

HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 29th November 2011 at 7.00 pm
In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Present: **Chair:** Town Councillor: M Byrne
 Town Councillors: D André, R André, P French,
 E Goody (items 1-12 only),
 R Green, P Hanlon, B Hawes,
 R Green, D Russo, A Samuels,
 G Stroud, J Stroud and C Turner

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

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for Absence**
 Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. Carr.
2. **Declaration of Interests**
 Cllr. Ager declared an interest in item 6 as a Member of the Board of the Haverhill Sports Partnership. Cllr. Goody declared an interest in item 11 as Treasurer and Secretary of CATRA who hired the Chalkstone Centre. No other Members declared any interests they may have on items on the agenda.
3. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting held 8th November 2011**
 The minutes of the meeting held 8th November 2011 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 from the minutes.
5. **Inspector Peter Ferrie, Suffolk Police**
 Inspector Ferrie provided an update on current policing issues in the Town. The Safer Neighbourhood Team and Response Team Officers were now co-located in the Police Station and from January would be working under the control of the Inspector. Overall crime levels continue to fall and public satisfaction with policing in West Suffolk has increased. Disorder in the High Street was an issue – four assaults on Police Officers recently and as a consequence there would be an increased Police presence, day and night, in the town centre during the approach to Christmas and the New Year. The Town Council sent their best wishes to P.C. Potter who was currently on sick leave following one such assault.
6. **Haverhill Community Sports Partnership**
 The Community Sports Partnership made a presentation to the Town Council for £6,000 funding towards the erection of a fence around the

second pitch at the complex that would then prevent access by dogs and vandals. Because the Partnership included participation by residents with disabilities Cllr. Hanlon declared an interest as Chair of the Haverhill Autism Support Group. The Council was very impressed with the success of the Partnership. Cllr, French offered the Partnership £2,000 from his County Council Locality budget. The Town Council agreed unanimously to fund the balance of £4,000. The Partnership were asked to give a further presentation to the September 2012 meeting of the Council.

Whilst Mr Brown set up his presentation for item 7 the Mayor, with the agreement of the Council, adjourned the meeting for the public forum.

A member of the public thanked the out-going Town Clerk for his work, and for having raised the profile of the Town Council during his time in office.

There being no further questions the meeting was resumed. Mr Brown still not being ready the Council agreed to vary the order of business.

8. Appointment of Town Clerk

The Council ratified the decision of the Town Clerk appointment panel to appoint Will Austin as Town Clerk with effect from 5th December 2011, and welcomed Mr Austin, who then addressed the Council.

9. Adoption of Committee Reports

Arts & Leisure Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Arts & Leisure Committee meeting held 8th November 2011.

Planning Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 1st November 2011.

Personnel Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 8th November 2011.

Community First Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Community First Committee meeting held 15th November 2011.

Finance Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 22nd November 2011.

10. To Note the Council's Obligations Regarding Publication of Data in Accordance with the Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data

The Council noted the Council's obligations regarding publication of data in accordance with the Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data.

7. Simon Brown, So Active

Mr Brown reported on the progress of So Active, which had been less advanced than first envisaged. The Council asked Mr Brown to report

back to them in July 2012 with more detailed information, including a set of financial accounts, and such information as the number of new vacancies attracted to the site.

11. To Consider How and Whether the Town Council Should Support the Leiston and Chalkstone Community Centres

The Council whether the Town Council should support the Leiston and Chalkstone Community Centres, against a background of potential closure brought about by the Borough Council's budget reductions, and the difficulty in attracting community volunteers. Cllr. French declared an interest as Borough Council Member of the St Edmundsbury Borough Council Grants Panel. It was agreed a working party, comprising Cllrs. R André, Goody, Hanlon and Turner, together with the Town Clerk, would look at the options and costs and report back to Full Council.

12. To Respond to Consultation on the Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council agreed that key to their response to the Community Infrastructure Levy Consultation would be that the percentage of the levy that should be passed to a Town or Parish Council was to be 25%.

13. To Confirm the Town Council's Members on ONE Haverhill following the decision by ONE Haverhill to reduce all Council memberships from three Members to two Members

Cllr. Hanlon reported that ONE Haverhill had agreed that all three tiers of local government would reduce their membership of the Board from three to two elected Members. The Council confirmed their revised membership of ONE Haverhill as Cllrs. Goody and Hanlon.

14. To Receive an Update on the Expression of Interest in the Neighbourhood-Led Community Budgeting Pilot

The Town Clerk gave an update on the expression of interest in the Neighbourhood-led Community Budgeting Pilot. The bid had been shortlisted and representatives of ONE Haverhill had attended a meeting at the Department of Communities and Local Government to discuss the bid in more detail. The announcement of those selected to be a pilot area would be made by Christmas, but even unsuccessful areas were to receive support from DCLG to progress their aims.

15. To Consider Whether to Change the Pattern of Meetings

The Town Clerk was asked to draw up a revised schedule, covering February to July 2012, based on the following criteria:-

Arts & Leisure Committee would merge with Community First Committee

Personnel and Appeals Committees would meet on an "as required" basis

Finance Committee would remain

Planning Committee would remain

The quorum for all Committees would be reduced to three.

The revised schedule was to be introduced after agreement between the Town Mayor, Cllr Byrne, and Cllr Hawes.

16. **To authorise payments.**

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque No.s	Value
27.09.11	7208-7224	6,479.64
03.10.11	7225-7245	13,137.89
04.10.11	7246/7247	980.00
11.10.11	7248-7276	10,439.46
11.10.11	7277-7279	36,393.32
18.10.11	7280-7294	6,176.33
18.10.11	7295/7296	1,070.26
25.10.11	7297-7312	9,959.30
26.10.11	7313	100,000.00
01.11.11	7314-7319	1,825.60
01.11.11	7320	200.00
08.11.11	7321-7351	28,670.13
08.11.11	7352/7353	501.20

17. **Correspondence**

There were no urgent items of correspondence.

18. **Closure**

The meeting was closed at 9.22 p.m.