

At a Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Market Square, Higham Ferrers on Tuesday 26 January 2010.

Present:

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs. A M Sauntson)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs. V M Newbery)
Councillor M P Beesley, Councillor D E Drage
Councillor A Dunn Councillor R J Gell
Councillor Mrs. M Knott Councillor H L Jackson
Councillor D C Lawson MBE Councillor Mrs. S Mantle.
Councillor G L Moore Councillor Mrs. G M Murdin BEM
Councillor A M T Reading Councillor Mrs. M E Tuffnail
Councillor Mrs. P H Whiting

10/022 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of the Town Council held on 05 January 2010 (copies of which being Folios 3903 – 3908) had previously been circulated) were approved subject to Minute 10/003 being amended to add ‘2958 and 2073’ and signed by The Mayor (Councillor Mrs. A M Sauntson)

10/023 **APOLOGIES**

The Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor P Gadsby.

10/024 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Declarations of Interest were made by Members:
Councillor Mrs. M E Tuffnail – Payment 2993
Councillor R J Gell – Planning Application EN/09/01990/FUL Manor Park

010/025 **LIAISON WITH THE POLICE**

PC’s D Brown and S Knight were present and PC Brown presented crime statistics relating to Higham Ferrers. There were a number of emerging issues which included an increase in vehicle crime especially in the Scholl Lane area. Offenders had recently been arrested on other matters, one of which had led to the seizure of cannabis. Members raised concerns regarding anti social behaviour in Saffron Road Recreation Ground Children’s Play Area and adjacent to the Cemetery Chapel, Parking in Wood Street/Midland Road, and in response to a question on the continuing success of the Alcohol Designated Area PC Brown responded that it continued to be successful.

10/026 **QUESTIONS ASKED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 19**

In response to questions asked pursuant to Standing Order 19 the Town Clerk agreed to take the following action;
Large amounts of refuse present im Midland Road To contact East Northamptonshire Council to arrange the removal of the refuse.

10/027 **PLANNING APPLICATION DETERMINATIONS**

The Town Clerk informed the Meeting of the Planning Application Determinations affecting Higham Ferrers made by East Northamptonshire Council since the last Meeting.

010/028 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS NOTIFICATIONS**

The following application notifications (copies of which were circulated during the Meeting) were considered and comments made as noted thereunder.

EN/09/01815/FUL Erection Extension to school to provide classrooms at Ferrers Specialist Arts College, Queensway, Higham Ferrers No comment or objection.

EN/09/02007/FUL Proposed new internal offices and external alteration to the front and side of elevations of existing building for the installation of new windows and entrance door at Freightroute Depot, Chowns Mill Business Park, Station Road, Irthlingborough, Northants No comment or objection

EN/10/00012/FUL New double garage at 2 Swans Way, Higham Ferrers. No comment or objection

EN/09/01990/FUL Construction of leisure centre comprising: 6 court sports hall, 25m swimming pool, leisure pool, multipurpose dance studios and meeting rooms, health and fitness suite, entrance atrium with café, with associated car parking and landscaping at Manor Park, Bedford Road, Rushden 1. The Council feels that the Transport Plan is insufficiently robust given the location of the proposed development and the need to reduce the carbon footprint, and will lead to a substantial increase in vehicular traffic on an already well used road system.

2..The Council is concerned that the overall design of the proposed development is inappropriate for a gateway feature building at one of the main entrances to the Town appearing to be an industrial building. A more sympathetic design should be sought.

3. The Council is concerned given the proposed size of the development and its relative location to nearby housing that no account seems to have been taken of

the loss of television reception to those properties. Given the problems that have occurred with previous developments this should be given priority in order to avoid future problems.

And it was

RESOLVED that the Local Planning Authority be advised of the comments now made.

Councillor R J Gell declared an Interest in application EN/09/01990/FUL and left the Meeting whilst the item was discussed

Councillor D C Lawson MBE declared an Interest in application EN/09/01815/FUL and left the Meeting whilst the item was discussed

10/029 **STAMFORD HOMES DEVELOPMENT IN MIDLAND ROAD**

A brief discussion took place regarding a proposed level of contribution regarding the now completed development in Midland Road to fulfil a Grampian Planning Condition and it was agreed that the level should be one of £25,000.

