

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 30th January 2007 at 7.30 pm
In Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

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Present: **Chair:** **Ann Thomas**
 Town Councillors: **S Brown, E McManus, P McManus, T Marks, Mrs Mary Martin,**
 S Martin, E Morton, K Richardson, L Samples and E Trebble

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

MINUTES

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Ager, Fanning, Goody and Warwick.
- 2. Declaration of Interests**
Cllrs 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. To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 5th December 2006**
The minutes of the meeting held 5th December were agreed as a true record.
- 4. To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda**
Cllr Mrs Mary Martin asked if Abbeycroft Leisure had responded to the complaint raised at the last meeting about the state of the changing rooms. The Clerk indicated he would chase for a reply.
- 5. Inspector Zoe Finn, Suffolk Police**
Inspector Zoe Finn, deputising for Inspector Dawson, reported on Policing issues in the Town. Criminal damage was below target levels and below the levels for the equivalent time last year. Burglaries were down, year on year and there was a 26% detection rate, and violence in a public place had been much reduced over the Christmas and New Year period. Inspector Finn reported that PC Baker, the Town centre Beat Officer was on sick leave and his beat was being covered by response Officers. Following comments at the previous Council meeting more Officers had been trained in the use of the Speed Gun and Councillors should contact the Inspector if they would like a road checked. In addition 69 parking tickets had been issued in the town centre in the past month. Inspector Finn reported on-going issues with groups of young people, and added that legality checks would be made on young motorists congregating in Boundary Road to ensure the road-worthiness of their vehicles.
Cllr Thomas commented that more proactive use of cctv could be made when monitoring the movements of groups of youths.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

Cllr Thomas declared an interest as a School Governor in the matter being raised and left the meeting. Cllr Mrs Mary Martin and Cllr Elaine McManus both declared an interest as a School Governor but remained in the meeting. In the absence of Cllr Thomas Cllr Trebble assumed the Chair.

A member of the public raised the proposals by Suffolk County Council to introduce a two-tier (from three-tier) system of education, and indicated that he was speaking on behalf of "Parents for Change", an organisation that had collected over 500 signatures of parents opposed to the change. The member of the public criticised the selective use of statistics in the County Council report, and the poor public consultation, which had meant that no parents in Haverhill had received a copy of the leaflet. Questions were asked and were responded to by the County Councillors (French and Marks) present. The member of the public asked if the Town Council would back them and lobby on their behalf. Cllr Trebble indicated that the Town Council had previously responded to the consultation but would write to the County Council drawing attention to the strength of feeling in the town, as demonstrated by the number of signatories to the petition.

The meeting was resumed after the Public Forum

Cllr Thomas returned to the room and assumed the role of Chair of the Meeting.

6. Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 5th December 2006 and 2nd January 2007.

Leisure & Arts Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Leisure & Arts Committee meeting held 9th January 2007.

Personnel Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 23rd January 2007.

Community First Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 23rd January 2007.

Finance Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 23rd January 2007.

7. Meeting Dates 2007-2008

The Council agreed the meeting dates for 2007/2008 (attached).

8. Consultation on Amendments to the Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members

The Council considered their response to the Consultation Document.

9. Budgets 2007/2008

The Council agreed the budgets and a precept for 2007/2008 of £506,157 (attached).

10. Correspondence

- a) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Proposed Diversion of Bridleway No. 6 and Footpath No. 2
The Council had no objection to the proposed diversion provided it was in accordance with the submitted plans for the cinema complex.

- b) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Review of Community Centres
The impending review of Community Centres was noted. Members were asked to contact the Clerk if they had any comments regarding the existing Centres.
- c) Suffolk Association of Local councils – Suffolk Bid for Pathfinder Status
The Council noted the comments regarding the Pathfinder bid.
- d) Probation Board Association/Magistrates Association – Local crime: Community Sentence (LCCS) Project
The Council agreed they would like to participate in an interactive sentencing training session and the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.

11. To authorise payments

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
21.11.06	2663 - 2692	£9081.47
21.11.06	2693	£25,000.00
28.11.06	2694 - 2722	£24,264.03
05.12.06	2723 - 2745	£22,809.48
07.12.06	2746	£34,000.00
12.12.06	2747 - 2754	£12,197.80
12.12.06	2755	£200.00
19.12.06	2756 - 2766	£2,543.22
19 & 20.12.06	2767 – 2768	£1549.00
02.01.07	2769 - 2772	£2,905.52
09.01.07	2773 - 2791	£45,041.94
16.01.07	2792 – 2818	£35,526.35

12. To receive urgent correspondence

Cllr Trebble submitted a draft letter he felt should be sent to Cllr Griffiths as Leader of St Edmundsbury Borough Council following the unsatisfactory outcome to the meeting hosted by Richard Spring M.P. on 26th January between Tesco and St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The Council agreed the letter should be sent in the name of the Council.

13. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.41 p.m.

HAVERTHILL TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING DATES May 2007 to May 2008

<u>Committee</u>	May 2007	June 2007	July 2007	Aug 2007	Sept 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008
<u>Planning</u>	14	5	3	7	4	2	6	11	8	5	4	1	6
<u>Leisure & Arts</u>	14		10		11		13		8		11		13
<u>Personnel</u>	14		17			9			15			8	
<u>Community First</u>	14		24			16			15			15	
<u>Finance</u>	14	19	31		18		20		22			22	
<u>Appeals</u>	14												
<u>Full Council</u>	8	26			25		27		29		25		27
<u>Town Meeting</u>	8												27
<u>Arts Centre Trustees</u>		27				23							20

All meetings are held at The Arts Centre, High Street, unless otherwise notified.

Committee meetings commence at 7.00 p.m.

Full Council meetings commence at 7.00 p.m. Annual General Meeting commences at 7.00 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public, and the public may raise matters of concern to the Town Council at the Town Council meetings.

The Town Meeting is organised by the Town Council on behalf of the public.

Precept Figures 2007/2008

	2007/2008 Figures	
Projected Expenditure	£ 866,013	
Projected Income	£ 444,850	
Net Requirement		£ 421,163
Less		
Directory Monies Returned to Balances at end of Year	-£ 5,000	
Multiarts Monies Returned to Balances at end of Year		
Less Elections Monies Returned to Balances at End of Year	-£ 11,000	
Net Deduction		-£ 16,000
Add on		
Contribution to Balances	£ 33,000	
Loan repayment	£ 15,000	
Repairs & Renewals	£ 45,000	
Staffing Long-Term Absence Fund	£ 7,994	
Net Addition		<u>£ 100,994</u>
Gross Precept Requirement		£ 506,157
Approximate Band D	£ 64.88	per annum
Band B	£ 50.47	per annum