

Cllr Byrne said that a case of rough sleeping had been identified that day in the Library grounds. It had been reported to the Police and she hoped that the new system would work.

5. Inspector Peter Ferrie

PC Michael Potter attended on behalf of Inspector Ferrie. He reported on the three current SNT priorities:

- Anti-social behaviour in Clayhive Drive and surrounding streets. There had been 156 patrols. Few incidents of anti-social behaviour had been identified. There had been one repeat victim in Bedford Court whose windows had been smashed. Inquiries were ongoing
- Speeding in the High Street. Numerous speed checks had been carried out at varied times and on various days. The top speed recorded was a moped travelling at 35mph
- Parking issues. 113 fixed penalty notices had been issued for parking offences in the High Street

Cllr Robbins said that he had seen a new Police officer on patrol, and that the visibility of an officer on the beat may help. PC Potter said this could be PC Mark Ellis. Cllr Robbins said that a marked Police presence is working.

The Mayor thanked PC Potter for his attendance.

6. Haverhill Rugby Club

Chris Spencer (CS) and Mark Jury (MJ) of Haverhill Rugby Club gave a presentation in respect of a proposed new club shower facility, and a request for funding support of £5,000.

CS and MJ summarised the presentation appended to these minutes. The Town Clerk highlighted the following from the funding application form:

- The request was for £5,000
- The Club had 350 members, 2 staff, a management committee of 8 and 28 volunteers/helpers
- The total project cost of £20,000 would provide groundworks, plumbing, electrical works and control valves
- 100 people were expected to benefit directly from the funding
- The Club had reserve funding of £10,000, of which £5,500 would be contributed to the project. The remainder would be required as funding for ongoing Club costs

Cllr Byrne said that the presentation had made her aware of the Club's wider community activities, and she was pleased to see that County Councillors had been approach for locality funding. She supported the application in full.

Cllr McLatchy said that rugby was a very healthy activity, that the Club helped the town and that the application was worthy of support.

Cllr Turner asked whether the Club was considering sponsorship, and added that he supported the need for good showers. He also asked

what would be done with any surplus funding if this materialised. CS said that he was happy to discuss a proportionate repayment, or possible additional projects that might require funding. MJ said that some sponsorship was in place such as advertising boards, and that in kind sponsorship such as dry cleaning was also provided. It was however a challenge to obtain further sponsorship.

Cllr Hanlon recalled the Club's community work at Christmas in the past.

Cllr André said that the Town Council had an eye for the future and the need for better facilities in the town.

Cllr Byrne proposed that £5,000 be awarded, with any surplus to be invested in further improvements to Rugby Club facilities. Councillors agreed this proposal.

MJ thanked councillors and advised them of a veterans' game on 8th December, to which all were invited.

The Mayor, with the agreement of the Council, adjourned the meeting at 7.45pm for the public forum.

John Burns read a statement in respect of the cottages at 85/87 High Street which is appended to these minutes.

Cllr Byrne asked what Havebury would do if the latest planning application was refused. Mr Burns said that the application was linked to grant funding, and he thought that Havebury would reduce the development to four flats and seek to dispose of the cottages.

A member of the public asked Cllr Byrne if any progress had been made with his request for the restoration of some street lighting. Cllr Byrne said she had left a message explaining that the request had been refused by the County Council because it was not a crime issue. The member of the public said that this was not an issue for the Police, and that it annoyed him that Clements Road was lit but not his nearby house. He only wanted two lights restored, and considered that the County Council officer he had spoken to was arrogant. Cllr Byrne said she had received several similar complaints.

County Councillor Julian Flood said he and the KICS Group had succeeded in getting a request to restore street lights granted, but it had been a slow and laborious process. He added that the steps on estates needed edging for safety. Cllr Byrne said she was disappointed at the lack of help from the County Council. She also felt that the form that had been introduced for requests seemed long-winded.

There being no further matters raised by the public, the Mayor resumed the meeting with the agreement of the Council at 8.00pm.

7. Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 12th November 2013.

Leisure & Community Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Leisure & Community Committee meeting held on 19th November 2013.

8. Former Magistrates Court/Police Station

The Clerk advised that legal advice on Heads of Terms for a lease of the property had been received. The County Council could now proceed to draft full lease documents. Key issues were the level of rent payable and a licence to start refurbishment ahead of the lease commencement.