10/030 **VICTIM SUPPORT**

A letter had been received from Victim Support (copies of which had been previously circulated) in response to a donation from the Council. The letter was received

10/031 **LICENSING ACT 2003 GUIDANCE NOTES**

A copy of new guidance notes under the Licensing Act 2003 (copies of which were available from the Town Clerk) had been received from East Northamptonshire Council . The document was received.

10/032 **PROPOSED NEW PHARMACY**

A letter had been received from NHS Northamptonshire (copies of which were available from the Town Clerk) relating to responses to a consultation on an application for a proposed new pharmacy adjacent to Waitrose, Crown Park, Rushden. The letter was received

10/033 **DRAFT TOURISM STRATEGY**

A Copy of the Draft Tourism Strategy for East Northamptonshire had been received from East Northamptonshire Council (copies of which were available from the Town Clerk) . The Mayor (Councillor Mrs. A M Sauntson) pointed out that there was to be a seminar on 11 February 2010 and that any Members wishing to attend should contact the Town Clerk.

10/034 **SEVERE WEATHER CONTINGENCY PLAN**

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs. A M Sauntson) advised that following emerging plans from both Northamptonshire County Council and East Northamptonshire Council regarding Severe Weather Contingencies that the matter would be

postponed to the next Meeting of the Council.

10/035 **STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS**

The Town Clerk advised of the following Statutory Notifications

Northamptonshire County Council Adoption of Castlefields Close ,
Highways Act 1980 Higham Ferrers

10/036 **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**

The following reports were given by Members of the activities to other bodies;

Northamptonshire Police – *Details of* Councillor D C Lawson MBE
changes of Sector Inspector

10/037 **BUDGET MONITORING**

The Town Treasurer presented a Budget Monitoring Report to 31 December 2009 (copies of which were tabled at the Meeting) and pointed out various salient issues contained under various headings within the Report.

10/038 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The accounts for payment were circulated during the Meeting and it was

RESOLVED that payments be made as listed hereunder and that in the case of Ref. No. 2982, the expenditure be incurred under the provisions of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), it being considered to be in the best interest of the Town so to do and that the benefit is commensurate with the cost:

<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
DD087	Tiscali UK Ltd	Broadband Provision	32.19
DD088	Scottish Widows PLC	Stakeholder Pension	159.54
2975	East Northants Council	Maint. (Turney/Cory-Nov)	1,688.05
2976	Society of L C Clerks	Parks Law Book	19.95
		Legal Fees - KML Ph.6/A6	
2977	Smith Chamberlain	Exc.	805.00
2978	BACA	No Parking Signs	237.26
2979	Peter Tomas	S. Pav. Shutter Repairs	1,896.35
2980	Stephen J Pell	Building Work/Repairs	295.00
		Tree/Site Survey - Castle	
2981	Kempston Surveys Ltd	Fields	1,029.25
2982	Victim Support	Contribution	300.00
2984	BDO Stoy Hayward LLP	Audit Fee (2008/9 Accounts)	1,006.25
2985	RAO Stationers Ltd	Paper and tape	31.37

<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
2986	E.on	Lighting - electricity	357.03
2987	Petty Cash	Expenses Reimbursement	93.83
2988	1st Reaction Ltd	Security Patrols (Dec.)	958.10
2989	Northants Fire Ltd	Fire Alarm Annual Service	141.00
2990	David J Linnell	Salary (Jan.)	1,374.37
2991	Mrs Julie Morriss	Salary (Jan.)	719.47
2992	Ian McDonald	Wages (21/12-24/01)	680.62
2993	Jennifer Tuffnail	Town Hall Cleaning	44.59
2994	CVL Systems Ltd	S. Pav. CCTV Repairs	166.75
2995	E.on	Electricity	1,073.75
2996	Anglian Water	Metered water	1,129.94
2997	East Northants Council	Maint. (Turney/Cory-Dec.)	1,312.78

NB. Cllr. Mrs M E Tuffnail declared an interest in Payment ref. No. 2993.

10/039 **BANK RECONCILIATION**

The Town Treasurer presented a Bank Reconciliation to 31 December 2009, having been verified by Councillor D C Lawson MBE and it was signed by the Mayor.

Mayor

23 February 2010