



HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 27th May 2014 at 7.00pm in The Chamber, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill, CB9 8AR

Present:

Chair: Town Councillor: R André

Town Councillors: M Byrne, L Carr, P Firman,
P French, E Goody, P Hanlon, M Martin,
B McLatchy, D Roach, B Robbins, A Samuels,
G Stroud, J Stroud and C Turner

Also present: 40 members of the public

MINUTES

C14 Election of Town Mayor

/001 The existing Mayor Cllr Andre was nominated by Cllr McClatchy; the nomination was seconded by Cllr Hanlon. There being no other nominations, Cllr Andre was elected to serve as Mayor for 2014/15.

C14 Address by Outgoing Mayor

/002 Cllr Andre made the following remarks:

“The year completed today has been particularly busy and correspondingly significant. The departure of a Town Clerk who had become such a prominent member of our community presented a significant challenge. Bob Whittome has stepped into the breach, keeping us on track and preparing us to ensure that we introduce our new Town Clerk, in a measured and organised manner. We are most fortunate to have experienced a stream of professional and sensitive Clerks – we have come to regard Bob as a close ally to us all.”

“The Town Council has enjoyed an amazing year, our committees have worked tirelessly to deliver the service we all demand and the solid foundations for the development of our community have been laid. We are on the verge of many exciting projects and there remains much to be done.”

"I would wish to thank all Councillors for their support and encouragement throughout this year. With the continuity offered by your decision here we can move into the next phase of our community development with confidence and enthusiasm."

C14 Apologies for Absence

003 Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs D Russo

C14 Declaration of Interests

004 Cllr Andre declared a pecuniary interest in the item relating to the

ACTION

Mayor's Allowance.

C14 Election of Deputy Mayor

/005 The existing Deputy Mayor Cllr Byrne was nominated by Cllr Roach, the nomination was seconded by Cllr Martin. There being no other nominations, Cllr Byrne was elected to serve as Deputy Mayor for 2014/15.

C14 Mayor's Allowance

/006 The Deputy Mayor took the Chair for this item.

Council resolved to approve payment of the Mayor's Allowance in the sum of £2,500, in accord with Section 15(5) of the Local Government Act 1972.

C14 Outside Representatives

/007 Council resolved to appoint Cllrs Andre and Goody to represent the Town Council on the One Haverhill Board. Council further resolved to delegate authority to Committees to make other appointments to outside bodies as appropriate.

C14 Town Council Committees

/008 Consideration was given to the composition of Council's committees and Council resolved that the composition of Committees should remain unaltered for 2014/15, but with the following caveat. Cllr Robbins requested consideration be given to including Cllr Firman on the Leisure and Community Committee. Council resolved to delegate authority to the Leisure and Community Committee to consider its composition and determine whether it would be advantageous to create an additional seat for Cllr Firman.

C14 To Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 29th April 2014

/009 The Clerk advised Members that a redrafted set of minutes had been circulated to members and he highlighted the minor changes made. The Clerk's redrafted minutes of the meeting held on 29th April 2014 were agreed as a true record.

C14 To deal with any urgent matters arising from the minutes not covered by this agenda

/010 The Clerk reported that:
-the Christmas Lights' service level agreement was still under negotiation (item 4).
-A response had been sent to Mr Cox in relation to his question about DBS clearance (public forum).
- The digital projection upgrade project is ongoing (item 9)..
-Arrangements for the Annual Meetings are complete (item 11).

C14 To confirm the Clerks re-appointment as Responsible Financial Officer

/011

Council resolved to re-appoint the Town Clerk to the position of Responsible Finance Officer.

C14 /012 To confirm the appointment of Heelis and Lodge as Independent Internal Auditor

Council resolved to re-appoint Heelis and Lodge as independent Internal Auditor. The Clerk advised Members that following good practice guidance, this matter should be further reviewed during the coming financial year to ensure the independence of the auditor is not prejudiced over time by a long continuing relationship. Council resolved that a further in depth review of audit arrangements should be undertaken by the Finance Committee.

C14 /013 Public Forum

Because the Annual Town Meeting is scheduled to immediately follow Council's meeting, Council resolved not to hold a public forum.

C14 /014 Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 13th May and 20th May 2014.

Leisure and Community Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6th May 2014.

C14 /015 To authorise urgent payments.

There were no urgent payments.

C14 /016 To receive urgent correspondence

There was no urgent correspondence.

C14 /017 Matters of Report

There were no matters of report.

C14 /018 Closure

The meeting was closed at 7.23pm.