

HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL
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Clerk: Ms Lucy Ballard

Full Council Minutes

of the Extraordinary meeting
of the
Town Council
held at
The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich
on
Monday 27th April 2026 at 8.10pm

Present:

Cllrs Armstrong, Calver, Chable, Davidson, Fay, Fowler, I Henderson, J Henderson, McLeod, Powell, Richardson, Smith and Todd

In the Chair: Councillor Morrison

Clerk: Ms L Ballard (Clerk)

Also Present: Yazmin Hornsby-Fry (Apprentice Admin. Assistant) and Seamus O'Hanlon (H&M Standard).

172/25 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Saunders and Wade

173/25 Declarations of Members' Interests

None

174/25 Devolution/Local Government Reorganisation

Members considered an invitation from Tendring District Council to address the following points in relation to Local Government Reorganisation:

- To consider continuing with discussions and exploring the opportunity for the transfer of assets from TDC to the Town Council ahead of Local Government Reorganisation;
- To indicate which (if any) of TDC's assets the Town Council would like to be considered for transfer;
- To consider if the Town Council is willing and in a position to draw up the necessary business case(s) for TDC's consideration within the next three months.

There was considerable discussion amongst members regarding the proposals and potential assets which could be offered for transfer from the district to the town council.

Some members were concerned that the resources needed to manage the larger assets would be prohibitive and any problems could have dire financial consequences for the council, whereas others felt that further discussions would be crucial to establishing the risks and how these could be overcome.

After much consideration, members were largely agreed that there were still too many unknown factors to make a firm decision but since it was clarified that the only commitment was to enter into further talks, it was **Resolved:** To continue discussions with TDC and further explore the opportunity for the transfer of assets.

The meeting was closed at 9.06pm.

Chairman

Date