

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 25th January 2005 at 7.30 pm
In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Haverhill Arts Centre,
High Street, Haverhill
Suffolk CB9 8AR

Telephone: 01440 712858

Fax: 01440 718931

e-mail: admin@towncouncil.haverhill-uk.com
www.haverhill-uk.com/towncouncil

Present: **Chair:** **Tim Marks**
Town Councillors: **C Cullum (except items 1-4), M Dane (except items 1-4), S Fanning, E Goody, M Graham, G Kiernan, E Morton, J. Rudd (except items 1-4), L Samples, A Thomas, E Trebble (except items 1-4), and R Warwick (except items 1-4)**

Also present: **Twelve members of the public**

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Maggie Lee, Mrs Mary Martin, and Robinson.

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Goody, Kiernan and Thomas declared an interest as Members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllr Kiernan declared an interest as a Member of Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Police Authority.

3. To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 30th November 2004

The minutes of the meeting held 30th November were signed as a true record.

4. To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda

There were no urgent matters to discuss.

5. Inspector Bruce Gent, Suffolk Police

The Mayor welcomed Inspector Bruce Gent, who outlined the Sector priorities for 2005. Inspector Gent also confirmed that the Police were aware of, and sensitive to, those issues of public concern, and would be working, alongside other agencies, to address these. Inspector Gent announced that four Police Community Support Officers were being recruited, to provide a more visible presence, especially in residential areas. Inspector Gent advised that during the period following the introduction of the new Licensing Act the Police and St Edmundsbury Borough Council were working in partnership to ensure that Licences did not unduly impact on the general public.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A member of the public asked whether the introduction of Police Community Support Officers would affect overall policing numbers, and Inspector Gent advised that this was not the expectation of this government-funded initiative.

A member of the public stated that they believed the Town Council should take the lead in dealing with the Patient Forum and its members in organising a meeting in Haverhill.

The meeting was resumed after the Public Forum

6. Adoption of Committee Reports

Planning Committee

Cllr Rudd proposed and Cllr Morton seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 11th January 2005, all being in favour.

Leisure & Arts Committee

Cllr Warwick proposed and Cllr Rudd seconded the adoption of the minutes of the Leisure & Arts Committee meeting held 11th January 2005, all being in favour.

7. Annual Meeting with Havebury Housing Representatives

The Clerk advised that he was awaiting confirmation of a meeting date.

8. Freedom of Information Act

The Clerk advised that no requests for information had been received since implementation of the Act. The Council noted the appointment in law of the Town Clerk and Town Mayor as "qualified persons" for the purposes of Section 36 of the Act.

9. Environmental Information Act

The Council noted the implications for the Town Council of the Environmental Information Act.

10. Parish Grants

The Clerk provided a verbal update on the progress of negotiations with St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The outcome of those negotiations would not be known until the Borough Council meeting in February, but the negotiations were proceeding favourably for the Town Council.

11. To Agree Draft Budgets and Precept

The Council agreed that the precept for 2005/2006 would be £275,001. Cllrs Cullum, Dane and Graham asked that their opposition to this motion be noted. The Council further agreed that the Borough Council would not formally be advised of the precept until after the Borough Council meeting in February and that the Mayor be authorised to request £275,001 or this sum less any further subsidy that the Borough Council might provide to mitigate the loss of Parish Grant.

12. Meeting Dates 2005/2006

The Council agreed the proposed calendar of meetings (attached).

13. East of England Plan

The Council agreed to form a sub-group comprising Cllrs Fanning, Goody, Marks, Trebble and Warwick to compose the Town Council's response to the draft plan. The Clerk notified the Council of a briefing meeting being held by Suffolk Association of Local Councils on 3rd February at 7.00 p.m. and Cllrs Graham, Marks, Rudd, Samples, Thomas, Trebble and Warwick advised that they hoped to attend.

14. SALC Training

The Council agreed to host a SALC training event and to invite representatives of other Parishes to join them at the event.

15. To authorise payments.

Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded, all being in favour that the following payments be approved:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
23.11.04	001087-001114	£63,708.68
30.11.04	001115-001131	£3,458.51
07.12.04	001132-001153	£17,660.81
10.12.04	001154-001155	£750.00
06.01.05	001156-001166	£33,705.29

16. To receive urgent correspondence

- a) East Anglian Daily Times – Wildflower Awards 2005
The Council noted the receipt of information about the awards.
- b) Suffolk County Council – Draft Statement of Community Involvement
The Council noted the receipt of the Draft Statement
- c) St Edmundsbury Borough Council & SALC – Quality Parish Councils
The Council noted the details of the meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Angel Hill at 7.00 p.m. on 22nd February.
- d) Christmas Maltings & Clements Practice – New Clements Surgery
The Council noted the invitation to the official opening at 1.00 p.m. on 3rd February.

Cllr Goody proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded, all being in favour, that in accord with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that 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 Act.

17. Bevan House

The Council considered the implications of the report and agreed that if requested by the Red Cross, permission to develop part of the Bevan House site would be granted on terms to be confirmed by the Town Clerk, Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

18. Suffolk County Council Pension Fund

The Council noted the actuarial recommendations regarding contribution rates by employing authorities, and the increase in the employer contribution. The Town Clerk confirmed that the 0.6% increase for 2005/2006 could be subsumed within the agreed budget.

19. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.55 p.m.

HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING DATES *May 2005 to May 2006*

<u>Committee</u>	May 2005	June 2005	July 2005	Aug 2005	Sept 2005	Oct 2005	Nov 2005	Dec 2005	Jan 2006	Feb 2006	Mar 2006	Apr 2006	May 2006
Planning	3	7	5	2	6	11	1	6	10	7	7	4	2
Leisure & Arts	10	14	12		13	11	8		17	14	14	11	9
Personnel			19			11			24			18	
Community First			26			25			31			25	
Finance		21			13		22			21			16
Appeals													
Full Council	24	28			27		29				28		30
Town Meeting	24												30
Arts Centre Trustees		28					22						

All meetings are held at The Arts Centre, High Street, unless otherwise notified.

Committee meetings commence at 7.00 p.m.

Full Council meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. Annual General Meeting commences at 7.00 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public, and the public may raise matters of concern to the Town Council at the Town Council meetings.

The Town Meeting is organised by the Town Council on behalf of the public.