



You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of Haverhill Town Council to be held in The Studio, Town Hall, High Street, Haverhill, on Tuesday 27th October 2009 commencing at 7.00 p.m. for the purpose of transacting the following business

CONSTITUTION: Town Mayor: Cllr. E McManus
Town Councillors: L Ager, S Bowes,
L Burgess, M Byrne,
L Carr,
P French, A Gower,
P Hanlon, P McManus,
M Marks, Mrs M Martin,
G Price, K Richardson,
A Samuels and T
Woodward

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Please give any apologies to the office by 5.00p.m. of the day of the meeting.
2. **Declaration of Interests**
For Members to declare any interests they may have on items on the agenda.
3. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 29th September 2009**
4. **To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda**

PUBLIC FORUM

5. Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

To move the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 6th October 2009.

Community First Committee

To move the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 20th October 2009.

6. Report from the Town Council Representative on the Standards Committee

7. Report from the Town Council Representative on the Haverhill Area Working Party

8. Report from the Town Council Representative on the Haverhill Partnership Executive

9. Redundant School Sites

To consider the Council's position regarding redundant school sites

10. Update of Work with Haverhill Partnership

To receive an update on recent work with Haverhill Partnership

11. Pay Award

To note the recent National Pay Award

12. Correspondence

13. To authorise payments.

To authorise the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
22.09.09	5189-5210	£9,088.70
29.09.09	5211-5246	£20,617.99

14. To receive urgent correspondence

In accord 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

15. **To Receive Details of Present Staff and Grades (previously attached to the Personnel Committee agenda)**
To receive and note the present staffing establishment and grades
16. **To Receive an Update on Staffing**
To receive an update on recent staffing changes.
17. **Confidential Issues Raised by Staff**
To consider responses to any confidential issues raised by staff
18. **To Agree The Basis for the Annual Review of the Town Clerk's Salary (previously attached to the Personnel Committee agenda)**
To agree the timescale for the Annual Review, and the criteria to be satisfied in terms of progression
19. **Closure**



**Gordon Mussett
Town Clerk**

DATE: 20th October 2009

Redundant School Premises

The County Council have now formally indicated that there will potentially be redundant school premises in Haverhill. Town Councillors would like to see whether there is sufficient demand to justify the dedication of one such site as a school for pupils with special educational needs (or to cater for these pupils as an add-on to an existing school site), and once agreed by Full Council this can be pursued with the County Council.

There are however a number of service reviews taking place in Haverhill, which have no clear lines of communication or sharing of aims, yet which collectively might form the basis for a joint venture on a redundant school site. These include:-

- a) the Safer Places to Be group looking at after-school provision as well as enhanced school holiday provision for children and young people
- b) the Older Persons Group looking at increased daytime and weekend daycare provision for older persons and those with learning difficulties
- c) the community organisations currently under notice at Lower Downs Slade

all of which have a synergy and whose needs could be served by former school premises.

In addition there are other organisations which may also be seeking new premises in the town; the Darzi clinic for example only has planning permission to occupy its present site for three years. And there may be other opportunities that arise from a joint occupation of a site, including the provision of additional allotments.

Members are asked to consider whether they wish to initiate investigations into the potential for joint occupation of a former school site. This would take the form of an open meeting, chaired by the Mayor, to gather expressions of interest, with a view, if sufficient initial interest is forthcoming, to working up a submission that might attract funding, and be supported by the joint occupiers.

Members are asked to consider:-

- a) if they wish to campaign for the County Council to review the need for a school for pupils with special educational needs in Haverhill
- b) if they wish the Mayor to Chair an open meeting to gather expressions of interest for a joint use proposal for a redundant school site

Issues Arising from Work Done for Haverhill Partnership

The Town Council, as a member of Haverhill Partnership, has, with others, been undertaking research into facilities and places to go in Haverhill (essentially a survey of available halls/meeting rooms, capacity, availability, costs, etc). This has been running alongside work done by others on activities and things to do (a survey of clubs, membership, fees, meeting places, etc).

Arising from this work the following points can be made:-

- a) despite there being a wide spread of potential activities for young people in Haverhill, the number of available places for membership is less than 1/10th of the total number of young people in the town
- b) the capacity to increase the number of groups catering for young people, particularly (but not exclusively) in the evening, is constrained by the lack of suitable meeting places
- c) the major element of most club subscriptions, particularly for young people, goes towards venue hire

This analysis is interesting, particularly as, as has been the case in the past, there is a renewed interest in promoting activities for young people more widely (e.g. the recently commissioned "what to do" website which is being tested at the moment). If more young people came forward, demand would outstrip supply, and this would have a negative impact.

Before the Town Council can consider whether it can address any of these issues however, it may be prudent to wait for the feedback from Christians Against Poverty/The Food Bank regarding the take-up amongst children of their clients of free membership of groups/clubs/societies (funded by the Town Council's £6,000 grant). In addition the take-up of free swimming amongst Haverhill children needs to be considered; with over 3350 under-16's registered in Haverhill this indicates a high proportion of participants if "the price is right" ..

Hopefully the outcome of this research should be available in time for the Council to consider when reviewing its budgets for 2010/11.