# Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting

# <u>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2003 at 7.00 p.m.</u> at Bevan House, Camps Road, Haverhill

# PRESENT: Chair: Cllr Maggie Lee Town Councillors: M Dane, E Goody, P Hanlon, G Kiernan, and Mrs M Martin

BY INVITATION: M Graham

ALSO PRESENT: One member of the public.

# **MINUTES**

# 1. <u>Apologies for Absence</u>

There were no apologies for absence.

# 2. <u>Declarations of Interest</u>

Cllr Gerry Kiernan and Maggie Lee declared an interest as elected Members of both St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Suffolk County Council. Cllr Hanlon declared an interest as an elected Member of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllrs Goody and Graham declared an interest in the Chalkstone speed humps issue as a resident of that estate.

# 3. <u>Minutes</u>

Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Gerry Kiernan seconded that the minutes of the meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> January 2003 be approved as a true record, all being in favour.

# 4. <u>Matters arising</u>

a) Speed Humps, Chalkstone Estate

The Clerk advised that having consulted the Members representing the Chalkstone Ward he had submitted comments to St Edmundsbury Borough Council regarding the proposed changes to the speed humps, namely that there needed to be a 20 mph limit on the estate, that specific marked car parking bays on the south and east sides of Chalkstone Way, that the junction with Shetland Way (western end) needed to be "Stop" signs and not "Give Way", and that the flat-top nearest to Samuel Ward School needed to formally be made a pedestrian crossing. Cllr Dane reported on the CATRA meeting at which the proposed changes to the speed humps had been discussed. Mr Boor from St Edmundsbury Borough Council had been present. In addition to the Town Council's demands the residents wanted more and more robust

hump warning markers, and the potholes in the roads made good. In addition residents wanted tactile surfaces at crossing points and more dropped kerbs at junctions. Cllr Hanlon added that he had been asked for a 5.5 tonne weight limit, a zebra crossing at Coupals School, and a traffic island in Millfields Way at its junction with Wratting Road.

b) Public sewer near New Cangle School

The Clerk reported that Cllr Smith had organised a site meeting with Anglian Water, St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Richard Spring M.P. and residents on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Anglian Water were to rebuild the manhole and rod the sewer until its junction with the main outfall sewer. They would then investigate upstream of the manhole and take corrective action as necessary. They were to confirm this in writing but no correspondence had been received as yet.

c) Orbit Housing

The Clerk reported that he had spoken with a representative of Orbit Housing but that since then there had been no contact. The Clerk was asked to invite Orbit Housing to another meeting to discuss issues within their control.

d) Graffiti

The Clerk reported that St Edmundsbury Borough Council had trained more staff on the safe use of the "gum buster" and that although it was only operated for seventeen hours each week, always with graffiti removal as a priority, the problems that had been experienced through the absence of a qualified operator would not reoccur.

#### 5. <u>Correspondence</u>

a) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Extension to 30 mph Speed Limit and Toucan Crossing, A1307

The Committee noted the proposed extension of the 30 mph limit. Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Hanlon seconded, all being in favour, that the limit be further extended to the Sainsburys roundabout.

b) Suffolk County Council – Periodic Electoral Review

The Committee noted that the County Council was undergoing a periodic electoral review. The Committee agreed that in view of the conflicting interests of the urban electorate and the rural electorate any option that would result in a mixed town/rural ward should be opposed.

c) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – William Blake Clock

The Clerk reported that the clock would be replaced in April. The Committee noted this information.

d) Suffolk West Primary Care Trust – Local Delivery Plan Roadshow, 19<sup>th</sup> March

The Clerk reported that Suffolk West Primary Care Trust were presenting a roadshow on their Local Delivery Plan at Weavers Mill, High Street on 19<sup>th</sup> March between 12.00 noon and 2.00 p.m.

#### 6. <u>Review of Committee Structures</u>

The Committee noted the proposed changes to the Committee Structure, and resultant changes to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to accommodate the integration of

the Arts Centre. Cllr Mrs Mary Martin proposed, and Cllr Hanlon seconded, all being in favour, that the proposals, subject to a change of name from Community Development to Community First Committee be recommended for adoption at Full Council.

#### 7. Update on Arts Centre Negotiations

The Clerk gave a verbal update on the outcome of the structural survey. St Edmundsbury Borough Council had already undertaken one of the minor repairs identified, and were studying the specialists' reports. The total estimate for repairs and the Consultant's survey was less than the £10,000 authorised.

#### 8. <u>Authorisation of payments</u>

Cllr Maggie Lee proposed and Cllr Hanlon seconded that the payments as shown on the following list be authorised for payment, all being in favour.

Date	Item Numbers	Cheque Numbers	Total of Schedule
16.01.03	1-5	000157-000161	£1,284.16
16.01.03	1-5	000162-000166	£5,275.99
11.02.03	1-27	000167-000193	£13,628.72
17.02.03	1-7	000194-000200	£7,702.18
17.02.03	1-8	000201-000208	£1,391.66
25.02.03	1-10	000209-000218	£3,371.45
11.03.03	1-6	000219-000224	£2,858.52

Cllr Dane reported that he had undertaken a random check of paid invoices and found them all to be in order.

#### 9. <u>Matters of report</u>

Cllr Mrs Mary Martin stated that Westfield Community Primary School needed a footway provided in Manor Road. The Clerk reported that he had written to St Edmundsbury Borough Council previously on this matter.

Cllr Dane stated that Coupals Community School were seeking to have a zebra crossing provided outside their school. Cllr Dane was advised to write to Suffolk County Council on this matter.

Cllr Hanlon reported that there was graffiti on the bridges under the Railway Walk and on the play equipment near Strasbourg Square. Cllr Hanlon advised that he had notified St Edmundsbury Borough Council of the graffiti.

Cllr Hanlon advised that more dropped kerbs were required at road junctions on the Chalkstone Estate. The Clerk was asked to write to St Edmundsbury Borough Council accordingly.

Cllr Hanlon advised that he had received a complaint about heaps of spoil against the newt fencing on the development off Manor Road. Cllr Hanlon was advised that if the spoil was within the building site then it was in order for it to be placed there.

#### 10. <u>Closure</u>

The meeting was closed at 8.26 p.m.