



PCSO Scott reported on the priorities set at the previous SNT public meeting on 11 June:

1. Anti-Social Behaviour in Osier Place. There had been 21 patrols since the SNT meeting, in addition to an unknown number of Response Team visits, and no issues had been identified.
2. Parking in Swan Lane/Murton Slade. There had been 19 patrols since the SNT meeting. 7 warnings and 1 Fixed Penalty Notice had been issued. As there is no traffic order for the area, Suffolk County Council had been approached for help in introducing some controls.
3. Parking in School Lane. Warnings and 1 Fixed Penalty Notice had been issued, and there had been patrols on most days. The problems tended not to arise when the Police were present, but reappeared when they were not.

Cllr Hawes asked whether the results of the work in Osier Place had been discussed with the complainant. PCSO Scott advised that they had and that he was happy with the Police efforts so far.

Cllr Carr commented that parking in Castle Lane had increased since the new crossing arrangements at Place Farm School had been put in place, and that car crimes on Castle Lane was a concern, possibly due to it being a route away from pubs and the town centre. PCSO Scott acknowledged these concerns.

Cllr Byrne raised deep concerns about the recent fatality at the crossroads between Withersfield and West Wrating, the second death at this junction in the last two months. PCSO Scott said he would raise this via the Roads Policing Unit. The Town Clerk added that he would pursue a response from Cambridgeshire Highways, and add the matter to the agenda for the next Full Council.

Cllr Hanlon raised a concern about graffiti at Queens Square, Balmforth Estate Agents and Dorothy Perkins. The Town Clerk agreed to write to the businesses concerned.

The Mayor thanked PCSO Scott for his attendance.

**8. Mayor's Charity Donations 2012-13**

Cllr Hanlon presented a cheque for £2,600, being the proceeds from his Mayoral charity fundraising for 2012-13, to Linda Baird of Autism Suffolk.

There was a brief pause in proceedings between 7.20pm and 7.21pm for photographs to be taken.

Cllr French advised the meeting of a personal experience that had highlighted the significance of autism to him.

**9. A presentation by Haverhill Gymnastics Club on the proposed construction of a new gymnastic facility for Haverhill, and a request for funding**

David Bovis (DB) and Kevin Woolcott (KW) presented on behalf of Haverhill Gymnastics Club in respect of a proposed new gymnastic

**PCSO SCOTT  
TOWN CLERK**

**TOWN CLERK**

facility at Samuel Ward Academy. The proposals for a £600,000 gymnasium were outlined, along with the benefits, including increased community participation, improvements in skills and health, and reduced anti-social behaviour. The current financial position was also outlined. Although a loan, pledges and funding applications would meet the cost, all funding received would serve to reduce the borrowing requirement.

A request for £25,000 in support funding was made.

Councillors commented and questioned as follows:

- What the catchment area would be. KW said this would include Cambridge, Saffron Walden, Sudbury and Bury St Edmunds as well as Haverhill.
- That this was a tremendous initiative for young people and community groups. The request to the Town Council was substantial but a worthwhile contribution to a major investment in the town.
- What the cost to attend would be. KW referred councillors to the handout provided. DB added that funding contributions would reduce borrowing costs, which in turn would reduce or contain prices.
- When work on the project would start. KW said it was hoped that work would start in the summer holidays.
- Whether any Council contribution could be spread across two years. KW said he expected this could be accommodated.
- Whether any national funding had been sought. DB said the Sport England support was from the lottery. KW said other sources had been investigated but that this tended to be available for much larger projects that involved a range of projects.
- Whether the Borough and other parish councils had been approached. KW said not as yet but that they would.
- Whether locality budgets and S106 funding had been considered. The Town Clerk said that he had approached the Borough Council in respect of S106 funding and that none was available.
- What adult/child ratio would be adopted. KW said that statutory requirements would be met.
- Whether coaches would be paid. KW said some were volunteers, others would be paid.
- That the energy used in activities could help to deter anti-social behaviour.

A short video followed showing the type of equipment and activities that would be incorporated.

Cllr Byrne proposed a contribution of £25,000, subject to success in obtaining the remaining funding, completion of the Council's standard support funding application form, and a report on progress before the end of the financial year.

Town Councillors agreed this proposal.

The Mayor, with the agreement of the Council, adjourned the meeting at

7.49pm for the public forum.

Mr Ian Johnson raised ongoing concerns about the proposals for North East Haverhill contained within the latest consultation draft of the Vision 2031 document. Despite widespread concern there remained a proposal for a road running through woodland between Calford Green and Coupals Road, and the parkland area proposed was only 20 hectares, whereas community representations had suggested 30 hectares.

Mr Johnson asked for the Council's support in improving the position, and in deleting paragraph 1.32 from the Vision document.

Councillors expressed their support for Mr Johnson's work on this issue and said that it would be considered as part of their formal response to the document.

County Councillor Tony Brown, speaking as a member of the public, said that he had attended a County Council development briefing, and that the County officer present had said they would be pushing for the new road and that the developer was also behind this.

David Wetton said that he was aware of a similar attempt to include a road in the Braintree local plan, which had failed as a result of community pressure. He said that Suffolk County Council seemed to be ignoring residents' wishes.

Cllr Roach said that as a new councillor he would like to get involved with Mr Johnson's concerns and report back to the Council.

There being no further matters raised by the public, the Mayor resumed the meeting with the agreement of the Council at 8.03pm.

Cllr Carr left the meeting at 8.03pm.

