

	Full Council
Date	10 December 2025
Agenda Item	15

To note 2 communications from Cllr Graham Butland

Cllr Butland contacted the Chairman in November firstly regarding a proposed grant of £30,000 towards Christmas lights over the next few years, and secondly to ask about the position on S106 contributions.

The Chairman responded :



Halstead Town Council

Queens Hall
Chipping Hill
Halstead
Essex, CO9 2BY
Tel: 01787 476480

townclerk@halsteadtowncouncil.org.uk

Dear Graham
November 2025

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Thank you so much for offering this payment in support of festive celebrations in Halstead, and on behalf of HTC, we would gladly take up your offer of £30,000 in 26/27, to be spent on Christmas lights/festive celebrations, subject to formal approval at a future HTC Full Council meeting, and confirmation of BDC budget. In 26/27, we would like to extend the lights into the Centre, Trinity Street and Butler Road, which are neglected areas of the town. We would also plan to upgrade existing lights to LED where appropriate. The funds would be held in a ringfenced EMR reserve fund to ensure the spend is only on festive celebrations as you requested.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Munday
Chairman HTC



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Dear Graham
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Thank you for your message regarding the S106 funds.

HTC is in the advanced stages of planning a new Community Arts Centre as an extension of the Empire Theatre. A CIO will soon be established with support from the delivery partners, The Empire Trust and HTC. It is timely that we received your email, as the night before we received it, HTC had formally agreed to support the Community Arts Centre project as the only Community Centre project for the Town.

Previously we had held a meeting with H4C on 27 October, at which they stated that, if HTC no longer supported their project, they would defer to the donor as to what was appropriate for the land. They confirmed that they would not pursue their building of the community centre. HTC suggested that the land would benefit the town regeneration if the land were to be used for public realm and car parking, although we are not sure that H4C or the donor will support this, but we await their further comments.

We have committed to meeting regularly with H4C to support them in achieving their objective in using the land for community benefit. We have written to H4C as requested to confirm HTC's commitment to the Empire project.

The CIO will be submitting the Business case for the Community Arts Centre in January 2026 to BDC for consideration for the S106 monies being allocated to the project.

Please do contact us if you need further clarification.
Yours sincerely

Andrew Munday
Chairman HTC

Recommendation: that councillors note the report

Sarah Greateorex Town Clerk