

ST EDMUNDSBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

HAVERHILL AREA WORKING PARTY

**Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 19 June 2014 at 4.15 pm
in the Conference Room, Samuel Ward Academy, Chalkstone Way,
Haverhill**

PRESENT:	Councillors: Ms Byrne Mrs Gower Marks McManus	Redhead Mrs Richardson Mrs Rushbrook Mrs D Whittaker
BY INVITATION:	Councillor Hanlon Colin Poole	Haverhill Town Council Haverhill Town Clerk
IN ATTENDANCE:	Councillor Cox	Ward Member for Haverhill East

1. Substitutes

No substitutions were declared.

2. Election of Chairman

Councillors Marks and Mrs Richardson were both proposed and seconded as Chairman. Following a vote by show of hands each councillor received three votes.

After a short discussion, it was then proposed that both councillors be elected as Joint Chairmen and alternate the chairing of meetings; this was seconded and

RESOLVED:

That Councillors Marks and Mrs Richardson be elected as Joint Chairmen of the Haverhill Area Working Party.

It was further agreed that Councillor Mrs Richardson would Chair this meeting.

3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED:

That Councillor A Whittaker be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Haverhill Area Working Party.

4. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Whittaker. No apologies had been received from Councillor French.

5. Minutes

Subject to the following amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

- a. Apologies had not been received from Councillor French.
- b. Councillor Ms Byrne had been in attendance.

6. Declaration of Interests

Members' declarations of interests are recorded under the item to which the declaration relates.

7. Haverhill Research Park: Presentation

Nic Rumsey of Carisbrooke Investments Limited gave a short presentation, provided an update on the current position regarding the Haverhill Research Park and answered members' questions as follows.

- The Flying Shuttle restaurant and bar opened in May 2013.
- Taylor Wimpey had started a 5 year programme for building The Arboretum housing development and had sold one third of units. This development would include 10% affordable housing
- Discussions were ongoing with a Montessori company to provide a Day Nursery.
- Planning permission had recently been granted for the Epicentre - an innovation centre containing 52 individual offices in a range of sizes, with work hubs, break out areas, conference/meeting rooms, business support services and a coffee shop. Building work was due to start on site in early October with completion in September 2015.
- The provision of a hotel was still under discussion but was likely to be part of a larger complex on the roundabout site.

The Chairman thanked Nic Rumsey for his presentation and time.

8. Remainder of Growth Area Funding allocation for Haverhill

The Working Party considered a verbal update from Ian Poole, Place Shaping Manager. The Government had awarded £5m to the borough council as a designated Growth Area and this had been allocated as follows:

- £1.85m to Haverhill for capital, of which £117k was allocated to green infrastructure funding.
- £180k to build affordable and sustainable homes at Millfields Way.
- £50k to a matched-funding scheme as part of a conservation partnership project with English Heritage; however this project had been cancelled by English Heritage in 2011.
- £750k for improvements to the High Street; although some money had been spent, the majority was still available and could be used for projects as part of the town centre masterplan.
- A £750k loan had been given towards the Haverhill Research Park; this had now been repaid to the council.
- A number of green infrastructure projects: £35k for east of Haverhill around the golf range area; £25k for improved tree planting in the area of Willsey estate; £7k for interpretation boards along the railway

walk; and £50k for the creation of open space on the former Clements primary school.

10. Haverhill Town Centre Masterplanning

The Working Party considered a verbal update in respect of the masterplanning for Haverhill town centre. ONE Haverhill Board would be invited to start work on the masterplan and there would be a consultation looking at the wider town centre over the next 20 years. A workshop session would be arranged in due course to enable members to influence the consultation document.

Following the consultation, a draft town centre masterplan would be drawn up which would also be subject to a further six week consultation period. Further amendments would be made to the masterplan with final approval by Council in the latter part of 2015. The Chief Executive stated that this would not prohibit any good schemes being started before the masterplan was completed.

In response to questions raised, the following answers were provided:

- The consultation would be designed by community officers with the aim of maximising the response from residents.
- Any results from previous consultations would be taken into consideration.
- Different methods of promoting the consultation would be used (such as on the outer cover pages of the free newspaper).

(Councillor Mrs Rushbrook left the meeting during the consideration of this item.)

11. Future Work Programme/Items for Discussion

(a) How the Growth Area Funding allocation for Haverhill would be spent

It was agreed that this item should be removed from the future items for discussion as this had been discussed earlier in the agenda.

(b) Final report from Kent Business School on the 'Destination Haverhill' project

This would be provided at the next meeting.

(c) Use of Jubilee Plaza for outside events

The Community Support Officer would investigate and provide further information at the next meeting.

(d) The Experimental Traffic Order

It was agreed that this item should be removed from the future items for discussion.

(e) SCC's future strategy for Haverhill

This would be followed up by the Chief Executive and Councillors Mrs Gower and Richardson to make arrangements for the appropriate SCC officers to attend a future meeting of the Working Party.

(f) Review of previous Haverhill Area Working Party recommendations/decisions

It was requested that the following items be added to this list:

- (i) Progress of North West Haverhill Relief Road
- (ii) Progress on Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- (iii) ONE Haverhill Board update – to be provided verbally by Councillor Pugh (if in attendance) or by means of a written update

12. Dates of Future Meetings

The Working Party had already determined the following future meetings in 2014:

- 11 September; and
- 11 December.

Both meetings were on Thursdays starting at 4.15pm at Castle Manor Academy.

The meeting concluded at 6.47 pm.