

HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday 16th October 2012 at 7.00pm
The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street

Present: Chair: Town Councillor: P Hanlon
 Town Councillors: L Ager, M Byrne, R André, B Hawes,
 G Stroud and C Turner

No members of the public were present.

MINUTES**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Carr.

2. Declarations of Interest

No Members declared an interest in items on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting held 4th September 2012

The minutes of the meeting held 4th September 2012 were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

The Town Clerk reported that:

- as requested at the previous Finance Committee meeting, both the income and expenditure lines for the Neighbourhood Community Support funding had been allocated a budget;
- the Town Council's request had been submitted for £10,000 as the final payment by St Edmundsbury Borough Council towards Christmas lights provision in Haverhill; and
- a Freedom of Information request had been submitted to St Edmundsbury Borough Council for details of its spending in Haverhill.

5. Current Financial Position

The Committee noted the financial position as at 30th September 2012.

The following issues were raised:

- Cllr Byrne asked the Town Clerk to check the standing orders relating to grant payments, to see how easily the small grants scheme could be amended to allow for amounts greater than the current limit of £500 to be awarded. This was in the light of some groups not achieving the level of award requested from the ONE Haverhill Community Grants Scheme;
- Cllr Turner asked for clarification of the negative expenditure amounts showing against codes 4500 and 4506 in the Community First budget. The Town Clerk agreed to advise members by email;
- Councillors considered the budget of £9,000 for insurance and asked the Town Clerk to ensure that the annual review is presented to Committee;
- Councillors asked that lettings fees be benchmarked against other

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venues to ensure competitiveness.

Councillors also asked that Hartseats costs should be reviewed and any recommendations reported to the appropriate committee.

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6. Closure

The meeting was closed at 7.47pm.