HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

<u>Tuesday 26th August 2008 at 7.00 pm</u> In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



Present: Chair - DeputyTown Mayor: Elaine McManus

Town Councillors: M Byrne, L Carr, P French, A Gower,

P Hanlon, P McManus, M Marks,

K Richardson, A Samuels and A Sisson

Also present: Fourteen members of the public.

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Anderson, Price, Ager, Thomas and Woodward.

2. <u>Declaration of Interests</u>

Cllr Richardson declared an interest in item 5 as a St Edmundsbury Borough Councillor sitting on that authority's Local government Review Working Group. Cllr French declared an interest in item 5 as a Member of Suffolk County Council, which authority had already made a decision on the preferred option for local government review.

3. <u>To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 5th August 2008</u>

With the addition of the sentence "The existing gates were to be retained if possible." After the words "raising the funds." In item 5, "To consider increasing the contribution towards Cemetery fencing" the minutes were agreed as a true record.

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

Cllr Byrne asked whether a representative of the WRVS was ever going to attend a meeting of the Town Council and the Town Clerk advised that he was being invited but as yet had not confirmed his attendance.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A member of the public enquired regarding potential cuts to Arts Centre funding in the event that a unitary authority was created in Suffolk. The Town Clerk advised that from research other Suffolk authorities did not match the level of funding received by the Town Council from St Edmundsbury Borough Council and that the report was advising Members that they may need to plan for a substantial loss of grant in three years time.

A member of the public spoke against the creation of a whole-County unitary authority and in favour of a West Suffolk unitary authority.

Action

The meeting was reconvened after the Public Forum

5. <u>To Consider the Town Council's Response to the Proposals of the Boundary Committee</u>

With the agreement of the Council the Chair deferred the remainder of the meeting to a date, to be fixed, in September. It was agreed the two Political Group Leaders would arrange representation at meetings to be held on 1st, 2nd and 5th September at which more information may be released.

Town Clerk to arrange further Special meeting

6. Closure

The meeting was closed at 7.45 p.m.

