

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 28th September 2004 at 7.30 pm
In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Haverhill Arts Centre,
High Street, Haverhill
Suffolk CB9 8AR

Telephone: 01440 712858

Fax: 01440 706717

e-mail: admin@towncouncil.haverhill-uk.com
www.haverhill-uk.com/towncouncil

Present: **Chair:** **Tim Marks**
Town Councillors: **R Avallone, M Dane (except part of 7, 8 and 10),**
S Fanning (except part of 7), Maggie Lee (except
item 7), Mrs Mary Martin, E Morton, L Robinson,
and J. Rudd

Also present: **Thirteen members of the public**

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Cullum, Goody, Graham, Kiernan, Samples, Thomas and Warwick.

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Maggie Lee and Mrs Mary Martin declared an interest as Members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllr Maggie Lee declared an interest as a Member of Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Police Authority, and a personal interest in item 6(b).

3. To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 14th September 2004

The minutes of the meeting held 14th September were confirmed as a true record.

4. To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda

There were no urgent matters arising.

5. Inspector Mark Jepson, Suffolk Police

The Clerk reported that Inspector Jepson had tendered his apologies for tonight's meeting as he had just returned from a long training course and was preparing for the Policing Forum to be held at Samuel Ward School at 7.00 p.m. on 6th October. The Clerk indicated that Inspector Jepson had asked that members of the public attend the Forum as they would have a genuine opportunity to help shape the structure of policing in the town. Cllr Maggie Lee indicated that she was Chair of this Forum meeting.

6. Roland Bee, Suffolk West Patient & Public Forum

The Mayor welcomed Roland Bee, a member of the Suffolk West Patient and Public Involvement Health Forum, a successor body to the Community Health Council. Mr Bee described the role of the Forum, giving examples of some of the campaigns and projects that the Forum was concerned with. Cllr Fanning declared an interest in one of these campaigns. Mr Bee indicated that Haverhill was not currently represented on the Forum and indicated that two volunteers were being sought. Mr Bee gave a telephone number (0845 120 2093) for those wishing to obtain further details and an application pack. Mr Bee also indicated that Haverhill was under-represented on the West Suffolk Hospital Patient and Public Involvement Health Forum.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A representative of HAVO offered support to Mr Bee in organising an awareness day in Haverhill during November.

A member of the public asked Mr Bee if the Forum could seek clarification on the availability of home care support as he was aware of a “bed blocking” case where a patient was having to remain in hospital owing to the shortage of carers.

A member of the public asked if the Forum could review why the Primary Care Trust is investing in a medical centre with X-ray facilities at Moreton Hall, which is two miles from West Suffolk Hospital, whilst Haverhill has no such facility.

A member of the public praised Christmas Maltings Surgery for their efficient appointment system. Another member of the public agreed.

Cllr Mrs Mary Martin indicated that at a recent Borough Council meeting considering the new Local Plan she had not been impressed by the Primary Care Trust’s negative attitude to new facilities in Haverhill, “because of the difficulties of recruiting staff to Haverhill” and asked if the Forum could provide information as to the specific difficulties faced in recruiting to Haverhill.

Cllr Maggie Lee expressed frustration at the difficulties faced by both patients and health professionals because of Haverhill being at the boundary of three Care Trust areas.

A member of the public asked how information from the Forum could be disseminated back to the public, and Mr Bee indicated that he would like to do so via the medium of the Town and Parish Councils.

A member of the public asked if the Forum members were contactable by email and Mr Bee provided a contact email (ppiforum@suffolkacre.org.uk).

Cllr Maggie Lee left the meeting.

A member of the public asked if a footway could be provided along Chimswell Way and complained that the lights in the underpass were always out. The Mayor stated that the matter would be referred to the Highways Department of Suffolk County Council.

The meeting was resumed after the Public Forum

7. Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 13th and 27th July, and 7th September 2004

Cllr Fanning left the meeting.

Leisure & Arts Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Leisure & Arts Committee meeting held 13th July and 14th September 2004

Personnel Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 13th July 2004

Cllr Fanning rejoined the meeting.
Cllr Dane left the meeting.

Community First Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 27th July 2004

Cllr Maggie Lee rejoined the meeting.

8. CRB Checks – An Update

The Council noted the current position regarding CRB checks on Councillors. The Mayor urged all those who had not yet done so to complete the process as soon as possible.

Cllr Dane rejoined the meeting.

9. Haverhill Chamber of Commerce

- a) To determine whether the Town Council should subscribe to Membership
The Council agreed, subject to there being no restriction on which Members may attend Chamber of Commerce meetings, to join the Chamber of Commerce.
- b) To determine whether the Town Council should sponsor the Business Awards 2005
The Council agreed not to sponsor a Business Award this year, but to consider an award in the future.

10. Draft Code of Conduct for Local Government Employees

Cllr Dane declared an interest as he had three complaints against staff, and left the meeting.

The Council considered and agreed its comments on the draft code.

Cllr Dane rejoined the meeting.

11. To authorise payments.

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Items	Cheque No.s	Value
27.07.04	1-9	000827-000835	£17,059.24
03.08.04	1-7	000836-000840	£683.63
03.08.04	1-16	000841-000853	£4,908.76
10.08.04	1-20	000854-000872	£34,965.69
17.08.04	1-18	000873-000890	£8,327.05
03.09.04	1-32	000891-000922	£15,509.12
14.09.04	1-19	000923-000941	£35,693.08
28.09.04	1-36	000942-000977	£72,266.59

12. To receive urgent correspondence

There were no items of urgent correspondence.

13. Matters to Report

Cllr Maggie Lee reported that there was a Pension Check day in Bury St Edmunds on 1st October and complained that, as in previous years, no such day had been held in Haverhill, and asked that the Council write a letter of complaint.

Cllr Maggie Lee proposed, and Cllr Jackie Rudd, all being in favour, that, in accord with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matters to be discussed will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the Act.

14. Operating Agreement with Hartseats Limited

The Council agreed to enter into an operating arrangement with the Trading Company of the Town Hall Charity to expire on 31st March 2004. The Arts & Leisure Committee were asked to identify areas of income generation. Cllrs Dane and Fanning asked that their vote against this was recorded.

14. Closure

The meeting was closed at 9.24 p.m.