

disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the Act. This motion was carried by a majority.

Cllr Dane and the Town Clerk declared an interest in the matter to be discussed and left the meeting.

6. To Consider The Recommendations from Personnel Committee Meeting held 8th December

The Council considered the recommendation arising from the Personnel Committee meeting being held on 8th December, and agreed to:-

- a. formally resolving to report Cllr Dane to the Standards Board
- b. on behalf of its employee, commencing such legal action against Cllr Dane and others as may be required to prevent further personal attacks, subject to an initial maximum of expenditure of £1,000
- c. on behalf of the Town Council, commencing such action against Cllr Dane and others as may be required to prevent claims against the Full Council by its employees, subject to an initial maximum of expenditure of £1,000

Cllrs Graham and Warwick asked that their opposition to this resolution be minuted.

Cllr Dane and the Town Clerk returned to the meeting, and the public were readmitted.

(Full Council adjourned for Public Forum)

Cllr Thomas, speaking on behalf of a resident who was unable to attend, read an email thanking the Town Council for their success in changing the location of some market stalls so as to reduce the nuisance that was being caused to him and his neighbour.

A member of the public thanked the Town Council for what they provided for the town and indicated she would pay a much greater Council Tax if it meant such things could continue.

A member of the public raised a number of issues, which included the difficulties of refuse collection in Chantry Road, concerns about the trees on the Recreation Ground, the problems for residents parking in Chantry Road, parking on the pavement in High Street/Queen Street, and litter, particularly in Queen Street. The Clerk reported that he had already met with the resident and had written to St Edmundsbury Borough Council on behalf of the resident, drawing these matters to their attention.

A member of the public asked the Clerk to explain the use of reserves.

(Full Council resumed after Public Forum)

7. Adoption of Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Cllr Dane left the meeting at this point.

The Mayor proposed and Cllr Goody seconded that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 21st October 2003 be adopted. The proposal was carried by a majority.

Cllr Dane returned to the meeting.

Leisure & Arts Committee

Cllr Maggie Lee proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded that the minutes of the Leisure and Arts Committee meeting held 7th October and 4th November be adopted. The proposal was carried by a majority.

Planning Committee

Cllr Mrs Mary Martin proposed and Cllr Goody seconded that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 30th September, 28th October, 11th November 2003 and 2nd December be adopted. The proposal was carried by a majority.

Community First

Cllr Kiernan proposed and Cllr Goody seconded that the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 14th October 2003 be adopted. The proposal was carried by a majority.

Personnel Committee

Cllr Dane left the meeting at this point.

Cllr Whelan proposed and Cllr Kiernan seconded that the minutes of the Personnel Committee meetings held 7th October, 19th November, and 8th December 2003 be adopted. The proposal was carried by a majority.

Cllr Dane returned to the meeting.

8. To Confirm The Recommendation from Community First Committee Meeting held 14th October Regarding Support for the Policing Strategy

Cllr Maggie Lee declared an interest as a Member of Suffolk Police Authority. Cllr Kiernan proposed and Cllr Goody seconded that the statement as recommended by Community First Committee be accepted as Council policy, all being in favour.

9. To Agree Revised Committee Memberships

Cllr Graham as leader of the largest group indicated that his group required more time to agree revised Committee seats with the leaders of the other groups. It was confirmed existing Committee seat allocations would continue until the next Full Council meeting.

10. Councillors Allowances

Cllr Maggie Lee proposed and Cllr Kiernan seconded that Town Council agree:-

- a. to pay an annual allowance, reviewed each year, to the Town Mayor in accord with Section 15(5) of the Local Government Act 1972
- b. to pay, in accord with the Local Authorities (Members Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003, regulation 26, to its members allowances in respect of travelling and subsistence, including an allowance in respect of travel by bicycle or other non motorised form of transport, undertaken or incurred in connection with the performance of any duty within the following categories: -
 - i. the attendance at a meeting of the authority or of any committee or subcommittee of the authority, or of any other body to which the authority makes appointments or nominations, or of any committee or sub-committee of such a body;
 - ii. the attendance at a meeting of any association of authorities of which the authority is a member;
 - iii. the performance of any duty in pursuance of any standing order made under section 135 of the Local Government Act 1972 requiring a member or members to be present while tender documents are opened;
 - iv. the performance of any duty in connection with the discharge of any function of the authority conferred by or under any enactment and empowering or requiring the authority to inspect or authorise the inspection of premises; and
 - v. the carrying out of any other duty approved by the authority, or any duty of a class so approved, for the purpose of, or in connection with, the discharge of the functions of the authority or of any of its committees or sub-committees.

provided that travel outside the accepted boundaries of the town is required

- c. that the rates of reimbursement be at the rate set by a future Parish Remuneration Panel (39.9p per mile for use of car, and 20p per mile for use of bicycle)
- d. that no further payments be made to any Councillor in respect of their official duties

The motion was carried by a majority. Cllr Dane abstained.

11. Emergency Planning

Cllr Maggie Lee proposed and Cllr Kiernan seconded that the Emergency Planning Officer be invited to a future meeting to discuss the role that Haverhill should play in emergency planning. The motion was carried by a majority.

12. To Receive The External Auditors Notes on 2002/2003 Accounts

The Council noted that the External Auditor had no comments to make on the accounts for 2002/2003, which had now been signed off.

13. To authorise payments.

Cllr Mrs Mary Martin and Cllr Maggie Lee seconded that the cheque lists detailed be authorised, all being in favour:-

Date	Items	Cheque No.s	Value
30.09.03	1-6	000512-000517	£784.49
14.10.03	1-14	000518-000531	£7,275.29
21.10.03	1-7	000532-000538	£1,049.98
28.10.03	1-7	000539-000545	£28,677.94
11.11.03 & 21.11.03	1-16	000546-000568	£20,579.61
02.12.03	1-17	000569-000585	£13,735.55

14. To authorise urgent payments.

There were no urgent payments to authorise.

15. To receive urgent correspondence

The Clerk sought permission to commission the District Valuer to assess a market rental for Bevan House, in preparation for a report on the future of Bevan House. Cllr Maggie Lee proposed and Cllr Mrs Mary Martin seconded that the Clerk be authorised to commission the District Valuer, all being in favour.

16. Matters of report

Cllr Graham congratulated all those residents who had illuminated the town with their individual Christmas lights.

17. Closure

The meeting was closed at 9.27 p.m.