

**MINUTES of the Extraordinary Meeting of the HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL**  
 held at  
**The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich**  
 on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 12.00pm**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Councillors B Brown, Calver, Fay, Fowler, I Henderson, J Henderson, McLeod, Morrison and Todd</b>
<b>In the Chair:</b>	<b>Councillor C Powell</b>
<b>Clerk:</b>	<b>Ms Lucy Ballard</b>
<b>Also present:</b>	<b>2 members of the public, 2 members of the press</b>

<b>118/18</b>	<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> Cllrs Ashley, J Brown, F Powell, Smith, Struth, Urwin
<b>119/18</b>	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS</u></b> None
<b>120/18</b>	<b><u>PCSOs</u></b> <p>Cllr I Henderson asked members to consider a request, which would enable two additional PCSOs to be appointed that would be based in Harwich. The request for was Harwich Town Council to co-fund 1 of the PCSOs, with Tendring District Council providing the other half of the funding.</p> <p>Cllr I Henderson thanked the Mayor for holding this meeting at short notice. He said there's a need to recognise policing levels are at crisis levels, leading to increases in crime as well as the public's fear of crime and feels residents and local police have been let down by the Government and the PFCC, putting their safety at risk.</p> <p>Cllr Henderson was approached by the District Commander with an opportunity to put a PCSO into Harwich but couldn't do it unless there were two, for safety reasons. They have funding for 1 but now required funding for the other. TDC has also considered the proposal as they would provide the other half of the funding. There is a time issue on this as there's no other recruitment option planned so there's a limited window of opportunity. Whatever decision is made, our commitment would be dated from the next financial year and Essex Police are prepared to fund the post between now and then. He referred to the draft agreement and confirmed the duration would be 2 years. He also referred to the employment and engagement terms and the agreed objectives, which would be agreed by the Councils. He said the objectives can only be varied by agreement between all parties. He also mentioned the need to appoint a representative and for performance management measures to be put in place.</p> <p>Cllr Todd raised concern that if a PCSO can't go out alone, what would happen in the other goes sick or left their post. Cllr I Henderson said this can be discussed prior to signing the agreement and suggested a meeting with</p>

	<p>himself, the Mayor, Clerk and Chair and Vice-chair of F&amp;GP with the Chief Inspector but added that the PCSOs are a valuable asset to the community. The Clerk referred to some points within the draft agreement that members should be aware of so these could be addressed prior to signing any agreement.</p> <p>Cllr Henderson added that we would have the full support of the Tendring Community Safety Team and would help with any issues we might face.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To proceed with the agreement</p>
121/18	<p><b><u>CCTV</u></b></p> <p>In consideration of the above item, members discussed the current arrangements for the part funding of the maintenance of the local CCTV. Cllr I Henderson said the above proposal offers better value for money than covering the maintenance and monitoring costs of the CCTV and felt the impact of our contribution wasn't clear enough. Cllr J Henderson referred to a previous visit with former councillor King to the monitoring hub and discussed how it was monitored but felt the feedback we received wasn't sufficient enough for HTC to determine if it was value for money and that PCSOs would be more effective measure again tackling crime. Cllr Morrison asked what the cost was and the clerk confirmed. Cllr Calver clarified that the CCTV will remain in operation as HTC paid for the upgrade to the CCTV to 24hr monitoring and annual maintenance. Cllr Fay asked if our access to the footage would be reduced and Cllr Calver confirmed we never did have access to it and only the police could request this. Cllr Todd agreed that the impact on crime levels couldn't be established and the funds would be better expended on the PCSOs.</p> <p>Cllr Fowler said that the GDPR has made releasing the footage a stricter process. Cllr Morrison confirmed that the CCTV was still possibly effective in acting as a deterrent, but it wasn't fulfilling what we wanted from it. It was</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To cease funding at the end of the current financial year.</p>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 12.29pm.

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**