

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 29th March 2005 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: **M Dane (except item 10 and part item 11),**
S Fanning, E Goody, M Graham, Mrs Mary Martin,
E Morton (except item 1), A Thomas, and E Trebble

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

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Cullum, Robinson, Rudd, Samples and Warwick.

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Goody, Mrs Mary Martin and Thomas declared an interest as Members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

3. To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 25th January 2004

The minutes of the meeting held 25th January were signed 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 to discuss.

5. Inspector Bruce Gent, Suffolk Police

Inspector Gent gave an overview on performance against targets for 2004/5. Criminal damage had risen in the past year and there will be a dedicated team to help reduce the number of incidents. In addition the introduction of the Community Support Officers on 6th June would assist by providing a greater policing presence. The first estate inspection for 2005 will be on 19th April when the Chalkstone Estate will be inspected.

During Inspector Gent's presentation he spoke about the new Licensing Act 2003, at which point Cllr Thomas declared an interest as a member of the Borough Council Licensing Committee.

6. Ian Poole, Planning Policy & Information Manager

Mr Poole gave a presentation on the Re-Deposit Draft Local Plan, which will be considered by the Town Council's Planning Committee on 5th April.

During Mr Poole's presentation he spoke about the Station Yard development at which point Cllr Fanning declared an interest and left the room, returning at the end of Mr Poole's presentation.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A member of the public stated that he did not believe that the site at Hanchett End earmarked for business use could accommodate all the elements that the Borough Council were hoping. Mr Poole advised that the site had an area of 30 acres and that the conference centre was to be on the smaller scale rather than a large development.

A member of the public asked about the Patient & Public Forum and the Town Clerk advised that there was to be a two-day event at Haverhill Library to raise awareness of the forum. Mr Bee with whom the Town Council had been communicating has recently resigned from the Forum. The Town Clerk added that the Haverhill Healthgroup had reformed with a view to increasing overall knowledge of health provision in the town and identifying gaps in service provision.

The meeting was resumed after the Public Forum

7. Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

Cllr Mrs Mary Martin proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 1st February and 1st March 2005, all being in favour.

Leisure & Arts Committee

Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Goody seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Leisure & Arts Committee meeting held 8th February and 8th March 2005, all being in favour.

Personnel Committee

Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Graham seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 18th January 2005, all being in favour.

Community First Committee

Cllr Morton proposed and Cllr Goody seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 25th January 2005, all being in favour.

Finance Committee

Cllr Mrs Mary Martin proposed and Cllr Goody seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 22nd March 2005, all being in favour.

8. Annual Meeting with Havebury Housing Representatives

The Town Clerk reported that Mr Cook, Chief Executive of Havebury Housing would give a presentation to the Full Council meeting scheduled for 28th June. The Town Clerk was asked to reschedule the meeting from 28th June to another suitable date during that week.

9. Parish Grants

The Town Clerk advised that St Edmundsbury Borough Council had reduced the Parish Grant to £30,000 (from £42,192) for 2005/6, but that agreement had been reached for the Borough Council over the next three years to financially support those events in Haverhill organised by the Town Council for which in Bury the Borough Council was the sponsor. As a result a Grant of £8,000 would be received in 2005/6.

10. To Confirm the Recommendation of the Personnel Committee to Make the Arts Centre a “No Smoking” Venue

The Town Clerk advised the Council that the Personnel Committee had recommended that the Arts Centre be made a “No Smoking” venue. The Council agreed with this recommendation, to come into effect from 1st April.

11. East of England Plan

The Council noted the response to the Plan.

12. A Code for the Future (Standards Board Consultation)

It was agreed to establish a working party comprising Cllrs Fanning, Morton and Treble to formulate the Town Council’s response to the Consultation Paper.

13. An Update Regarding the Defibrillator

The Town Clerk presented a paper giving an update on the defibrillator. Cllr Graham proposed, and Cllr Dane seconded, that the defibrillator be given to the Red Cross and that the Red Cross be given a grant to cover the costs of training. The motion was lost, Cllrs Dane and Graham voting for and Cllr Fanning abstaining, all others voting against. During Cllr Graham’s speech in support of his motion the Town Clerk had to correct Cllr Graham’s statement that the defibrillator was “kept locked in a cupboard”. Cllr Graham in support of his motion asked a number of questions to which the Town Clerk offered a reply in writing if Cllr Graham could list his questions requiring an answer.

14. To authorise payments.

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

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
18/01/05	001167-001224	£20,056.84
25/01/05	001225-001251	£20,504.31
01/02/05	001252-001264	£26,241.36
08/02/05	001265-001280	£3,956.29
15/02/05	001281-001296	£8,530.61
01/03/05	001297-001320	£34,000.79
08/03/05	001321-001341	£5,109.65

15. To receive urgent correspondence

There were no urgent items of correspondence.

Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded, 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.

16. Single Status and TUPE Transfer

The Council considered the effect of having to implement the second stage of the single status agreement for staff transferred from St Edmundsbury Borough Council, and for existing Town Council employees, and agreed that:-

- i) the second phase of the single status review should not be implemented for staff appointed to start after 31st March 2005
- ii) the cost of staff recharged to Hartseats Limited exclude any additional costs as a result of the second phase of single status, and that the subsidy for the bar service be withdrawn
- iii) the charges for Arts Centre space hire on Sundays, evenings after 7.00 p.m. and after 10.00 p.m. be increased to take account of the increased costs
- iv) the timing of Council meetings be changed to 7.00 p.m. reduce the impact of single status

17. Closure

The meeting was closed at 9.48 p.m.