

At a Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Market Square, Higham Ferrers on Tuesday 27 January 2009 .

Present:

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

09/009 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 23 December 2008 (copies of which being Folios 3770 - 3775 had previously been circulated) were approved and signed by the Mayor (Councillor G L Moore) subject to Councillor H L Jackson being added to the list of attendees .

09/010 **APOLOGIES**

The Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors R J Gell, Mrs. M Knott and A M T Reading, Councillor G Harwood(ENC), PC. D Brown and The Mayor's Sergeant.

09/011 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Declarations of Interest were made by Members:  
Councillor Mrs. M E Tuffnail – Agenda Item 8 Future Events  
Councillor Mrs. S Mantle – Agenda Item 7(2) Planning 2 Wharf Road

09/012 **LIAISON WITH THE POLICE**

In the absence of the Police statistics relating to crime in Higham Ferrers were circulated by Councillor D C Lawson MBE.. It was noted that the garage in High Street was causing problems by parking vehicles on the footway and washing vehicles causing nuisance to pedestrians, and it was agreed to pass the details to the Police.

A Member advised that at a recent meeting of TASH it had been proposed that the Police might utilise part of the bar area in the Sports Pavilion to use as a Police Office. A discussion ensued at the conclusion of which it was

**RESOLVED** that the use of part of the bar area in the Sports Pavilion by the Police as an office be approved in principle subject to the Town Clerk agreeing with Inspector M Kinchin the exact details which would be the subject of a Report for the consideration of the Council at a future Meeting.

09013 **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.

09/014 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS NOTIFICATIONS**

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

<b>EN/08/ 01866/ FUL</b>	New First Floor flat above post office/shop and roller shutter door to yard area at 2 Wharf Road, Higham Ferrers	No comment or objection
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<b>EN/08/ 02242/ FUL</b>	Erection of (B1/B2/B8) units and new NHS (D1) centre with associated parking, access and landscaping at Nene Business Park, Diamond Way, Irthlingborough.	1. The Council has concerns regarding the proposed number of vehicle movements to the site which will predominantly occur through Higham Ferrers . It should therefore be made a Planning Condition that adequate signage be introduced at the roundabout at the Station Road/A45 junction which should be of the gantry type.
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2.. The Council also has concerns that there should be adequate safe crossing points at the A45 and that there should be adequate safe pedestrian and cycling routes to the facility, and that pedestrian crossings should be established across both the A6 and Diamond Way which again should be made a Planning Condition.

3. The Council also urges that bearing in mind the nature and size of the proposed NHS facility within the development an increase in public transport to and from the site should also be made a Planning Condition.

4. Finally the Council wishes to express its' concern that an application for a new NHS facility is being considered before the consultation period on the closure of the current facility has been completed.

And it was

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

Councillor Mrs. S Mantle having declared an Interest in EN/08/01866/FUL took no part when the item was discussed.

09/015 **FUTURE EVENTS**

The Town Clerk advised that at the previous Meeting of the Council he had been requested to place an item on the Agenda to discuss future events and The Mayor (Councillor G L Moore) outlined his views of the Mayor's Market on 02 May 2009. The Town Clerk advised of the possibility of two events prior to Christmas, one being the offer of a Victorian Fair on 5th December which had proved to be an outstanding event previously and was offered at no cost to the Council, the other being the Festival of Angels at St. Mary's Church on 28th November which was being organised in partnership with Higham Ferrers Tourism. Details of both events were circulated at the Meeting. The Town Clerk further advised that the Victorian Fair would require three days use of the Market Square to set up, operate and dismantle the fair which would rule out it taking place on the same Saturday as the Farmer's Market (28th November). Concern was expressed as to whether there would be public support for two separate events. An extended discussion took place at the conclusion of which it was

**RESOLVED** that a small working party be set up to meet with the organiser of the St. Mary's Church Fundraising Committee with a view to ascertaining whether the two events could be combined and as time was of the essence, that the Working Party report to the next Meeting of the Policy and Establishment Committee with the Committee having power delegated to reach a decision on the event.

And it was further

**RESOLVED** that the Working Party should consist of the following Members; The Mayor (Councillor G L Moore) , The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs. A M Sauntson) and Councillors D C Lawson MBE, P Gadsby and H L Jackson.

Councillor Mrs. M E Tuffnail having declared an Interest in the matter left the Meeting whilst the item was discussed. Councillors Mrs. A M Sauntson, Mrs. G M Murdin BEM and H L Jackson all declared an Interest but declined to leave the Meeting.

09/016 **STOP THE DROP CAMPAIGN**

A letter had been received from the Campaign to Protect Rural England (copies of which had been previously circulated) inviting the Council to take part in the 'Stop the Drop Campaign'. A discussion took place at the conclusion of which it was

**RESOLVED** that Councillor H L Jackson approach Rushden Academy with a view to involving a team of volunteers from the school to litter pick the Hedges Pocket Park.

09/017 **THE HEDGES POCKET PARK**

A letter had been received from Northamptonshire County Council (copies of which had been previously circulated) in response to the decision of the Council that it no longer wished to operate the Pocket Park. The letter was received.

