

HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 27th November 2007 at 7.45 pm
In Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Present: Chair – Deputy Mayor: Les Ager
Town Councillors: M Byrne, L Carr, A Gower, P Hanlon,
E McManus, P McManus, M Marks,
G Price, K Richardson, A Samuels, and
A Thomas

Also present: Four members of the public

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Anderson and Trebble.
2. **To Formally Approve the Absence of Councillor Anderson**
The Council formally approved the continued absence of Councillor Anderson until the end of May 2008 due to his recent illness.
3. **Declaration of Interests**
Cllr Samuels declared an interest in item 11, School Reorganisation, as an employee of one of the schools affected. No other Members declared any interests on items on the agenda.
4. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 25th September 2007**
With the addition of Cllr Gower to the list of apologies for the meeting, the Council agreed the minutes of the meeting held 25th September 2007 as a true record.
5. **To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda**
There were no urgent matters arising from the minutes.
6. **Inspector Adrian Dawson, Suffolk Police**
Inspector Dawson reported that during this period of installing new software individual crime figures were not available but that he hoped to be able to report in detail in January. However there were currently two main areas of concern; the growing incidence of thefts from motor vehicles, particularly works vans parked on the road overnight, and criminal damage by youths on building sites, particularly the multiplex cinema site and off Homefield Road. There had also been instances of windows being broken at the Clements Doctors Surgery.

Inspector Dawson reported that a covert operation involving test purchases of alcohol by juveniles had resulted in one Haverhill retailer having been found guilty of selling to a person under 18 years of age.

Cllr Byrne raised the subject of Stars and Jars and the sale of alcohol beyond the permitted times. Inspector Dawson reported that he was in possession of this intelligence, as were the Licensing Authority.

Cllr Gower reported that a resident, who had witnessed vandalism occurring on the Parkway Estate had telephoned the Police at midnight but no Officer had attended until 4.00 a.m. Inspector Dawson indicated he would investigate and report back to Cllr Gower.

Cllr Marks reported that vandalism on and around building sites was also occurring on the Meadowlands Estate.

Cllr McManus complained about the speed of traffic in town, and the continued illegal parking.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

There were no questions from members of the public.

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 2nd October and 6th November 2007.

Finance Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 25th September.

Community First Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 6th November 2007.

Arts & Leisure Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Arts & Leisure Committee meetings held 13th November 2007.

8. Haverhill Area Working Party

The Council agreed to nominate Cllr E McManus as a non-voting member to represent the Town Council on the Haverhill Area Working Party.

9. Committee Quora

The Council agreed, until 17th January 2008 (the likely date of the East Ward Election) to reduce the number required for a quorum on the Arts & Leisure, Community First, and Planning Committees to three (from five)

10. Town Centre Management

The Council agreed not to contribute £8,000 per annum for three years towards a Town Centre Management post.

Cllr Samuels declared an interest as a school employee and left the meeting.

11. School Reorganisation Review

The Council agreed that the Town Clerk, in consultation with Cllrs E McManus and Thomas, would provide comment on this review.

Cllr Samuels rejoined the meeting.

12. Correspondence

- a. St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Hedgerow Survey
The Council agreed to invite a representative of the Borough Council to address the meeting on this matter.
- b. St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Car Parking Charges Review
The Council noted that it would shortly be invited to comment on the proposed charges and asked the Clerk to obtain details of useage in preparation for that consultation.
- c. Lubbock Fine – External Auditors' Report
The Council noted receipt of the unqualified report.

13. To authorise payments.

To authorise the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
25.09.07	003364 – 003397	£11,437.93
02.10.07	003398 – 003407	£2,980.47
09.10.07	003408 – 003415	£32,322.23
23.10.07	003416 – 003444	£141,628.71
01.11.07	003445 – 003470	£44,307.97
06.11.07	003471 – 003483	£9,884.72
13.11.07	003484 – 003509	£14,504.68

14. To receive urgent correspondence

There were no items of urgent correspondence.

15. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.55 p.m.