# FCM/M/05.12.06 FULL COUNCIL MEETING

<u>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2006 at 7.30 pm</u> In Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



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Present: Chair: Ann Thomas Town Councillors: L Ager, E Goody, M Graham (except items 1-10(part)), E McManus, P McManus, T Marks, Mrs Mary Martin, S Martin, E Morton, K Richardson, L Samples and E Trebble

Also present:

Twenty-one members of the public

# **MINUTES**

1. <u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Brown and Fanning.

# 2. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Goody, Mrs Mary Martin and Thomas declared an interest as members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllr Marks declared an interest as a Member of Suffolk County Council.

- 3. <u>To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> September 2006</u> The minutes of the meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> September were agreed as a true record.
- 4. <u>To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda</u> There were no urgent matters to be dealt with.
- 5. Inspector Adrian Dawson, Suffolk Police

Inspector Dawson provided the Council with an update on current crime statistics (attached). Cllr Mrs Mary Martin thanked Inspector Dawson for his prompt response to the Town Council's concerns regarding anti-social behaviour on the Parkway estate. Inspector Dawson reported that PC William Wright had been appointed as the new Neighbourhood Beat Officer for the beat covering the Parkway estate, and confirmed that, out of a compliment of four Police Community Support Officers, there were two in post, one receiving induction training, and one yet to be appointed.

# The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A member of the public complained of the nuisance caused by youths on motorcycles in the vicinity of the Newt pond. Inspector Dawson advised on the difficulties of safely apprehending the offenders and indicated that he relied on members of the public to report either motorcycles which were "hidden" in

public areas or the names and addresses of the offenders, all of whom would live in the town. With that information the motorcycles could be seized and offenders charged.

A member of the public spoke of the need to increase the Police presence on the Parkway estate, particularly in the area of St Felix Church which had been the subject of considerable vandalism. Inspector Dawson confirmed that Parkway is his priority area for reducing criminal damage, but added that some Officers are currently seconded to the major Police investigation taking place around lpswich.

A member of the public stated that there were issues with youths, as young as twelve, being drunk and causing damage along the Railway Walk and in Thurlow Place. Inspector Dawson indicated this had not been raised with him as an issue yet but he would investigate.

A member of the public complained of cars parked illegally in the High Street in the evening, and another of speeding cars in the High Street in the evening. The Mayor reported that a Police Community Support Officer had been in the High Street on Monday evening addressing the issue of illegally parked cars.

A member of the public complained of the poor quality of the changing facilities at the Leisure Centre, and the Mayor indicated the Town clerk would write to Abbeycroft Leisure.

A member of the public asked why the Council didn't simply apologise when Mrs Jones' first complaint was received, and another member of the public asked if this was the first complaint of its type. Both were advised that they would receive a written reply from the Clerk in due course.

#### The meeting was resumed after the Public Forum

#### 6. Adoption of Committee Reports

#### Planning Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee held 7<sup>th</sup> November 2006.

#### Arts & Leisure Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Arts & Leisure Committee meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> November 2006.

#### Personnel Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

#### **Community First Committee**

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

#### Finance Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> November 2006.

# 7. <u>Cemetery Fencing Project</u>

The Council agreed to support the project in principle and, subject to investment by St Edmundsbury Borough Council, to contribute funds to the project, the level of such contribution to be agreed following receipt of detailed costings and an indication of sources, and amounts, of funding.

#### 8. <u>Shopmobility</u>

The Town Council agreed to support the principle of Shopmobility, including a scheme operating from the Arts Centre, subject to more detailed costings.

# 9. <u>Consultation on Older Persons Local Authority Day Services</u>

The Council agreed it response to the consultation.

# 10. <u>Correspondence</u>

a) Cambridge-Sudbury Rail Renewal Association – Rail Lines Issue 19 The receipt of the publication was noted.

# 11. <u>To authorise payments</u>

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
19.09.06	002524 - 002539	£ 3,568.54
19.09.06	002540	£ 300.00
19.09.06	002541	£ 600.00
26.09.06	002542 - 002556	£ 11,945.81
03.10.06	002557	£ 37.00
03.10.06	002558 - 002571	£ 6,618.73
10.10.06	002573 - 002582	£ 4,917.64
17.10.06	002583 - 002612	£ 111,605.39
18.10.06	002613	£ 30,000.00
24.10.06	002614 - 002623	£ 5,352.81
07.11.06	002624 – 002662	£ 49,979.66

# 13. <u>To receive urgent correspondence</u>

a) St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Proposed Diversion of Bridleway No. 6 and Footpath No. 2

The Council objected to the proposed diversion because the new starting point would be dangerous to pedestrians crossing Ehringshausen Way.

Cllr Goody proposed, and Cllr Mrs Mary Martin seconded, all being in favour, that iection 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.

# 14. <u>Correspondence from Mrs Joyce Jones</u>

The Council agreed to write to Mrs Jones as follows ""The Town Council is pleased the matter has now been settled by the Court. The Council will bear in mind the Court's judgement in its future procedures and practices. The Council has every confidence in the Mayor, the Members of the Council and the Council's Officers. The Council considers the judgement of the Court closes this matter."

# 15. <u>Closure</u>

The meeting was closed at 8.40 p.m.

Haverhill Policing Stats April to November 2006

Burglary Dwelling 2005/06 50 Offences

2006/07 45 Offences

Total Criminal Damage 2005/06 613 Offences

2006/07 559 Offences

Although the overall level of criminal damage is down unfortunately within the past few weeks the town has suffered criminal damage sprees on both the Parkway estate and over the last weekend on the Clements estate.

What are we doing about it?

Increased foot patrols by officers at weekends as part of Operation Breakthrough. Ring back by Anti Social Behaviour Unit and personal visit to victims where possible. Use of criminal damage camera.

Talk to Middle School pupils Publicity in order to elicit information.

Collation of intelligence which will be actioned when appropriate.

Total Crime 2005/06 1,932 offences

2006/07 1.952 Offences

The police are reliant upon the public to help solve crime and contribute towards making a safer community in which to live in and would ask that any information is passed using the Community Intelligence hotline <u>01284 774029</u>.

#### Serious Violence in a Public Place

This continues to cause concern in the run up to Christmas and the police will be working with the licensing trade as part of the Pubwatch scheme in order to ensure that people enjoy the festivities but drink responsibly. A new Nightsafe campaign leaflet is being launched. This will go to: Schools with 6th Form students

Supermarkets Newsagents Taxi Offices Pubs and Off Licenses

#### Staffing

Pc Craig Brett the CPO for Parkway, Chimswell, Castle and Hanchett has moved on to pastures new. I have identified a replacement but am not able to name the officer at this stage.

Pc Rupert Benyon has just returned to work and although on restricted duties for the next week, he should be back on the beat shortly after.