

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday 9th January 2001 at 7.00 p.m.
at Bevan House, Camps Road, Haverhill**

PRESENT: Chair: Cllr. Maggie Lee
Town Councillors: E Bowman, E Goody, L Hancock, and A Smith.
ALSO PRESENT: Town Councillor: P French (by invitation).

MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Gerry Kiernan, Mrs Martin and A Millar.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 21st November 2000

These were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Changes to Clements Surgery

The Chair reported that the East Anglian Daily Times had been attempting to contact Members for a comment on the proposals. Cllr Goody reported that a friend who was a patient registered with the Clements Surgery had received a consultation letter from Suffolk Health, and produced a copy for the Committee to read. The Committee noted that the consultation letter indicated that there would be little difference in the type of services to be provided at the two Surgeries, although it seemed to indicate that the Clements Surgery would be for pre-booked appointments only.

The Committee had concerns regarding the transfer of records between the Surgeries and the availability of records in an emergency. The Committee was also concerned that the answers given to sample questions were misleading in as much that whilst buses passed the proposed Hanchett End Surgery, there was no direct bus from either the Clements or Chalkstone Estates. The Clerk was asked to write again to Suffolk Health drawing their attention to the Committee's concerns, and ensuring that Suffolk Health were fully aware of the health issues affecting residents on the Clements Estate.

b) Public Meeting with Anglian Water

The Clerk read a letter which had been received from Anglian Water indicating that they were aware of and working to solve the problems at the Sewage Works and that they believed that their latest measures had had a significant effect in reducing odours at the Works. In view of this fact, and that Mr Doman, Service Manager, was due to address the Haverhill Partnership early in February Anglian Water were unwilling to send a representative to attend a public meeting. The Committee agreed to defer any public meeting until the effect of Anglian Water's measures had been assessed in the summer, when the odours were normally more prominent.

4. Correspondence

a) DETR – Our Countryside: the future

The Clerk advised the Committee that this, the long-awaited Rural White Paper, had implications for the Town Council in respect of future delegation of services from the Borough Council. There would be an expectation upon Borough and District Councils to delegate service delivery to Town and Parish Councils provided that those Councils met agreed quality criteria, which this Council currently did. The Clerk reported that the Clerks of Suffolk's Larger Town Councils were to meet to review the implications of the White Paper and that he would report further on that meeting.

b) Suffolk County Council – State of Suffolk: Profile 2000

The Chairman commended this publication to the Committee, stating that it contained useful indicators and statistics on the people, their health, and the economy of Suffolk.

c) Suffolk Health Authority – Suffolk Health Improvement Programme 2001/2002

The receipt of the Suffolk Health Improvement Programme 2001/2002 was noted.

d) Suffolk County Council – Detached Youth Worker Report

The Committee noted the report of the Detached Youth Workers operating within Haverhill. The Clerk was asked to obtain a financial statement for the work within Haverhill for the next Committee.

e) Cangle Junction – Safer Communities Supported Housing Fund Bid

The Clerk reported that Cangle Junction had asked for support from the Council for their Safer Communities Supported Housing Fund bids to work with young offenders and young mothers. There was no financial implications for the Council. The Committee confirmed their support for the bids.

5. Standing Orders

The Committee agreed that the Standing Orders as circulated be adopted after the change of "Chairman" to "Chair" throughout the document. The Clerk was asked to make the change and publish the document.

6. Financial Regulations

The Committee agreed that the Financial Regulations as circulated be adopted and the Clerk was asked to publish the document.

7. Authorisation of Payments

The payments shown on the lists detailed below were approved for payment.

List Date	Item Numbers	Cheque Numbers	Total Value for List £
21.11.00	1-6	3126-3131	£3,842.32
21.11.00	1-8	3132-3139	£1,481.60
12.12.00	1-23	3140-3162	£7,679.08
12.12.00	24-36	3163-3175	£8,549.59
12.12.00	1-4	3176-3179	£3,674.30
20.12.00	1-6	3180-3185	£2,983.06
09.01.01	1-13	3186-3198	£3,815.83

Cllr Hancock was nominated to audit two transactions from these lists.

8. Matters of Report

The Clerk distributed financial statements showing the expenditure against budget as at 31st December 2000 (end of third quarter).

9. Closure

The meeting was closed at 7.45 p.m.