



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk's report to Full Council March 2026

General Updates

There is nothing new to report relating to asset transfers, but the Clerk has a meeting at Waverley on 12th March relating to Woolmer Hill and Church Meadow applications and will report back to Council at the following Full Council meeting.

Refurbishment of the downstairs of the Town Hall is now complete, barring the new flooring going down in the toilet and kitchen areas. During the decorating a number of areas of damp were discovered in the downstairs offices, investigation work is being commissioned.

On 5th March the Mayor and clerk attended the launch of the Museum's centenary appeal, brochures are available at the town hall for those who are interested.

Police update – provided by PCSO John Savage

The focus of your Specialist Neighbourhoods team is balanced between crime trends/repeatedly targeted locations and local residents' concerns. As such, we would like to report on the following:

The key priority for your local policing team this quarter is reducing shoplifting throughout Haslemere. Whilst there has been a marked decrease in such offences in the vicinity of the high street, businesses in the Wey Hill area are continuing to be disproportionately victimised. We are responding robustly to the matter with an increase in patrols and arrests.

Illegal and inconsiderate parking, as well as abandoned vehicles, are being targeted where possible at every opportunity in line with community wishes. This week, one driver was given 9 points on his licence by police and ordered to pay approximately £2,000 in fines after parking illegally on the zigzags outside of Screwfix and being found to have been driving without insurance. In southern Haslemere, One abandoned vehicle was also recently seized due to police believing it was involved in crime – a significant amount of cannabis was subsequently recovered from the vehicle.

There have not been consistent reports of anti-social behaviour at Lion Green in recent months, however officers are preparing to increase patrols and engagements in the area with summer fast-approaching, when seasonal youth-related ASB historically increases.

Events

Volunteers are needed for the Charter Fair on 4th May. Please let Amelia know if you are able to help - email admin@haslemeretc.org

Mayor's Gala Ball



This event proved very successful, all tickets were sold in advance and a good night was had by all ! A profit of £4393 was raised overall, these funds will go towards the Mayor's Charities.

Quiz Night at the Royal British Legion, Hindhead

The Mayor's quiz night is being held at the Royal British Legion on Friday the 20th March, tickets are £20 per person (or £100 for a team of 6) which includes a fish & chip supper. Contact Jo to find out more.

Bark in the Park Dog Show



The above dog show is taking place on Lion Green on April 21st to raise funds for the Mayor's Charities.

Councillors are welcome to come along, it's a really fun event.

Mayor's Civic Reception

The Mayor's Civic Reception will take place on Sunday, 19th April at the Royal British Legion in Hindhead, invites have been e-mailed to Cllrs, **please RSVP** to Jo at office@haslemeretc.org.

The Annual town meeting is being held at Haslemere Educational Museum on 18th March at 7pm. This is an important event in the civic diary and all Councillors and staff should attend if possible.

Town Meadow – playground installation

The playground installation team from Eibe arrived on site on Monday 2 March and have set up camp. In 24 hours they have dug up surfacing and started removing the play equipment – see below.

We have agreed a couple of small amendments to the site namely

- The location of the play panel was situated very close to the tree, but it will be out of sight there so it will be relocated to between the gates.
- The concrete slab by the gate will be removed, we will cut a clean line and backfill with excavations from site.
- The plan is to have groundworks complete in week 1 and 2 (by Friday 13 March) and equipment installation week 3 and 4 (by Friday 27 March). It is expected the playground will be completed in mid April.
- We are considering an opening event to take place on Friday 8 May.



High Lane Recreation Ground – drainage

Cllr Keen brought a drainage issue on High Lane Recreation Ground to our attention earlier this year, as she had spoken to contractors surveying the ground. The survey was undertaken by the Grounds Management Association on behalf of Waverley Borough Council in February 2025. It provided three options to improve the drainage ranging from £60,500 to £116,000. We were told by the Greenspaces Manager at WBC there was no obligation to do anything – they just wanted to explore improving the sports pitch facility. As the costs were so high, WBC parked the project temporarily.

Projects and Amenities Officer – Christian Ashdown

Clammer Hill Allotments

With the fencing works now complete, I am pleased to report that the eight additional allotment plots are currently being allocated and taken up. It is anticipated that by the end of the month the new plot holders will have established their beds and commenced preparing the ground for this year's growing season.

In accordance with Haslemere Town Council's allotment requirements, plot holders must cultivate a minimum of 30% of their plot during the first year of tenancy. This requirement increases to 50% in the second year, and by the third year a minimum of 75% of the plot should be under active cultivation.



Grover Gardens

Grover Gardens now has a steady rhythm of volunteers helping out on a Saturday morning once a month. Work on Laurel Island has progressed well and the unwanted laurel has now been removed. The only trees remaining are pines and other native species, which has opened the central area to more light and should encourage the growth of acid-loving grass.

A chipper has again been hired for Saturday 7th March. The fallen branches from the invasive plants will be fed into the chipper by myself and the chipped material will be collected in my trailer and taken off site.



Extra Storage

Three shelving units have been assembled and installed in the store room at the town's High Street Toilets. This now provides additional storage space for items that were previously kept at the Town Hall, freeing up space there and creating a more accessible and secure location for storing bulky items.

New play Item at Lion Green

With the play item 'Hip-Hop' breaking again, it was agreed that HTC would not replace it with the same item. Instead, a new play item called 'Rodeo' was selected and has now been installed. This allows up to four children to use the equipment at one time, compared to just two previously. The apparatus has proven to be very popular with the children of Haslemere.

