

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 17th February 2003 at 9.45 p.m.

At The Auditorium, Town Hall Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill

PRESENT: **Town Mayor:** **Councillor Mrs Mary Martin**

 Councillors: **M Dane, E Goody, M Graham, P Hanlon,**
 E Jarred, Gerry Kiernan, Larry Kiernan, Maggie Lee,
 and C Pinker

ALSO PRESENT: **Twenty-four members of the public**

IN ATTENDANCE: **Clerk to the Council – Gordon Mussett**

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received and were accepted from Cllrs Dunning, French, Millar, Smith, Trewartha and Woodley.

2. Declaration of Interests

No members declared an interest in matters on the agenda.

3. To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 28th January 2003

Cllr Gerry Kiernan proposed and Cllr Goody seconded, all being in favour, that the minutes of the meeting held 28th January 2003 be adopted as a true record, all being in favour.

4. To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes

Cllr Hanlon asked that there be a Press Release prepared as a result of tonight's meeting.

(Full Council adjourned for Public Forum)

A member of the public asked if the Town Council would vote to oppose a war against Iraq. The member of the public was advised that the Public Forum was for members of the public to ask the Town Council about matters that were within its powers and duties.

A member of the public advised that Sainsbury's store at Hanchett End currently attracted 25,000 customers per week. A second supermarket on the Station Yard site might potentially attract upwards of 12,500 per week, and he failed to understand how the existing road network could cope with the increased volume of traffic. Cllr Maggie Lee shared the

resident's concern regarding traffic in the area. Cllr Gerry Kiernan advised that some of those likely to attend the new store were already driving past the site to shop elsewhere.

A member of the public, referring to Policy HAV5, indicated that at present only part of the area is scheduled for retail development and that this new policy is an extension of the area.

A member of the public, whilst understanding the need for another supermarket, wondered whether those shopping at the supermarket would then also shop in town on the same visit.

A member of the public asked when the traffic situation in Crowland Road was going to be addressed, adding that some form of speed reduction measures were needed, particularly at the northern end of the road.

A member of the public asked the Town Council to be visionaries and not sacrifice important sites for short-term gains.

A member of the public stated that whilst much had been said about extra traffic in The Pightle, little had been said about potential additional traffic arising from the development of Hamlet Croft.

A member of the public enquired about the Dog Warden's responsibilities in respect of dog fouling on Havebury Housing Partnership land.

A member of the public asked about the likely benefits to be achieved through development of Hamlet Croft for housing and Cllr Gerry Kiernan agreed to supply a copy of the report prepared for St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

A member of the public stated that most of the public attending the meeting wanted policy HAV5 deleted; would the Town Council support them ?

A member of the public asked why there was no reference to residential properties in Station Road in the policy HAV5.

A member of the public complained that St Edmundsbury Borough Council were not consistent in their responses to residents affected by the draft policy, and had failed to inform and consult them prior to publication of the Draft Plan.

(Full Council resumed after Public Forum)

5. Draft St Edmundsbury Borough Council Local Plan

The Town Council considered the Planning Committee's suggested response to the Draft Replacement St Edmundsbury Plan. Cllr Maggie Lee commented that there were mixed messages regarding the wording in policy HAV5. Cllr Jarred asked if the Council could be sure that the residential properties in HAV5 would be protected. Cllr Maggie Lee and Cllr Gerry Kiernan felt that the order of visions needed revisiting.

Cllr Dane proposed that policy HAV1 be amended by the deletion of (c) "Hamlet Croft". Cllr Jarred seconded the proposal. On being put to the vote the proposal was defeated, Cllrs Dane, Graham and Jarred voting for, and Cllrs Goody, Hanlon, Gerry Kiernan, Larry Kiernan, Mrs Martin, and Pinker voting against. Cllr Maggie Lee abstained.

Cllr Dane proposed that policy HAV5 be amended to read that the area of land to the north of the residential properties in The Pightle and Lordscroft Lane, and to the east of the

residential properties in Station Road, to the south of the Railway Walk, and to the west and north of Aldi's, to Reeds Lane, be allocated for affordable housing and medical facilities. Cllr Jarred seconded the proposal. On being put to the vote the proposal was defeated, Cllrs Dane, Graham and Jarred voting for, and Cllrs Goody, Hanlon, Gerry Kiernan, Larry Kiernan, Maggie Lee, Mrs Martin, and Pinker voting against.

Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Pinker seconded that the Town Council's comments on the Draft Replacement St Edmundsbury Local Plan be as recommended by the Planning Committee. The proposal was carried by a majority, Cllrs Dane, Graham and Jarred voting against, and Cllrs Goody, Hanlon, Gerry Kiernan, Larry Kiernan, Maggie Lee, Mrs Martin, and Pinker voting for.

6. To authorise urgent payments.

Cllr Hanlon and Cllr Maggie Lee seconded that the payments shown on the list detailed below were approved for payment, all being in favour.

List Date	Item Numbers	Cheque Numbers	Total Value for List £
17.02.03	1-7	000194-000200	£7,702.18
17.02.03	1-8	000201-000208	£1,391.66

7. To receive urgent correspondence

There were no items of urgent correspondence.

8. Matters of report

Cllr Maggie Lee reported that since the reconstruction of the Camps Road/Mill Road junction the "Pedestrian Area" signs were no longer visible to traffic approaching town along Camps Road.

9. Closure

The meeting was closed at 10.37 p.m.