

## **HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 7.00 pm**

**In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill**



**HAVERHILL  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**Present:** Chair – Town Mayor: Les Ager  
Town Councillors: M Byrne, P French, A Gower, P Hanlon,  
E McManus, P McManus, M Marks and  
K Richardson

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

### **MINUTES**

1. **Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Anderson, Carr, Samuels, Sisson, Thomas and Woodward.
2. **Declaration of Interests**  
Cllr Gower declared an interest in item 12 as the St Edmundsbury Borough Council representative on the Darzi Locality Forum.
3. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008**  
The minutes of the meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May were agreed as a true record.
4. **To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda**  
The Clerk advised that the Post Office had offered to supply financial data regarding Chalkstone Post Office in order that the Council might consider further how the proposed closure could be averted. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain such data. Cllr Byrne reported that she was concerned regarding suggestions that pensions and benefit payments be paid directly into bank accounts which would take further business from Post Offices, and added that the Clements Post Office had a stock of cards for users of its services to send to Richard Spring M.P. asking him to oppose any such move.
5. **Inspector Andy Smith, Suffolk Police**  
The Council welcomed Inspector Smith, who reported that the alcohol-free zone was now in force and that monitoring of breaches was occurring. Cllr P McManus enquired regarding facilities for those requiring treatment for their alcohol addiction and the Inspector advised there were procedures for involving the appropriate agencies. Cllr Gower asked if the test purchases of alcohol by under-age persons was still occurring and the Inspector advised that these were on-going. Cllr Hanlon reported he had received positive feedback regarding the implementation of the zone. Cllr Marks asked if

**Action**

**Town Clerk  
to obtain  
data from  
Post Office**

licensees could be asked not to serve alcohol in glasses but to use plastic glasses. Cllr Byrne asked if the Council could put an item in the paper regarding it being an offence to purchase or supply alcohol and cigarettes to minors.

The Inspector reported that the Skate Park Dispersal Order was working. In respect of "boy racers" a combined operation was being planned to stop and check their vehicles and to encourage the drivers to watch appropriate road safety videos. Cllr P McManus reported that speeding was not just confined to the "boy racers". Cllr P McManus asked how non-urgent offences could be reported without the need to contact the main force switchboard and it was agreed the Clerk would circulate Sergeant Bartley's email address. Cllr Marks complained about taxis speeding.

The Inspector reported that high profile policing was taking place at Primrose Hill and that a meeting was to be held with the shopkeeper. Residents were being asked to provide current information regarding incidents and those involved.

Inspector Smith reported that additional police activity was taking place to deal with the rise in thefts from motor vehicles.

**Town Clerk to circulate email address of Sergeant Bartley**

**6. A Representative of Suffolk County Council and WRVS**

In the absence of any representatives Cllr Byrne updated the Council on the current developments and the Council agreed to write to the WRVS suggesting changes to the overnight storage of the delivery van that could assist with the retention of one existing employee. The Clerk was asked to obtain further details of the tender and contract and to invite Suffolk County Council and the WRVS to the July meeting of the Council.

**Town Clerk to write to WRVS and County Council**

**7. Kevin Shipp, Suffolk County Council**

Members were advised that Mr Shipp was unable to attend owing to ill-health. It was agreed that Mr Shipp be invited to attend a joint meeting of the Town Council and Haverhill Area Working Party on either 24<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> July.

**Town Clerk to liaise with SEBC regarding agendas and invite Mr Shipp to meeting**

***The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum***

A member of the public asked for the Council to reaffirm its support for the Darzi clinic, which the Council did.

A member of the public reminded the Council that it was important to remember the effect on the recipients of meals-on-wheels when considering changes to the service.

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

**8.**

**Adoption of Committee Reports**

**Planning Committee**

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May, and 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2008.

**Arts & Leisure Committee**

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Arts & Leisure Committee meetings held 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

**Community First Committee**

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

#### Appeals Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Appeals Committee meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

#### Finance Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meetings held 6<sup>th</sup> May and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

9. **To Decide Whether to Contribute towards Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Measures off Hollands Road**

The Clerk reported that St Edmundsbury Borough Council had agreed to pay 50% of the costs of providing bollards to prevent anti-social behaviour off Hollands Road. The Council agreed that the Borough Council should be asked to fund the whole sum (£776) and asked the Town Clerk to ascertain the number of complaints that had been received regarding this area.

Town Clerk to write to Neighbourhood Beat Officer

10. **To Receive The Internal Auditor's Notes on the 2007/2008 Accounts**

The Council noted the comments of the Internal Auditor on the accounts for 2007/2008. The Clerk reported that numbering of the minutes was now being undertaken on a regular basis. It was agreed the additional comment of the Internal Auditor regarding the positive approach of the Council and staff be given publicity.

Town Clerk to publicise Internal Auditor's comments

11. **To Agree the 2007/2008 Accounts, Agree the Statement of Internal Control, and Sign Off The External Audit Form for the 2007/2008 Accounts**

The Council agreed the accounts and signed off the form for the External Auditor on the accounts for 2007/2008.

12. **To Confirm the Appointment of Cllr Paul McManus as Representative on the Darzi Locality Forum, and to appoint a Representative to the Darzi Assessment Panel**

The Council agreed Cllr P McManus would continue to serve as their representative on the Darzi Locality Forum and on the Darzi Assessment Panel.

Town Clerk to notify PCT

13. **To Note and Agree Expenditure on Past Mayor Badges**

The Council agreed to add the word "Haverhill" to the bar so it read "Haverhill Past Mayor" and to have a diecast crest, sandblasted but not saw cut. The Council agreed to take any additional monies over the existing budget from reserves, and it was agreed that recipients would be invited to receive their medal at a meeting of the Council.

Town Clerk to finalise design and arrange for manufacture

14. **To Agree (Subject to marked changes) a Revised Health & Safety Policy**

The Council agreed the revised Health & Safety Policy.

15. **Correspondence**

- a) Haverhill Enterprise 2000 – Focus on Haverhill  
The Council noted the Focus on Haverhill book.

16. **To authorise payments.**

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
30.04.08	003902 – 003929	£10,700.16
06.05.08	003930 – 003949	£41,757.31
06.05.08	003950 (Payroll a/c)	£33,660.44
06.05.08	003951 (Scottish Widows)	£400,000.00
13.05.08	003952 – 003971	£7,473.76
13.05.08	003972 – 003973	£1,899.19
20.05.08	003974 – 003987	£7,856.04
03.06.08	003988 – 004005	£6,108.37
10.06.08	004006 – 004025	£41,219.28

17. **To receive urgent correspondence**

- a) Annual Report and Accounts 2007/2008  
The Council noted the publication of the 2007/2008 Annual Report.
- b) Suffolk NHS PCT – Proposed Branch Surgery Closure  
The Council noted receipt of the letter and asked that it be circulated to all Councillors for each to email their comments to the Town Clerk to compile and send a response on 8<sup>th</sup> July.
- c) Suffolk NHS PCT – Applications for Inclusion in the Pharmaceutical List – Bookachemist Ltd  
The Clerk reminded the Council that they had previously raised no objection to this application. However the Council considered the comments raised by objectors to the proposal and those made by Cllr Byrne and it was agreed that the Town Clerk would compile a response and circulate it, with the correspondence, to all Councillors.

18. **Closure**

The meeting was closed at 9.06 p.m.

**Town Clerk to circulate letter to all Councillors inviting comments by 8<sup>th</sup> July**

**Town Clerk to compile response and circulate all correspondence**