

**MEETING OF HARLOW COUNCIL**  
**7.30pm on Thursday 29 October 2020**  
**Zoom - Online**

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This meeting is a virtual meeting which is being hosted on Zoom. Councillors and registered public participants will be sent access details nearer the date of the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to watch the meeting can do so via a livestream which will appear on the Council's YouTube page  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/HarlowCouncil>

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors' declarations of interest (if any) in relation to any items on the agenda.

3. Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)

To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2020.

4. Communications from the Chair

5. Petitions from the Public

6. Questions from the Public

7. Questions from Councillors

8. Motions from Councillors

a) Local Government Reform

Proposed by Councillor Mark Ingall (seconded by Councillor Eugenie Harvey):

"This Council believes that the anticipated Government white paper on Local Government reorganisation is premature and ill-timed and agrees that:

- i) The current district council system has delivered, and continues to deliver high quality services for local residents;
- ii) Any combined authority or unitary arrangement will

create a democratic deficit with less accountability to Harlow residents; and

- iii) The focus on Covid-19 recovery, and the challenges currently faced by local authorities as a result, means that additional pressures of reorganisation from any Government proposal are ill-timed.

The Council therefore requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State expressing the Council's view in the strongest terms."

b) Sam's Place

Proposed by Councillor Chris Vince (seconded by Councillor Shannon Jezzard):

"Harlow Council opposes the requirement of Essex County Council to impose charges for the use of Sam's place, a cherished facility which provides play and socialising opportunities for disabled children and respite for parents.

This Council requests that the Portfolio Holder for Community and Wellbeing writes to Essex County Council asking them to reconsider their 'people must start to get used to paying for social care' approach and allow Harlow to continue delivering the Sam's place service without charge."

c) Green Flag Awards

Proposed by Councillor Danny Purton (seconded by Councillor Eugenie Harvey):

"This Council welcomes the prestigious Green Flag Awards with Harlow Museum Walled Gardens and Harlow Mill joining Parndon Wood and Harlow Town Park as examples of the UK's very best green spaces. The awards recognise and reward well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for their management across the United Kingdom and around the world.

Whilst the Town Park is owned by the Council and maintained by Officers, HTS and volunteer teams, and Parndon Wood Nature Reserve is maintained by the Council and local organisation ECCO, Harlow Mill is maintained by the Canal and River Trust.

These awards are a testament to the work that Council Officers, HTS, ECCO and our brilliant volunteers carry out each and every week. The support our local volunteers provide is so valuable and in particular we would like to thank the Museum Garden volunteers, the Green Team volunteers, Parndon Wood's

Wildspace Volunteers, the Harlow Conservation Volunteers, Town Park Volunteers and the Friends of Pets' Corner who put in so much hard work to keep these spaces looking beautiful.

This Council requests that the Covid-19 Recovery Working Group investigates ways and means by which these wonderful spaces could be further utilised by residents and visitors to support the physical and mental health of the community during the Pandemic.”

9. References from Cabinet and Committees

a) Referral from Cabinet - Resolution in Principle to use Compulsory Purchase Powers to Advance the Development of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town (Pages 13 - 45)

- i) Cabinet recommended to Full Council that, in principle, the Council agrees to use powers available to it under section 226(1)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to compulsorily purchase land within the District to support development where in conformity with the Harlow Local Development Plan (subject to its adoption) in order to achieve the planning benefits set out within the Plan. Noting that this in no way predetermines or circumvents the formal planning process.
- ii) Cabinet recommended to Full Council that, in principle, where Harlow District Council is landowner, or through the process of acquisition (including under CPO) would become landowner, the Council agrees to retain ownership but grant licence for infrastructure works on that land provided that:
  - The infrastructure is intended for a public purpose, benefit or public adoption;
  - There are no legal restrictions preventing this from happening;
  - It does not materially undermine another purpose for which the Council requires the land or there are compelling reasons to dispose of a freehold interest ; and
  - Where appropriate, the Council receives appropriate costs/compensation, indemnities and other arrangements considered necessary.
- iii) Subject to East Herts District Council resolving to follow the same course of action, Cabinet recommended to Council that, in principle, it also agrees to use the powers set out in

recommendation i) should that be necessary to compulsorily purchase land in the Burnt Mill and River Way areas of the District, to enable the construction of transport infrastructure to support development in the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town including the delivery of The Gilston Area allocation and The River Stort Crossings in the East Herts District Plan and the achievement of the wider strategic planning benefits referred to in the report including supporting the future Harlow Local Development Plan.

- iv) Cabinet and Council note that officers will prepare for any possible Compulsory Purchase Order(s) (CPO) including any associated Indemnities on behalf of the Council in accordance with the agreements under Recommendations i) and iii); and, where considered necessary to make a CPO, the Head of Governance, in consultation with other Heads of Service of the Council as may be necessary, will bring each matter back to Cabinet seeking authority to do so.

10. Reports from Officers

11. Minutes of Cabinet and Committee Meetings

To note the following Cabinet and Committee minutes:

- a) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 8 September 2020 of Licensing Committee (Pages 46 - 47)
- b) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 10 September 2020 of Cabinet (Pages 48 - 58)
- c) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 30 September 2020 of Development Management Committee (Pages 59 - 61)
- d) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 13 October 2020 of Scrutiny Committee (Pages 62 - 66)
- e) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 14 October 2020 of Development Management Committee (Pages 67 - 70)
- f) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 15 October 2020 of Cabinet (Pages 71 - 77)

12. Matters of Urgent Business

Such other business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be received as a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances to be specified in the minutes.