

HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 25th November 2008 at 7.09 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 A Sisson (items 1-6
and 8 only)

Also present: Six members of the public.

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Carr, Richardson, Samuels and Woodward.
2. **Declaration of Interests**
Cllrs Ager, Gower and P McManus declared an interest in items 14-16 as Members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllrs Gower, French and E McManus declared an interest in item 6 as School Governors. Cllrs Ager and Gower declared an interest in item 12 as Members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council Licensing Committee. Cllr Hanlon declared an interest in item 6 as a close relative had Special Educational Needs.
3. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 30th September 2008**
The minutes of the meeting held 30th September 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 arising.
5. **Inspector Andrew Mason, Suffolk Police**
Inspector Mason gave a presentation on Speedwatch. It was agreed to refer the matter back to the Community First Committee for that Committee to make a decision. The Town Clerk advised he would try to get a speaker to attend from the Community Speedwatch Scheme operating in the north of the Borough.
6. **Special Educational Needs**
Sandy Ranson, Senior Advisor for Inclusion and Tony Sale, Area Manager (SEN) of Suffolk County Council gave a presentation on the issues related to Special Educational Needs provision in Haverhill. Members were informed regarding the number and variety of dedicated schools across

Action

Town Clerk to invite speaker to Community First Committee

Town Clerk to distribute leaflets when received

Suffolk, and the mechanisms available to support both the pupil and staff in mainstream schools. Government policy was to try and achieve inclusion within a mainstream school but a limited number of pupils had complex needs that required attendance at a dedicated unit. Twenty-one such pupils from Haverhill currently attended one or more units, the nearest of which was at Sudbury. Ms Ranson and Mr Sale were asked to provide more information on the number of Statemented and non-Statemented pupils resident in Haverhill, and to supply copies of the publications available to parents of pupils with special educational needs. The mechanism for raising concerns regarding either the assessment or teaching of a pupil with, or suspected as having, special needs was outlined and the role of the school in dealing with the issue, and accessing appropriate support for the pupil and its staff, was highlighted. The Council asked that, with the on-going school review, consideration be given to the establishment of a dedicated resource in Haverhill to reduce the need for Haverhill pupils to travel.

With the approval of Members the Mayor brought item 8 forward in the order.

8. **An update by Alison Wheatland on the Pilot Delegation of Powers and Functions**

Alison wheatland of Suffolk County Council outlined the background to the Delegation Project and progress to date. The Town Council welcomed the project and agreed that the decisions on matters/services over which the Town Council may wish to exercise more control should be decided by Full Council and that the working up of the actual detailed arrangements be delegated to Working Parties.

Town Clerk to place on future agenda

Cllr Sisson left the meeting at this point.

7. **Play Your Part**

The Town Council viewed the Play Your Part video. The Town Clerk was asked to circulate the telephone and email contacts to report areas needing attention.

Town Clerk to circulate telephone and email contacts

There being no Members of the public remaining in the meeting there was no public forum.

9. **Adoption of Committee Reports**

Planning Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 7th October and 4th November 2008.

Arts & Leisure Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Arts & Leisure Committee meeting held 11th November 2008.

Finance Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 18th November 2008.

Personnel Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 14th October 2008.

Community First Committee

To move the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 4th November 2008.

10. Arts Centre Working Party

The Council received a progress report from the Arts Centre Working Party and agreed to hold a session to review the Council's position in serving and servicing the community in 2009 and beyond.

Town Clerk to
commission
facilitators

11. Meeting Room Facilities

The Council received a report on the options available and agreed to continue meeting in the Studio, and not to change the seating, nor to provide additional soundproofing and to not invest in public address equipment at this time.

Cllrs Ager and Gower left the meeting at this point. Cllr E McManus, Deputy Mayor, took the Chair.

12. Extension of Opening Hours, KFC, Ehringshausen Way

The Council confirmed the action taken in regard to an objection to the application to extend opening hours until 2.30 a.m. each day.

Cllrs Ager and Gower returned to the meeting at this point. Cllr Ager, Mayor, took the Chair.

13. Consultation on Statement Of Reporting Practice 2009 Proposals

The Council agreed to respond positively to the consultation to remove the £1 million threshold beyond which Town Council accounts must be prepared in a more complex manner.

14. Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council confirmed the Council's intention to draw up a schedule of projects for funding under the Community Infrastructure Levy and agreed to establish a Working Party, to include Alison Wheatland, to draw up a list of projects.

Town Clerk to
set up
Working Party

15. Community Facilities (North West Haverhill)

The Council gave consideration as to whether, in principle, Community assets (open spaces, play areas, community centre, allotments) on this development should be transferred to its ownership/future management and agreed to defer a decision on this matter until the planning application had been received.

16. Local Development Framework

The Council agreed to defer responding to the Consultation on the Local Development Framework options until they had been considered at a Special Town Council meeting to be held later in December.

Town Clerk to
arrange
Special
Meeting

17. Correspondence

- a) Miss J Pollington – Request for Pedestrian Crossing, Withersfield Road (by Sainsburys)
The Council agreed to investigate the possibilities of rerouting the bus to an alternative bus stop and the option of providing a “Lollipop Person” at key times.
- b) Suffolk Fire & rescue Service – Draft Fire Action Plan 2009/2010
The receipt of the Draft Plan was noted.

Town Clerk to
write to
Suffolk
County
Council

18. To authorise payments.

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
09.09.08	004228 – 004229	£33,174.93
16.09.08	004230 – 004261	£19,156.88
24.09.08	004262 – 004285	£11,286.93
24.09.08	004286 – 004288	£508.00
30.09.08	004289 – 004299	£8,767.67
07.10.08	004300 – 004310	£95,860.82
14.10.08	004311 – 004333	£29,776.77
21.10.08	004334 – 004346	£7,741.76

Cllrs Ager and Gower declared an interest as Members of St Edmundsbury Borough Council Licensing Committee and left the meeting at this point. Cllr E McManus, Deputy Mayor, took the Chair.

19. To receive urgent correspondence

Cllr Byrne provided an update on the antisocial behaviour around Primrose Hill Stores.

Cllrs Ager and Gower returned to the meeting. Cllr Ager, Mayor, took the Chair.

20. Closure

The meeting was closed at 10.17 p.m.