

## HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 7.30 pm  
In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL  
TOWN COUNCIL

**Present:Chair – Town Mayor: L Ager**  
**Town Councillors: S Bowes, M Byrne, L Carr (except items 12-15 and 17), P French, P Hanlon, E McManus, P McManus, M Marks, M Martin, G Price, A Samuels and A Sisson**

**Also present: Eight members of the public.**

### MINUTES

- |   | Action |
|---|--------|
| <p>1. <b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b><br/>Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Gower, Richardson and Woodward.</p>  |        |
| <p>2. <b><u>Declaration of Interests</u></b><br/>Cllr Marks declared an interest in item 6 as a member of MAGPAS. Cllr P McManus declared an interest as a member of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Cllr French declared an interest as a Suffolk County Council member.</p>   |        |
| <p>3. <b><u>To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> December 2008</u></b><br/>The minutes of the meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> December 2008 were signed as a true record.</p>  |        |
| <p>4. <b><u>To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda</u></b><br/>There were no urgent matters not covered by the agenda.</p>   |        |
| <p>5. <b><u>Inspector Andrew Mason, Suffolk Police</u></b><br/>Inspector Mason indicated that reported crimes were falling, and that the apprehension and conviction rates were rising, with all perpetrators of recent serious crimes having been arrested and charged.</p>  |        |
| <p>6. <b><u>David Monk, General Manager (Cambridgeshire), East of England Ambulance Trust</u></b><br/>Mr Monk, and his colleague Neil Storey, gave a presentation on the deployment of ambulances in the Haverhill area. Mr Monk indicated that within the Haverhill “drive zone” there was always an ambulance, plus, previously Monday-Friday peak hours, but currently all week throughout the day and night, a rapid response vehicle. Mr Monk explained that in the event of the Haverhill ambulance being taken off call (i.e. taking a person to</p> |        |

hospital), an ambulance from a neighbouring “drive zone” would be redeployed.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A member of the public complained that the Council meetings were of little interest to the public because it was a rarity to have a full compliment of Councillors, of those Councillors who did attend only two spoke regularly, some Councillors never spoke at the meetings and there was no real open debate. Cllr Byrne indicated that the Council needed to find better ways of communicating with the public. Cllr French felt that members should stand when speaking and that the Mayor should wear the robes and chain at Full Council meetings.

The meeting was reconvened

**7. Adoption of Committee Reports**

Planning Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

Community First Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

Arts & Leisure Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Arts & Leisure Committee meetings held 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

Personnel Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

**8. Review of Audit Arrangements**

The Council reviewed the arrangements for internal audit and agreed they were satisfactory.

**9. Review of Risks**

The Council review the Council’s major risks, and agreed that the combination of measures already in place were adequate.

With the approval of the Council the Town Mayor brought forward item 16 to be considered next

**16. To receive urgent correspondence**

The Council considered the need to ensure adequacy of financial advice services in the town to deal with the large-scale redundancies recently announced. It was agreed to hold a special meeting of the Council to which those agencies operating in the town would be invited to make presentation, with a view to determining how the Town Council might support them.

**11. Budgets 2009/2010**

In view of the decision to hold a special meeting to determine how the Town Council might support advice agencies in the town, it was agreed to defer to that meeting the agreement of the budgets and precept for 2009/2010.

Cllr Carr left the meeting.

**12. To Consider the Adoption of a Statement of Community Engagement**

The Council agreed to adopt a Statement of Community Engagement.

**13. To Consider the Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Formation of the Town Council**

The Council considered the Commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Town Council. It was considered that it would be inappropriate to incur expense of a celebration in the current climate, but agreed that the Council would hold a series of outdoor meetings on the estates to engage with the residents.

**14. Correspondence**

- a) Suffolk County Council – Request for Junction Road Markings, Brybank Road/Grove Court

The Council agreed that the right of way should be for users of Brybank Road, rather than Grove Court.

**15. To authorise payments.**

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

<b>Date</b>	<b>Cheque No.s</b>	<b>Value</b>
09.12.08	004471 - 004487	£6,651.80
11.12.08	004488 - 004505	£9,163.70
19.12.08	004506 - 004526	£9,604.62
06.01.09	004527 - 004541	£55,608.94
13.01.08	004542 - 004547	£20,967.43
13.01.08	004548 - 004555	£37,184.46

**17. Closure**

The meeting was closed at 9.16 p.m.