

HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 4th January 2011 at 7.00 pm
In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Present: **Chair:Town Councillor: E McManus**
 Town Councillors: L Ager, L Burgess, M Byrne,
 L Carr (except items 15,16 and 20),
 A Gower, P Hanlon,
 P McManus,M Marks,
 K Richardson, A Samuels,
 Mrs A Snape (except items 1-4)
 and C Turner

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

MINUTES

- | | Action |
|---|--------|
| 1. <u>Apologies for Absence</u>
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs French, Mrs Mary Martin and Price. | |
| 2. <u>Declaration of Interests</u>
Cllr Gower declared an interest in items 7,11, 12 and 17 as a Member of Suffolk County Council, and in items 15 and 16 as a Member of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. No other Members declared any interests they may have on items on the agenda. | |
| 3. <u>To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 7th December 2010</u>
The minutes of the meeting held 7 th December 2010 were agreed as a true record. | |
| 4. <u>To deal with any urgent matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda</u>
The Clerk provided a copy of the letter to be sent to the Government, which was to be signed by the leaders of the political parties. Cllrs Gower and Richardson asked that their objection to the signing be noted. The letter was duly signed by the three leaders. Cllr Byrne asked that a copy be provided to the press. There were no other urgent matters to discuss. | |
| 5. <u>The Future of Policing in Suffolk</u>
The Committee received a presentation outlining the future of policing in Suffolk. Members were particularly concerned regarding the lack of accountability of the proposed new Commissioner and the cost of their election and office. It was agreed the Council would write to Matthew Hancock M.P. regarding the proposed election costs. The Chief | |

Constable advised that funding cuts would reduce policing numbers by approximately 300 (from an establishment of 2,400) over the next three years.

6. **Inspector Martin Barnes-Smith, Suffolk Police**

Inspector Barnes-Smith reported on the recent crime statistics. In noting the Council's concerns re inability to police the waiting and access restrictions in the High Street, the Inspector queried whether policing was the solution.

7. **The Future of Homes for Older People**

The Council expressed concern regarding the decision by Suffolk County Council not to give a presentation to the Town Council and general public on the consultation on the future of homes for older people. The Town Clerk advised that a County-wide meeting was to be held in Ipswich on 11th January and it was agreed to send representatives to this meeting and for them to report to Council on 18th January.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum

There being no questions the meeting was resumed

In view of the lateness of the hour the Town Mayor advised she was revising the order of business to deal with the most urgent matters, all others being deferred to a future meeting.

12. **School Crossing Patrol - Burton End**

The Council noted the proposal by Suffolk County Council to cease the service, and agreed, in the first instance, to enquire whether a 20% financial contribution for 2011/12 and 2012/13 would retain the service.

Cllr Carr left the meeting

15. **Amendments to North West Haverhill Masterplan**

The Council supported the proposed minor changes to the North West Haverhill Masterplan.

16. **Car Parking Charges 2011/12**

Cllr Richardson declared an interest as a Member of St Edmundsbury Boropugh Council. The Council considered the proposed changes to car parking charges and agreed that the increase in charges in excess of one hour was excessive.

20. **Closure**

The meeting was closed at 9.20 p.m.