## HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

<u>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 7.00 pm</u> In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



Present: Chair: Town Councillor: E McManus

Town Councillors: L Ager, S Bowes,

L Burgess, M Byrne, P Hanlon, P McManus, M Marks, A Samuels and

**T Woodward** 

Also present: Six members of the public

## **MINUTES**

## 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Carr, Gower, Mrs Mary Martin, Price and Richardson.

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

No Members declared an interest in any items on the agenda.

## 3. To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009

The minutes of the meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 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 discuss.

#### 5. Inspector Andrew Mason, Suffolk Police

Inspector Mason reported that in the last 12 months there had been a 51% reduction in serious crime in the town, and the conviction of one person responsible for 67% of all house burglaries. There had been a small (3%) increase in anti-social behaviour, and there was a need to increase the detection rates for vehicle crimes. Cllr Byrne advised that the public were concerned regarding the seemingly lenient sentences awared for those convicted of crime and the Inspector advised that sentencing policy was outside his control.

## 6. <u>Tina Hanks, Town Centre Manager</u>

The Town Centre Manager outlined the main thrust of her work since her last report to the Town Council. This had included the Italian Market at the reopening of Queen Street, the Haverhill Retail Brochure and the relaunch of Shopwatch. The Town Centre Manager advised that only those shops and businesses that had positively responded to

the letter inviting them to submit their details for the Brochure were included in it.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

A member of the public asked why the new Cemetery fencing and gates had not been installed on the Withersfield Road frontage and the Clerk advised that the Borough Council had withdrawn their original planning application.

A member of the public asked for increased landscaping on the North West Haverhill site, particularly along the Wratting Road frontage, where the houses should be of lower height and density than shown in the plan.

### The meeting was reconvened

### 7. Adoption of Committee Reports

### Planning Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009.

## Community First Committee

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

### Arts & Leisure Committee

The Council agreed the adoption of the minutes of the Arts & Leisure Committee meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

## 8. Report from the Town Council Representative on the Standards Committee

Cllr Marks circulated a report of the Suffolk Standards Conference.

## 9. Report from the Town Council Representative on the Haverhill Area Working Party

There had been no meeting of the Haverhill Area Working Party since the last Town Council meeting.

# 10. Report from the Town Council Representative on the Haverhill Partnership Executive

There had been no meeting of the Partnership Executive since the last Town Council meeting.

### 11. St Mary's Church Floodlighting

The Council formally agreed to fund the balance of the floodlighting subject to a maximum of £10,000.

LGA 1972 S144

# 12. <u>Planning Application No. SE/09/1283 – Land at North West Haverhill</u>

The Council agreed its comments on this application as follows:-Haverhill Town Council supports this application, subject to the following comments being addressed.

### **Draft 106 Agreement**

Para 3.10 "Public open spaces to be managed by a Development Trust or other Managing Agency or such other similar

### organisation set up to manage civic amenities or facilities"

This should read St Edmundsbury Borough Council or any successor authority, with the right to transfer to any future similar organisation set up to manage civic amenities or facilities?

## Strategic Landscaping Scheme Para 4.10 – Chapel Farm Gardens

"It is the ideal location for allotments due to its size (0.5 hectare) and location"

Allotments are (traditionally) 10 rods in size (302.5 square yards). 0.5 hectares equates to 5,979 square yards, approximately 20 plots. Currently there are 79 residents on the waiting list for an allotment in Haverhill. Is this site large enough? Is it best located from an allotment garden point of view (i.e. suitable drainage/soil/sunshine)? The views of St Edmundsbury Borough Council and/or the Allotments Society should be sought.

## **Environmental Statement Volume 2 Appendices Appendix 5.5 Building Height Parameter Plan**

The plan shows a "vague" 2-3.5 storeys development area to the east of Boyton Hall (fronting Wratting Road).

Although intended to be set back from Wratting Road these should to be reduced in height, and density.

### **Environmental Statement Volume 1 Main Text**

**Page 35** – reduction in building height to 2-3 storeys around edge of Boyton Hall, along Ann Suckling Road, and ....." and "reduction in building height to 1.5 to 2.5 storeys on all visually sernsitive high ground close to eastern roundabout"

These statements are not reflected in Volume 2 Appendices, Appendix 5.5 Building Height Parameter Plan

**Page 44** – "2013 completion of first 200 dwellings; 2014 completion of relief road"

The Town Council believes that the Relief road must be completed before the first dwelling is sold, or if not practicable, before the before 200<sup>th</sup> dwelling is sold.

Page 148 – Para 10.5.4 "AWA has previously confirmed that it is able to accept foul water flows from the first 755 dwellings to 2016 but cannot confirm, without remodelling of its network, whether there is sufficient capacity in the network to accommodate flows arising from the additional 405 dwellings within the existing system".

No more than 755 dwellings should be built until AWA has confirmed that there is capacity in the network to accommodate additional foul water flows.

Page 198 – Para 12.7.2 – No mention is made of routing of construction traffic during construction, particularly until the relief road is opened. It should be directed along the relief road and then via Withersfield Road to the existing bypass, or via the relief road, and Wratting Road/Ehringshausen Way to the bypass. In addition wheelwashes must be installed, and used, at all site entrances.

Environmental Statement Volume 2 Appendices, Folder 3,

### appendices 11.1 and 11.2

## Page 22 – Para 5.14 "150 sq metre meeting hall".

This is likely to have a maximum (seated) capacity of 135, based on the recommended capacity of 10 square feet per person. For a development of over 1,000 homes, with an average of 2 persons per home, is this adequate. The Town Council would like to see a larger community hall.

#### Other

There is an existing issue with road drainage on the A143 as it adjoins the site, and there should be sufficient drains installed in the area of the new roundabout to alleviate this.

## 13. St Edmundsbury Borough Council Tourism Strategy

The Council agreed its comments on this strategy.

## 14. <u>Councillors' Issues Raised by Residents</u>

The Council agreed to the purchase of some mapping software to record issues raised by residents with a view to identifying common areas of concern and potential hotspots.

Cllr Byrne asked that the Area Highways Manager be invited to the next meeting of the Council to hear the Council's concerns regarding the state of roads in the town, and that the Town Clerk send the Area Highways Manager photographs of the worst-affected roads.

Town Clerk to purchase software and arrange procedures for collection of data. LGA 1972 Sch 12 para 10(2)b and LGA 1972 S145

## 15. Correspondence

- a) Suffolk County Council Proposed Prohibition of Driving High Street, Market Hill, Camps Road and Queen Street The Town Council supported the proposals subject to the installation of a barrier at the junction of High Street and Camps Road to prevent unauthorized access.
- St Edmundsbury Borough Council Street Trading Consent: High Street, Mr Munro
  The Council had no objections to the issue of this Street Trading Consent.

## 16. To authorise payments.

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
3.11.09	5286-5321	£13,833.28
10.11.09	5322-5332	£2998.21
10.11.09	5333-5339	£17,667.49

### 17. To receive urgent correspondence

There were no urgent items of correspondence.

### 18. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.54 p.m.