The Clerk further advised that several organisations had been approached to provide project management for the building works, including the proposed community aspects (e.g. youth involvement, engagement of prison inmates).

9. Tribute to Les Ager

The Mayor invited councillors to consider ideas for a tribute to former Town Councillor and Town Mayor Les Ager, who had passed away in October.

Cllr Byrne said that a tribute was in order, and that the Council should liaise with the Silver Band regarding any plans they might have. She considered that the Council should offer a musical scholarship. She also considered that there should be a festival in his honour next year.

Cllr McLatchy agreed with Cllr Byrne's suggestions.

Cllr Turner said the family should be approached to ensure they were happy with any proposals.

The Clerk agreed to investigate further and report back to a future meeting.

10. Street Lighting

The Clerk said that this item had been added to the agenda to highlight the publication of a form devised by County Councillor Julian Flood, which could be used to request the restoration of one or more street lights. The form had been emailed to councillors and was available from the Town Council's website.

Cllr Byrne said that the street light issue had been going on for two years, during which time she had provided residents with torches and alarms for safety in darkened areas. She asked whether there was a legal avenue that could be pursued to restore lights in Haverhill. The Clerk said that Judicial Review would be costly and likely to be unsuccessful. The County Council had pointed to its complaints procedure as the only avenue for appeal where requests were refused.

Cllr Turner said that the Police could not be used as an excuse for not restoring lights, as they were not in control and did not hold the budget for street lighting. He suggested inviting the Police Commissioner to comment, and challenging the County Council that in not responding positively to requests they were not following a duty of care.

TOWN CLERK

11. Grit Bins

The Clerk gave a verbal update on the installation of grit bins by the Town Council. 29 bins had been installed, and the waiting list had been cleared up to end October as a result. 5 further requests had been received in November. As the purchase price had been a little lower than expected, it should be possible to meet these extra requests in December.

Cllr Turner thanked the Clerk for his efforts.

12. Committee Membership

Cllr Byrne nominated Cllr McLatchy to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee. Cllr McLatchy nominated Cllr Roach to fill the vacancy on the Leisure & Community Committee. Councillors agreed both nominations.

13. To authorise payments

Councillors authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque Numbers	Value
21.10.13	009185 – 009196	£6,661.87
22.10.13	009197 – 009200	£4,699.20
29.10.13	009201 – 009222	£11,601.68
05.11.13	009223 – 009245	£18,351.24
12.11.13	009246 – 009267	£15,019.19
19.11.13	002968 – 009289	£52,948.33

14. To receive urgent correspondence

No urgent correspondence was tabled.

Cllr Byrne said that trees in the town were becoming a problem with many complaints about trees that needed pruning or lopping. Some were very dangerous and guidance was needed on how to apply maximum pressure on the Borough Council as they were refusing to address the issue.

The Clerk agreed to arrange a meeting with an appropriate Borough officer and councillor.

Cllr Turner asked whether the Town Council could take unilateral action if considered necessary. The Clerk agreed to look into this.

15. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.19pm.

TOWN CLERK

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Haverhill Rugby Club Shower upgrade project

Mark Jury – President
Chris Spencer - Chairman

Club History

- 1965 – club founded playing out of pubs
- 1978 – moved into own clubhouse
- 1995 – opened purpose built new clubhouse
- 2001 – youth section re-established
- 2002 – major pitch drainage project
- 2003 – junior section started (ages 6 -12)
- 2004 – ladies section created
- 2013 – 1st XV & Ladies win trophies in same year
 - – major pitch renovations (with St Eds BC)
 - – shower upgrade project
- 2015 – 50th Anniversary

Community Involvement

- Rugby promotes out door physical activity for boys and girls from age six upward – in a structured environment
- We provide RFU qualified CRB cleared coaches for all our own training sessions – safety is paramount
- Rugby is a sport that develops life skills and community responsibility as well as good health
- We have codes of conduct for players, supporters and parents contribute to growth of rounded young people
- We supply our coaches to assist with rugby activities in local schools at all levels – school/club partnership
- Clubhouse & grounds used by town council and many community groups over many years

Project Scope and Aims

Existing showers are ineffective due to lack of water volume and pressure. The heating system was installed to a budget some years ago and is also insufficient to deliver a good shower.

