

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 30th November 2004 at 7.30 pm
In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

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Present: **Chair:** **Tim Marks**
Town Councillors: **C Cullum, M Dane, E Goody, G Kiernan,**
Mrs Mary Martin, E Morton, J. Rudd, L Samples and
A Thomas (except items 12-14)

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

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Fanning and Maggie Lee.

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Goody, Kiernan, Mrs Mary Martin and Thomas declared an interest as Members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllr Kiernan declared an interest as a Member of Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Police Authority.

3. To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 23rd November 2004

Cllr Rudd asked that the minutes be amended to show that she had declared an interest in item 5, the Masterplan, but had not left the meeting. With this amendment the minutes were signed as a true record.

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

The Council read the draft response to the Masterplan, prepared by the Town Clerk following the Council meeting on 23rd November and agreed its content. Cllr Morton commented that relocation of the Fire Station and Police Station ought to be co-ordinated if this was to happen.

5. Inspector Mark Jepson, Suffolk Police

Inspector Jepson advised the Council that, with the exception of criminal damage, crime targets were being achieved in Haverhill. Inspector Jepson also announced his imminent departure to a post of Detective Inspector, and advised that his replacement would be Inspector Bruce Gent. The Town Council thanked Inspector Jepson for his valuable service to the town during his time in post. Cllr Mrs Mary Martin raised the subject of youths gathering in Jubilee Walk.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A member of the public asked whether the public meeting on healthcare issues, as mentioned by Roland Bee at the September meeting, was to occur. The Town Clerk advised that he was aware the Mr Bee was in discussion with HAVO regarding the co-ordination of such a meeting.

The meeting was resumed after the Public Forum

6. Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

Cllr Kiernan declared an interest in the planning application for Anne of Cleves House. Cllr Thomas declared an interest in item 8 of the minutes. The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 2nd November 2004.

Leisure & Arts Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Leisure & Arts Committee meeting held 9th November 2004.

Personnel Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 9th November 2004.

Community First Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 12th October 2004.

Finance Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 12th October 2004.

7. CRB Checks – An Update

Cllr Thomas declared an interest as a signatory for CRB checks. The Council noted the current position regarding CRB checks on Councillors. The Town Mayor urged all those who had not yet completed the process to do so.

8. Parish Grants

The Town Clerk advised that the Borough Council had agreed to reduce the Parish Grant from £42,192 to £30,000 from 1st April 2005, and had indicated that discussions would commence with the Town Council regarding support for those activities currently funded by the grant. The Town Clerk advised that as yet no such discussions had taken place, which was making budgeting for 2005/6 difficult. The Council noted the present situation.

In view of the difficulties in preparing a budget under such circumstances the Council agreed that item 11, agreeing the Draft Budget and Precept would be deferred.

9. Annual Meeting with Havebury Housing Representatives

The Council agreed to request another meeting with Havebury Housing. The Town Mayor stressed that if a meeting were to be arranged it was important that Members attended. It was also agreed that Havebury Housing may be invited to address a Full Council meeting if a specific issue warranted it.

10. Freedom of Information Act

The Council noted the implications for the Town Council and agreed that for purposes of the Act a nominal hourly rate of £30 be ascribed to answering requests for information, and that in the event of multiple requests in the same timeframe the Town Clerk be authorised to engage such personnel as may be required to enable the Council to meet its commitments. Cllr Dane proposed and Cllr Cullum seconded that the charge for photocopies in connection with requests under the Act be 10p per copy. This motion was defeated, Cllrs Dane and Cullum voting for, Cllrs Goody, Kiernan, Mrs Mary Martin, Morton, Rudd, and Samples voting against. It was agreed that the charge remain at £1 per copy, Cllrs Goody, Kiernan, Mrs Mary Martin, Morton, Rudd, and Samples voting for, and Cllrs Dane and Cullum voting against.

12. To authorise payments.

Cllr Rudd proposed and Cllr Kiernan seconded that the following payments be approved, all being in favour:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
28.09.04	000942-000977	£73,053.02
05.10.04	000978-000996	£5,307.73
12.10.04	000997-001009	£6,381.36
02.11.04	001010-001069	£43,891.33
09.11.04	001070-001086	£12,611.44

13. To receive urgent correspondence

The Town Clerk circulated a letter from St Edmundsbury Borough Council regarding consultation on Community Involvement in the Planning Process, and Councillors were asked to reply directly to St Edmundsbury if they wished to attend the meeting.

14. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.50 p.m.