

## HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7.00 pm**  
**In The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill**



**HAVERHILL**  
TOWN COUNCIL

**Present:**      **Chair: Town Councillor: M Byrne**  
                         **Town Councillors: L Ager (until item 11),**  
                         **D André, R André, T Cook**  
                         **R Green, E Goody, P Hanlon, B Hawes**  
                         **D Russo, G Stroud, J Stroud, and C Turner**

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

### **MINUTES**

1.    **Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. Carr, French and Samuels.
  
2.    **Declaration of Interests**  
Councillor Hanlon declared a personal interest in item 11 as invigilator at Samuel Ward Academy. Councillor Byrne declared a personal interest in item 10 as a parishioner of St Felix Church.
  
3.    **To Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were agreed unanimously with an amendment to item 8 to read "The Town Clerk was instructed to write to Mrs Deborah Cadman, Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council, requesting a meeting to discuss this matter in Haverhill. If refused, a deputation from the Town Council will go to Suffolk County Council."
  
4.    **To deal with any urgent matters arising from the minutes not covered by this agenda**  
The Town Clerk was thanked for the comprehensive minutes of the previous meeting, which had been particularly complex and demanding to record.
  
5.    **Inspector Peter Ferrie**  
Inspector Ferrie has produced weekly, yearly and three-yearly average crime statistics, which can be made available to members on request. He also reported on recent increases in crime in Haverhill.

The Town Clerk was asked to write to Suffolk County Council to express the Town Council's concern about a possible link between increased crime levels and the switching off of street lights at night, and to ask that lighting be restored for a period to assess any positive impact on crime levels.

**ACTION**

**TOWN CLERK**

6. **To receive feedback on the Town Pastors Scheme and agree to a request for additional funding**

A presentation was received from Andrew Payne of the Town Pastors. No request for funding was to be made at this time, but a further submission may be forthcoming in September. Town Councillors thanked Mr Payne for his presentation and for the good work of the Town Pastors, and looked forward to a further presentation when needed.

7. **To receive a presentation on the work of the REACH Centre and a request for future funding**

A presentation was received from Henry Wilson of REACH. It was resolved unanimously that a payment of £5000 would be made to support the work of the organisation.

At this point members agreed to reverse the order of items 8 and 9 on the published agenda.

8. **To receive a presentation and report on the use of the On The Spot Bus**

A presentation was received from Simon Pickering of St Edmundsbury Borough Council, for which members offered their thanks.

9. **To receive a presentation on Parkour Group, and a request for a contribution to funding for a park for free running**

A presentation was received from Sam Shepherd of the Haverhill Parkour Freerunning Community. It was resolved that, although members were supportive of the initiative, a request for funding to support the creation of a freerunning park should not be agreed at this time. Instead, the group should be invited to make a further submission which identifies the full cost of implementing and running the park, and any other issues that need addressing. The Town Clerk was instructed to provide support to the group in developing this submission.

10. **To receive a presentation from the Haverhill and District Flower Club and a request for funding for a flower festival in conjunction with the Dedication of St Felix Church**

A presentation was received from Valerie Phillips of Haverhill & District Flower Club and Father Michael Teader of St Felix Church for the festival, which is to run from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2012, and which has a working title 'Colours'. The festival will celebrate the dedication of the Church, the participation of the community, and the patience and co-operation of local residents during construction. The Council agreed that a payment of £2000 should be made in support of the festival.

11. **To receive a presentation from Samuel Ward Academy on the Employability for Life Charter**

A presentation was received from Mark McCullough, Vice Principal at Samuel Ward Academy. Town Councillors and the Town Clerk offered their support in providing mock interviews for students. The Town Clerk was instructed to forward contact details to Town Councillors.

TOWN CLERK

TOWN CLERK

12. **Adoption of Committee Reports**

Planning Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011 and 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2012.

Personnel Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

Finance Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012

13. **To Note The Statement Regarding Council Tax Increases for 2012/13**

The Council noted the Government's statement regarding Council Tax increases for 2012/13. The Mayor reported that the Town Council is pursuing no change in the Council Tax for Haverhill Town Council for 2012/13, and this will be considered at the next Full Council meeting.

14. **To Agree to Merge Committees, Change Meeting Schedules, and Vary Numbers Required for a Quorum**

The Council agreed to merge the Arts & Leisure and Community First Committees from March 2012, this committee to meet every two months. The Council also agreed that Planning Committee should meet three-weekly, Finance Committee monthly, Personnel and Appeals Committees as required, and Full Council monthly. Revised terms of reference were submitted and agreed.

Councillors Hawes, Ager and Green were nominated as Conservative members of the newly merged committee, to be titled Leisure & Community Committee.

The Town Clerk was instructed to circulate the revised meeting schedule to Town Councillors.

TOWN CLERK

15. **To agree the Town Council's open air meeting dates for 2012**

Proposed meeting dates and venues were circulated. The Council agreed that meetings should be held on Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th, Friday 13th, Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th, Wednesday 25th, Thursday 26th, and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012. The Town Clerk was instructed to review the venues to replace those that were used in 2011.

TOWN CLERK

16. **To consider nominations for attendance at a garden party at Buckingham Palace**

The Town Council resolved not to make a nomination for this event.

**17. To authorise payments.**

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

<b>Date</b>	<b>Cheque Numbers</b>	<b>Value</b>
08.11.11	7354	1000.00
11.11.11	7355	500.00
15.11.11	7356-7374	9473.95
15.11.11	7375	1338.00
15.11.11	7376	37804.01
22.11.11	7377-7395	8861.63
22.11.11	7396	200.00
29.11.11	7397-7414	8363.05
06.12.11	7415-7440	25148.60
06.12.11	7441	36532.88
06.12.11	7442	500.00
06.12.11	7443	25.00
09.12.11	7444	2970.00
12.12.11	7445-7459	48864.00
13.12.11	7460	200.00
20.12.11	7461-7475	5996.31
20.12.11	7476	400.00
10.01.12	7477-7508	18063.83
10.01.12	7509	48619.54

**18. To consider support for Leiston and Chalkstone Community Centres**

The Town Council resolved to provide support as needed, with an estimated cost of £6000 for the financial year 2012/13, to provide operational and/or financial assistance for bookings, marketing, administration and caretaking/cleaning excluding locking/unlocking at Leiston and Chalkstone Community Centres, the latter subject to the support of St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

The Town Council also agreed that the Community Centres Working Party should continue to meet.

**19. To receive urgent correspondence**

The Town Clerk read a letter from Matthew Hancock MP regarding the proposed closure of the Crown Health Centre. The Town Council instructed the Town Clerk to respond positively.

**9. Closure**

The meeting was closed at 9.44pm.

**TOWN CLERK**