Sub standard facilities are affecting player retention at senior and youth levels – concern for long term future

Numerous options have been considered from both initial and on-going cost perspectives.

Higher water volume when we need it with an efficient heating system is far more cost effective in the long term than storage tanks, heaters and pumps

It's also the most environmentally friendly solution

Project Scope and Aims

So we need to install:

- A larger water main to increase volume and pressure available at point of use
- New boilers to heat water more efficiently

Upgrading the showers will maintain player participation at all levels – key RFU objective.

Better facilities will encourage more young people to continue with sport after leaving school

This will ensure the long term viability of the club

Thus protecting a venue, resource and organisation that has contributed positively to the town in a huge variety of ways for nearly half a century

Project Cost Summary

Project Element	
Provision of new water supply main	£ 2,500
Excavation and groundworks	£ 1,500
Internal plumbing, heating and electrical works	£16,000
Total	£20,000

Project Funding Analysis

Project Element	
RFF Groundmatch Grant – agreed in principal	£ 5,000
Grant from County Councillors Locality Budget – agreed in principal	£ 4,000
Grant from ECRU Lead Up & Legacy Fund – agreed in principal	£ 500
Sponsorship, club equipment replacement budget and internal fund raising activities (RFU Grand Draw etc)	£ 5,500
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>£15,000</i>
Grant request to Haverhill Town Council	£ 5,000

As the club is currently debt free we would probably have several options to borrow against our long term lease but this would obviously be a last resort

We are of course happy to answer any questions you may have.....

Statement by John Burns, read during Public Forum

Councillors

Following the recent decision by SEBC Development Control Committee to reject the demolition of 85-87 High Street, Tony Brown, Jason Crooks and I (John Burns) had a meeting this morning at Havebury Housing Partnership offices in Bury as a follow up to our meeting last week here facilitated by Will Austin.

Briefly the result of that meeting, and subject to legal agreement and charity statutory requirements, is:

- Havebury will place the cottages and a small area of the garden up for commercial auction in Ipswich on 17th December. This will require the new owner to renovate the properties reinstating them back to two properties.
- Due to the time constraints no earlier sale is possible. As a consequence this sale has now been published in the Auction House East Anglia Catalogue this afternoon
<http://www.auctionhouse.uk.net/eastanglia/search-results.aspx?lotid=27005>
- Havebury will still proceed with the planning application to both demolish and redevelop the site at the Bury Development Control Committee meeting on 5th December.
- Prior to that meeting they will provide briefing statements to the committee members explaining the proposed auction and changes planned to the redevelopment.
- It is planned that any buyer at auction must commence refurbishment within 6 months and be completed within 18 months subject to planning permission. Clauses will be included to protect the value of the land, and refurbishment, including the use of lift up clauses where necessary. These have still to be agreed legally.
- A guide price of around £50-70K has been set but the reserve has still to be agreed and naturally will remain confidential until after the auction (if sold).
- As part of the December 5th application Havebury will apply for consent/variance within the new curtilage of the site to cover potential changes to the site.
- The ultimate result is Havebury plan to reduce the housing units from 6 to 4 flats.
- Havebury may be able to make minor changes to the look and feel of the redevelopment phase but are restricted by SEBC planners and conservation officer requirements.

If Havebury are granted permission to demolish/rebuild on 5th Dec, and the cottages are not sold at auction, then it is possible Havebury may still proceed with demolition but try to conserve as many artefacts as possible either in the new redevelopment or perhaps in a historical display location. In the meantime we will look into other renovation funding streams as a possible last resort if a buyer does not come forward on 17th Dec.

We feel this is a very good compromise and, although we may not officially withdraw our objections to the planning application, it is not planned to add any additional objections or make additional comments.

Thank you for your attention.

Postscript: In response to the question from Cllr Byrne, Havebury stated that if permission is not granted at the 5th Dec. meeting then the whole development, including Eden Road, would be in jeopardy due to the apparent interconnectivity between the two sites in terms of the underground car park and building attachments. They would also lose the reported £500K HCA funding from central government for the scheme.