# FCM/M/24.05.05 FULL COUNCIL MEETING

<u>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2005 at 7.37 pm</u> In Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill Suffolk CB9 8AR

Telephone: 01440 712858 Fax: 01440 718931

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

# Present: Chair: Tim Marks Town Councillors: S Fanning, E Goody, M Graham (except items 16 to 20), Mrs Mary Martin, E Morton, J Rudd, L Samples, A Thomas, and E Trebble

Also present: Seventeen members of the public

# **MINUTES**

# 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Cullum, Dane and Robinson.

# 2. <u>Declaration of Interests</u>

Cllrs Goody, Mrs Mary Martin and Thomas declared an interest as members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllr Marks declared an interest as a member of Suffolk County Council..

# 3. <u>Election of Town Mayor</u>

Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Morton seconded that Cllr Marks be re-elected as Town Mayor. There being no further nominations, and all being in favour, Cllr Marks was elected as Town Mayor and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

# 4. <u>Vote of Thanks</u>

Cllr Morton spoke of the work that Cllr Marks had done over the past year, and praised the stability that he had brought to the Council..

# 5. <u>Election of Deputy Mayor</u>

Cllr Morton proposed and Cllr samples seconded that Cllr Thomas be elected as Deputy Mayor. There being no further nominations, and all being in favour, Cllr Thomas was elected as Deputy Mayor and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

# 6. <u>Vote of Thanks</u>

The Town Mayor asked for a vote of thanks to the retiring deputy Mayor, both for her work during the past year, but also for her time as Town Mayor, a position she had been thrust

into and during which time she had had to preside over the most turbulent time in the Town Council's history.

# 7. <u>Mayor's Allowance</u>

Cllr Mrs Mary Martin proposed, and Cllr Rudd seconded that the Mayor's Allowance for 2005/6 be £725, all being in favour.

# 8. <u>Town Council Committees</u>

The Council confirmed that the allocation of Committee seats would be in accordance with Standing Order 41(e), with the final allocation of seats will occurring after the By-elections due for 26<sup>th</sup> May.

# 9. Town Council and Committee Meeting Dates

The Council noted the meeting dates for 2006/2007.

# 10. <u>To confirm the Clerk's re-appointment as Responsible Financial Officer.</u>

The Council agreed that the Town Clerk be re-appointed as Responsible Financial Officer. Cllr Goody expressed a vote of thanks to the Town Clerk for the past year's efforts.

# 11. <u>To Resolve Not to Adjourn for a Public Forum</u>

In view of the fact that this meeting followed the Annual Town Meeting the Council agreed that no Public Forum be held.

# 12. <u>To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005</u>

The minutes of the meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005 were agreed as a true record.

# 13. <u>To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda</u>

There were no urgent matters to be dealt with.

# 14. Inspector Bruce Gent, Suffolk Police

Inspector Gent reported that the various aspects of anti-social behaviour were seen as the key priorities at present. These manifested themselves in Haverhill as the use of mini-motorbikes, underage drinking and youths gathering in large numbers. At present there had been no Anti-Social Behaviour Orders issued in Haverhill.

Inspector Gent advised that three Community Support Officers would commence work in Haverhill in June. There were to have been four but unfortunately it had proved impossible to recruit and retain four, and with the intensive training now at an end, the fourth could not be recruited. Inspector Gent confirmed to the Council that the Community Support Officers did not have power of arrest; they did however have radio contact with the Police and were to act as the "eyes and ears" of the police as well as providing visible re-assurance. They would work shifts between 8.00 a.m. and midnight.

The Town now has a Criminal Damage Team, to deal with persistent offenders in this area.

Cllr Trebble expressed a vote of thanks to Inspector Gent and his colleagues.

# 15. <u>Adoption of Committee Reports</u>

# Planning Committee

Cllr Rudd proposed and Cllr Trebble seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> April2005, all being in favour.

# Personnel Committee

Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Mrs Mary Martin seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> April 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 26<sup>th</sup> April 2005, all being in favour.

### 16. <u>Review of Risks</u>

The Council considered the risks referred to the Council by the Finance Committee at its meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> March, and agreed to adopt policies to ensure that:-

- a) the Town Council raise balances in a very short timescale to a minimum of £100,000
- b) the Town Council allow within future staffing budgets a sum of 10% to provide for longterm absence of staff
- c) all newly-elected Town Councillors attend a SALC training course.
- d) a repairs and renewals budget be established for the Town Council

The Town Clerk advised that (c) could be implemented immediately from within existing budgets but that (a), (b) and (d) would need including in the budgets for 2006/7.

### 17. <u>To Receive and Agree the 2004/2005 Accounts</u>

The Council agreed the 2004/2005 Accounts for Haverhill Town Council, which were duly signed by the Town Mayor and Town Clerk.

#### 18. <u>To authorise payments.</u>

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

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
22/03/05	001342-001373	£14,595.79
11/04/05	001374-001412	£45,607.02
12/04/05	001413	£52.87
26/04/05	001414-001439	£14,647.46
28/04/05	001440-001448	£7,228.33

# 19 <u>To Consider The Proposals for Changing NALC's services to Larger</u> <u>Councils</u>

The Town Council agreed to comment on the consultation that they supported the changes to the definition of a larger Local Council but were not persuaded that the enhanced subscription of £400 represented value for money.

# 20. <u>To receive urgent correspondence</u>

There were no items of urgent correspondence.

# 21. <u>Closure</u>

The meeting was closed at 8.56 p.m.