facilities in addition to community and office accommodation (purely dedicated to sports development in the County). A new car park with SUD surface is to be created to serve the new facilities. The remaining site is to be grassed with informal pitches for football training and matches at land off Newton Road, Higham Ferrers.

13. EXTERNAL AUDIT 2018-19

To receive and note the External Auditors Report and Conclusion of Audit 2018-19.

14. BLUE PLAQUES

To consider whether to install a blue plaque on Joe's Bar.

15. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

To agree whether to submit an application to register the open space of School Lane as an Asset of Community Value.

16. **PIPEWORK REPAIRS TO THE STORM DRAINAGE SYSTEM, ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD**
To consider a request from the Friends of St Marys to install liners to seal faults in the pipework of the storm drainage system in St Marys Churchyard.
17. **WEED TREATMENT TO PATHS AND ROADS**
To consider the following motion from Cllr V Paul:-
That the Town Council research the permission and costs for clearing the weeds on the paths and highways on the approaches to Higham Ferrers so that the Town Council can consider funding the work at a future meeting.
18. **COMMUNITY CENTRE WORKING PARTY**
To receive and note the minutes of the Community Centre Working Party held on the 5th September 2019.
19. **CLOSURE OF MEETING TO 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.
20. **LIBRARY**
To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of the Book Lending Working Party.
21. **RE-OPEN THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**
To resolve that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.
22. **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
Date: 18th September 2019.

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.

NOTE:

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER IS ON THE FIRST FLOOR. A STAIR LIFT IS AVAILABLE. IF YOU WISH TO USE THE STAIRLIFT WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD CONTACT US IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS AND ENSURE SUFFICIENT TIME IS AVAILABLE FOR ITS USE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING.