

Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting

**Tuesday 21st May 2002 at 7.00 p.m.
at Bevan House, Camps Road, Haverhill**

PRESENT: **Chair:** **Cllr. Maggie Lee**
 Town Councillors: **M Dane (items 7-10 only), E Goody, G Kiernan,**
 Mrs M Martin and A Millar

ALSO PRESENT: **One member of the public.**

MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Bowman, and Hancock.

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Maggie Lee declared a prejudicial interest in the grant application by Cartwhhels Playgroup, and Cllr Gerry Kiernan declared a prejudicial interest in the grant application by Haverhill and District Volunteer Bureau.

3. Minutes

Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Millar seconded that the minutes of the meeting held 19th March 2002 be signed as a true record, all being in favour.

4. Matters arising

a) Reeds Lane

The Clerk advised that he had written again to St Edmundsbury Borough Council regarding the speed of vehicles along this road.

b) Swan Lane

The Clerk advised that the delay in major work commencing at Swan Lane was due to the need for the statutory undertakers to move their services, and that BT in particular had not kept to schedule.

c) Light, Recreation Ground

Cllr Mrs Martin advised that despite promises from St Edmundsbury Borough Council the security light by the toilet block on the Recreation Ground was not on a time-

switch. The Clerk was asked to write to St Edmundsbury Borough Council accordingly.

5. Correspondence

a) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Willows in Ehringshausen Way

The Clerk advised that the willow trees in Ehringshausen Way were to be pollarded, although it now seemed that they would not all be pollarded this year. The Committee noted that this work was necessary for safety reasons, but regretted the loss of the full beauty of the trees. The Clerk was asked to ensure that pollarding the trees in June, as proposed by St Edmundsbury Borough Council, would not harm them further.

b) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Proposed Road Closure, Lulworth Drive

The Committee had no objection to the proposed road closure for a Jubilee Street Party.

c) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Parking Restrictions

The Clerk advised the Committee of St Edmundsbury Borough Council's responses to their comments on proposed additional parking restrictions.

d) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Replacement of Street Lights, Parkway Estate

The Clerk reported that work would commence during the year on phase II of the replacement of street lights, and installation of additional units, on the Parkway estate.

e) Three Counties Community Transport – Rural Transport Partnership Fund Bid

The Clerk advised that the three County Councils were combining to submit a joint bid to enhance the provision of community transport within the town. The Committee welcomed this enhancement to community transport and praised the spirit of co-operation between the three County Councils.

f) Dixon Architects – Diversion of Footpath No. 10

The Committee noted the diversion and, subject to HAVAC approval, had no objection to the proposals.

6. Grants

During consideration of the grant requests Cllr Maggie Lee left the building during the debate on the application by Cartwheels Playgroup, and Cllr Gerry Kiernan left the building during the debate on the application by Haverhill and District Volunteer Bureau.

The Committee agree that grants be awarded as detailed below, subject to conditions as shown.

Organisation Name	Amount Granted	Conditions Imposed
1 st Kedington Ranger Guides	£ 210.00	Town Council purchase and donate equipment
Age Concern	£ 500.00	None
Cartwheels Playcentre	£ 500.00	None

Chalkstone Middle School	£ 120.00	None
Enterprise 2000	£ 500.00	Minumum half-page reference to arts-based projects past and present in Haverhill
HaCh (Haverhill Childminders)	£ 150.00	None
Haverhill & District Choral Society	£ 300.00	None
Haverhill & District Local History Group	£ 400.00	Town Council purchase equipment and donate
Haverhill & District U3A	£ 150.00	None
Haverhill & District Volunteer Centre	£ 320.00	Town Council purchase bookmarks and Town Council logo included in print
Haverhill Art Group	£ 90.00	None
Haverhill Cricket Club	£202.02	Town Council purchase equipment and donate
Haverhill Group of Suffolk Family History Group	£ 250.00	None
Haverhill Ladies Hockey Club	£ 200.00	None
Haverhill Lawn Tennis Club	£ 150.00	Town Council purchase equipment and donate
Haverhill Open Air Theatre Company	£ 550.00	None
Haverhill Scout & Guide HQ House Comm.	£ 500.00	None
Haverhill Silver Band (Youth)	£ 400.00	Subject to Silver Band conducting Police checks on all associated directly with youth section
Haverhill Sinfonia	£ 300.00	Grant to be acknowledged by phrase "Piano sponsored by Haverhill Town Council" at one concert
Haverhill Tennis Club	£ 400.00	Subject to their being open selection of participants
Haverhill Townswomens Guild	£ 400.00	None
HAVO	£ 182.95	Town Council to purchase and donate books
Millennium Stars Majorette Troupe	£ 300.00	None
Parkway Residents Association	£ 400.00	None
Pye Friendship Club	£ 50.00	None
Rhythm & Rhyme Plus	£ 300.00	None
Sapphire Majorettes	£ 300.00	Subject to Group satisfying Town Clerk of changes to financial procedures
Timeout	£ 150.00	None
Wednesday for Women	£ 400.00	None
Westfield Primary School	£ 292.00	None
TOTAL	£8,966.97	

7. 2001/2002 Financial Comparison & Accounts

The Committee noted the 2001/2002 out-turn report and accounts to be presented to Full Council.

8. Authorisation of payments

Cllr Mrs Martin proposed and Cllr Millar seconded that the payments shown on the lists detailed below were approved for payment, all being in favour.

List Date	Item Numbers	Cheque Numbers	Total Value for List
26.03.02	1-3	3853-3855	£1,156.67
04.04.02	1-16	3856-3871	£5,051.44
16.04.02	1-14	3872-3885	£7,495.73
16.04.02	1-4	3886-3889	£4,572.70
14.05.02	1-23	3890-3912	£8,956.48
14.05.02	1-7	3913-3919	£7,751.29
21.05.02	1-6 & 8-15	3920-3925 & 3927-3934	£3,467.14

9. Matters of report

The Clerk reported that he had received complaints regarding the speed of traffic using Chivers Road, which had now become an important thoroughfare and was being used as an alternative route to Hanchett End avoiding the bypass. The Committee agreed to write to St Edmundsbury Borough Council asking for speed reduction measures to be introduced.

10. New Arrangements for Internal Audit

Cllr Maggie Lee proposed, and Cllr Mrs Mary Martin seconded that, as the matters to be discussed will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100(A) (4), the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

The Clerk reminded the Council that they were required to appoint an Internal Auditor, and that his recommendation was that such a person have Professional Liability Insurance. Having written to five local accountancy firms and two other bodies the Clerk advised that two quotations had been received, both from persons with adequate insurance and both with proven experience. Having considered the matter the Committee agreed to recommend the appointment of Mr Cross to the position of Internal Auditor for 2002/2003.

11. Closure

The meeting closed at 9.07 p.m.