09/018 **PROPOSED PLAY PROGRAMME**

A letter had been received from Cultural Communities Partnership (copies of which had been previously circulated) regarding the proposed free PLAY programme for 0-7 years and 13+ years. A brief discussion took place at the conclusion of which it was

**RESOLVED** that the Council offer facilities for use in the proposed free PLAY scheme and that the Senior Play Ranger be invited to address a future meeting of the Council.

09/019 **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: CORE STRATEGY SUBMISSION**

A document had been received from Northamptonshire County Council (copies of which were available from the Town Clerk) regarding the publication of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Development Plan Documents.. The document was received.

09/020 **CODE OF RECOMMENDED PRACTICE FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY PUBLICITY**

A consultation document had been received from the Department for Communities and Local Government – Communities in Control: Real people, real power , Code of Recommended Practice local authority publicity consultation document (copies of which were available from the Town Clerk). The document was received..

09/021 **CONFERENCE FOR PARISHES**

Information had been received from Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (copies of which had been previously circulated) regarding advanced notice of a Conference for Parishes which was being organised by Northamptonshire County Council on Wednesday 18 March 2009 at the Diamond Centre. Members were requested to note the date and to give consideration to attending the conference.

09/022 **STEPPING STONES**

Information had been received from Northamptonshire County Association of

Local Councils (copies of which had been previously circulated) regarding a series of regional events being organised by the National Association of Local Councils entitled 'Stepping Stones'. Members were requested to give consideration to attending one of the events, the closest being at Coventry on 22 April 2009.

09/023     **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was moved and **RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted involving Council Contracts that the Press and Public be temporarily excluded.

09/024     **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Town Clerk presented a Report (copies of which had been previously circulated) regarding the assistance given to the Council by the Rushden Chamber of Trade utilising their cherry picker to assist in the erection of the Christmas Lights on the Market Square. Following a brief discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that a payment of £125 be made to the Rushden Chamber of Trade in recognition of their assistance in the erection of the Market Square Christmas Lights.

09/025     **SECURITY PATROLS**

The Town Clerk presented a Report (copies of which had been previously circulated) regarding the provision of security patrols at Saffron Road Recreation Ground and Castle Fields. Prices had been obtained from three contractors which were as follows;

**Contractor A: £9561.50 per annum**

**Contractor B: £9561.50 per annum**

**Contractor C: £13687.50 per annum**

The Town Clerk advised that certain difficulties had been experienced with Contractor A and that Contractor B was providing similar services to an adjoining local Council from whom a satisfactory reference had been obtained. Following a discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that the contract for the provision of security patrols at Saffron Road Recreation Ground be awarded to Contractor B, 1st Reaction Ltd., at a cost of £9561.50 per annum exclusive of VAT.

09/026     **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**

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

Northamptonshire County Association The Town Clerk  
of Local Councils – *Details of recent  
County Committee Meeting and  
appointment of new Training and  
Development Officer*

09/027 **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. Nos. 2683, 2695 and 2708, 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:

<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
DD063	Tiscali UK Ltd	Broadband Provision	32.19
DD064	Scottish Widows PLC	Stakeholder Pension	146.84
2683	Victim Support	Contribution	300.00
2684	Higham Ferrers Tourism	Christmas Sparkle	600.00
2685	Demita Contracts	Hanging Baskets	1,827.81
2686	E.on	Electricity	78.50
2687	East Northants Council	Maintenance (Turney - Nov.)	1,875.29
2688	Fusion Security Ltd	Parks Security (Dec.)	1,270.75
2689	Falcon Glass Ltd	Repair Information Board	392.72
2690	Northants Fire Ltd	Fire Alarm Installation	3,565.00
2691	Viking Directd	Stationery	47.36
2692	Dabs.com PLC	External CD Drive	52.42
2693	Petty Cash	Expenses Reimbursement	64.00
2694	Stephen J Pell	Projector Screen Brackets	75.00
2695	A L Baxter and Sons	Christmas Lights	2,839.81
2696	East Northants Council	Maintenance (Turney - Dec.))	1,553.19
2698	Turney Landscapes Ltd	Litterpicking (Dec.)	133.40
2699	E.on	Lighting Electricity	356.45
2700	David J Linnell	Salary (Jan.)	1,301.08
2701	Mrs Julie Morriss	Salary (Jan.)	665.23
2702	Ian McDonald	Wages (22/12 - 25/01)	560.87
2703	Jennifer Tuffnail	Town Hall Cleaning	43.28
2704	RAO Stationers Ltd	Printer Cartridge	43.31
2705	Anglian Water	Water - Metered Supply	954.11
2706	E.on	Electiricity	182.18
2707	Smith Chamberlain	Legal Fees - Riverside Park	460.00
2708	Rushden Chamber of Trade	Christmas Lights Contribution	125.00

09/028     **BANK RECONCILIATION**

The Town Treasurer presented a Bank Reconciliation to 31 December 2008, having been verified by Councillor D C Lawson MBE and it was signed by the Mayor.

Mayor

24 February 2009