

Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting

**Tuesday 20th March 2001 at 7.55 p.m.
at Bevan House, Camps Road, Haverhill**

PRESENT: **Chair:** **Cllr. Maggie Lee**
 Town Councillors: **E Goody, L Hancock, Mrs M Martin (items 1 –**
 4(b) only) and A Smith.
ALSO PRESENT: **Town Councillor:** **M Dane (by invitation).**

MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Gerry Kiernan, and A Millar.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 9th January 2001

These were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Changes to Clements Surgery

Cllr Maggie Lee reported that the Clements Practice were now proposing that both the Clements Surgery and the proposed Hanchett End Surgery should have both morning and afternoon surgeries, a solution that satisfied all those concerned about the reduction in hours at the Clements Surgery. Cllr Maggie Lee thanked Cllrs Mrs Martin and Smith for their efforts in achieving this outcome. The Clerk reported that the Family Health Services Appeal Authority had upheld the appeal by National Co-operative Chemists Ltd against the refusal by Suffolk Health Authority to refuse the previous application for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list at Hanchett End. The effect of this decision was that National Co-operative Chemists Ltd would provide the pharmaceutical services at Hanchett End and that Mr Holland's application for preliminary consent would be refused.

b) Grant Application – Haverhill Schools Initiative

The Clerk reported that, as requested by this Committee at their November 2000 meeting, Haverhill Schools Initiative had submitted a revised Grant application, seeking funds for two activities rather than to support employee costs. The Clerk confirmed that there was monies in the budget to provide for this Grant. The Committee confirmed that the Grant of £300 could now be awarded.

c) DETR – Our Countryside: the future

The Clerk reported that Suffolk Association of Local Councils, and particularly the Clerks of Larger Councils, were still actively considering the White Paper.

d) Suffolk County Council – Detached Youth Worker Report

The Clerk reported that the Community Education Officer had provided a financial statement for the work of the Detached Youth Workers. The Committee noted the content of the report.

4. Correspondence

a) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Local Air Quality Management

The Clerk reported that the third stage review of air quality had now been completed and that the report contained the conclusion that there was a possibility (20-50% chance) that an exceedence of the annual objective of NO₂ will occur in Lordscroft Lane (Western end). Cllr Maggie Lee asked that the Clerk raise with the Borough Council whether a study should take place of the combined effects of the wide range of pollutants occurring within the air in Haverhill, each of which on their own was within accepted safe limits, but which might form a “cocktail” with the other pollutants.

b) Suffolk County Council – Prohibition of Driving with exemptions Order 2000

The Committee noted the Order prohibiting driving motor vehicles along part of byway 32.

c) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Abandoned Cars

The Committee noted the Borough Council’s statistics regarding the reporting and collection of abandoned vehicles.

5. Financial Advice for Voluntary Organisations

Cllr Maggie Lee proposed and Cllr Goody seconded that the sum of £250 be vired from Grants to Voluntary Organisations to fund seminars for voluntary organisations within the Town to promote simple measures that could be introduced to reduce the risk of fraud or theft of funds. Cllr Maggie Lee asked that the requirement to be adhering to the principles that would be outlined at the courses be relaxed for new groups seeking Grants, but used as a criteria for established groups.

6. Authorisation of payments

The payments shown on the lists detailed below were approved for payment.

List Date	Item Numbers	Cheque Numbers	Total Value for List £
15.01.01	1-5	3199-3203	£4,235.50
30.01.01	1-18	3204-3221	£10,345.22
13.02.01	1-17	3222-3238	£12,990.86
20.02.01	1-5	3239-3243	£4,655.38
20.02.01	1-12	3244-3255	£8,172.24
20.03.01	1-6	3256-3261	£4,801.06
20.03.01	1-24	3262-3285	£8,283.21

Members asked that in future cheque lists items purchase for Grant-aided projects be identified as such.

7. Matters of report

Cllr Goody reported that he, together with others had been sent a Council Tax Bill for 2001/2002 calculated on nine direct debit paymemnts rather than ten.

8. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.40 p.m.