## **10. Adoption of Committee Reports**

### Personnel Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 11th June 2013.

### Planning Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 18th June 2013.

### Finance Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 18th June 2013.

Cllr Hawes offered his apologies for not attending the Finance Committee.

## **11. Neighbourhood Community Budget**

The Town Clerk reported progress towards a Neighbourhood Community Budget, and in particular on the launch event for the Community Budget Plan held on 6 June. He outlined the lead role of the Town Council in developing the proposals, including a proposal to acquire the former Magistrates Courts site on Camps Road to enable the creation of a youth hub, and the development of a team of Community Ambassadors to help identify and rectify problems on

roads, pavements and other public areas.

Cllr Byrne expressed her dismay that Suffolk County Council appeared to be requesting payment for the Magistrates Courts site when other sites had been gifted to other organisations. This meant that the Town Council was being forced to consider using public funds when other organisations had not had to.

**12. Healthcare Working Group**

The Town Clerk updated the Council on the work of its Healthcare Working Group, including a draft healthcare leaflet, which had been delayed due to an impending change of phone number at Clements & Christmas Maltings Surgery.

The Clerk also reported on a recent CCG health event that had contributed to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and he referred to an email from the CCG indicating that they are looking to overcome the problems associated with Addenbrookes patients not being able to be referred to community health clinics in Haverhill.

Cllr André said that he was proud of the Town Council's contribution to the healthcare debate in Haverhill, which was producing positive results for the town – some visible, some helping for the future. Cllr Byrne said she was impressed with the information on transport help included in the leaflet. Cllr Turner thanked the Working Group for its efforts. Cllr Hawes asked how the leaflet would be distributed. The Town Clerk advised that this would be investigated to ensure the most cost-effective method.

Cllr McLatchy advised the meeting of a fund she had launched to obtain diagnostic equipment for the town, about a fundraising event held the previous weekend, about free events being organised for carers, and about a session held at Leiston Community Centre on dementia. She thanked Cllrs Byrne, André, J Stroud, G Stroud and Roach for their help at the fundraising event.

**13. Haverhill High Street**

The Town Clerk outlined Suffolk County Council's proposed consultation on the High Street, which had been circulated previously, and on which the Town Council had been asked to comment.

Town Councillors welcomed the approach in general and recognised efforts to ensure that all sections of the community were included in the various events. They were keen to ensure that the benefits of this approach were maximised with the widest possible promotion of what the County Council was doing. They recommended a full-page advert in one of the local papers. They hoped that their experience of people's willingness to contribute when approached directly - market stalls held by the Town Council in 2012 - could be incorporated, and recommended that online consultation be used only as additional to more direct and traditional communication methods. They also felt that the events would benefit from having the Cabinet Member in attendance.

The Clerk also updated councillors on the Camps Road one way

restriction, which it was expected would be in place prior to the consultation so that feedback could form part of the consultation.

The Clerk also updated the Council on the proposal to install six bollards in the High St as a temporary measure to help protect the paved areas. These had followed action days by the Town Council and Police, in which the use of Police traffic cones had proved successful. An approved design and installation cost from SCC Highways was awaited.

**14. To Agree and Approve the 2012/13 Accounts**

The Town Clerk summarised the statement of accounts that had been circulated previously.

Town Councillors agreed and approved the statement of accounts for 2012-13.

**15. To Agree and Approve the Annual External Audit Form**

The Town Clerk explained the requirements of external audit and summarised the contents of the annual return that had previously been circulated.

Town Councillors agreed and approved the annual external audit form and the accounting and governance statements therein.

**16. To Consider the Internal Auditor's Report (to follow)**

The Town Clerk explained that the annual internal audit had been carried out by Heelis & Lodge the previous Friday, and had identified no matters of significance. The auditor's report which had been circulated to councillors identified three advisory recommendations that would be addressed before the next audit. None of these recommendations had affected the auditor's declaration in the annual external audit return, and so were considered minor.

Town Councillors agreed the internal audit report and accepted its findings and recommendations.

**17. To authorise payments**

Town Councillors authorised the following cheque lists:-

<b>Date</b>	<b>Cheque Numbers</b>	<b>Value</b>
23.04.13	8720	£1,941.02
30.04.13	008721-008735	£6,947.75
07.05.13	008736-008751	£14,962.19
14.05.13	008752-008768	£6,645.61
14.05.13	008769	£39,473.56
21.05.13	008770-008781	£3,393.61
22.05.13	008782	£80.00
28.05.13	008783-008790	£3,843.78
28.05.13	008791	£200.00
28.05.13	008792	£2480.00
04.06.13	008793-008806	£7,817.99
11.06.13	008807 – 008829	£16,649.18

**18. To receive urgent correspondence**

The Town Clerk referred to an approach from St Edmundsbury Borough Council asking the Town Council to consider taking on Leiston Community Centre following the winding up of Leiston Community Association on 31 July 2013. The Clerk suggested that he enter into discussion on the basis of an initial lease, to ensure continuity of provision and to allow time to consider a full asset transfer. Any additional costs involved could be met from funds previously allocated by Councillors. Any draft agreement would be brought to Councillors for approval.

Cllr Turner ask that time be allowed for due diligence before any asset transfer took place. Cllr McLatchy stressed the need to reassure the community about the future of the Centre.

At 8.47pm Councillors agreed that, in accordance with the Provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Councillors agreed that standing orders be suspended to allow time for the item to be discussed fully.

**11. Former Magistrates Court Site**

Councillors approved the draft proposal to acquire the former Magistrates Court site from Suffolk County Council, and its early submission to the County Council.

**15. Closure**

The meeting was closed at 9.06pm.