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At a Statutory Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Market Square, Higham Ferrers on Tuesday 24 November 2009 .

Present:

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

09/370 **MINUTES**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 27 October 2009 (copies of which being Folios 3867 – 3873) and of the Additional Meeting of the Town Council held on 10 November 2009 (copies of which being Folios 3889 - 3990) were approved and signed by the Mayor (Councillor Mrs. A M Sauntson) .

09/371 **APOLOGIES**

The Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor A Dunn , P Gadsby and A M T Reading .

09/372 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Declarations of Interest were made by Members:

Councillor Mrs. M E Tuffnail –Payment 2936
Councillor Mrs. P H Whiting – Payment 29xx

09/373 **LIAISON WITH THE POLICE**

In the absence of the. Police no report could be given.

09/374 **PLANNING APPLICATION DETERMINATIONS**

The Town Clerk informed the Meeting of the Planning Application Determinations affecting Higham Ferrers since the last Meeting.

09/375 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS NOTIFICATIONS**

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

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EN/09/ 01630/ FUL	External alterations to elevations to include new glazing and widening of external staircase at Freightroute Depot, Chowns Mill Business Park, Station Road, Irthlingborough	No comment or objection.
EN/09/ 01461/ LBC	Replacement of internal staircase, replacement of landing window, replacement of lounge floor, installation of satellite dish, installation of external staircase, removal of existing internal staircase to existing garage/store and associated works to provide new home office at 35 High Street, Higham Ferrers	No comment or objection
EN/09/ 01736/ VAR	Removal of condition 13 (offsite open space – Grampian) Planning Permission 05/01542/REM date 28.09.2005 erection of twenty-three residential dwellings at Midland Road Granaries, Midland Road, Higham Ferrers	1. The Council wishes to make a strenuous objection to this application. The applicant has tried at every opportunity to evade his obligations in this matter, which, if approved will set a precedent for other developers to follow.

2. Whilst it may be true that at one stage the Council was prepared to accept the sum of £10,000 this was only due to the fact that it appeared at the time to be the best that could be achieved.

3. The Council has works continuing in Castle Fields adjacent to the development and has opportunities for further works to the Children's Play Area at Saffron Road Recreation Ground to which funding can be directed. The application should therefore be refused.

And it was

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

09/376 **SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Chairman (Councillor G L Moore) moved the receipt of the Minutes and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory

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Committee held on 03 November 2009 (copies of which had been previously circulated) and following discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee held on 03 November 2009 (copies of which being Folios 3887- 3888) be approved and adopted.

09/377 **COMMUNITY FACILITY**

Councillor Mrs. M E Tuffnail advised that it had come to her attention that Tennis Courts in a local village could be hired at a very reasonable rate via a local shop, and bearing in mind the problems that had been experienced in attracting users whether this could be a way forward. A discussion took place at the conclusion of which it was agreed that the matter be referred to the next Meeting of the Policy and Establishment Committee.

09/378 **CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED PLANNING CONTRIBUTION**

A letter had been received from DTP Planning Ltd (copies of which had been previously circulated) relating to the consultation regarding a contribution in lieu of Open Space on a proposed development in Midland Road, Higham Ferrers . A discussion took place at the conclusion of which it was

RESOLVED that the proposal by DTP Planning Ltd to make a contribution in lieu of Open Space on a proposed development in Midland Road, Higham Ferrers at a rate per dwelling be approved in principle subject to the amount per dwelling being in line with that approved by East Northamptonshire Council and subject to contributions being made upon the sale of every 6 dwellings.

09/379 **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LINK**

A letter had been received from Northamptonshire LINK (copies of which had been previously circulated) relating to information on the organisation. The letter was received

09/380 **TRANSFER OF PUBLIC TOILETS.**

A letter had been received from East Northamptonshire Council (copies of which had been previously circulated) relating to the proposed transfer of responsibility for the operation of Public Toilets to the six Town Councils. A discussion ensued. And it was

RESOLVED that a Working Party be set up on the transfer of Public Toilets early in 2010 and that the Council propose that a Meeting be held with the other 4 Town Councils affected with 2 Councillors and the Clerk from each Council to discuss the issues involved including TUPE.

09/381 **NHS NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ANNUAL REPORT**

A Copy of the Annual Report of NHS Northamptonshire had been received

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(copies of which were available from the Town Clerk) , The document was received.

09/381 **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**

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

Northamptonshire Police – *Update on Police/Community event being held on 30 November 2009 at the Pemberton Centre, Rushden* Councillor D C Lawson MBE

Higham Ferrers Hachenburg Twinning Association – *Details of recent visit by group from Hachenburg including details of the group programme.* Councillor Mrs. V M Newbery

09/382 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

RESOLVED that payments be made as listed hereunder:

<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Item</i>	
DD083	Tiscali UK Ltd	Broadband Provision	32.19
DD084	Scottish Widows PLC	Stakeholder Pension	159.54
2923	Panasonic Business Systems	Copier Service Charge	27.88
2924	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Play Equipment Parts	54.63
2925	East Northamptonshire Council	Maint. Work (Turney - Sept.)	5,250.83
2926	Interlynx Security Ltd	Alarm Sounder Upgrade	97.75
2927	Smith Chamberlain	Legal Fee (Stanwick Road)	161.00
2928	1st Reaction Ltd	Security Patrols (Oct.)	1,046.50
2929	Creative Signs and Displays	Victorian Extra. Banner	111.78
2930	Northants Assn. Local Councils	Power of Wellbeing Training	288.00
2931	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Play Equipment Parts	150.98
2932	Smith Chamberlain	Legal Fee (KML Phase 5/6)	460.00
2933	David J Linnell	Salary & Expenses (Nov.)	1,494.37
2934	Mrs Julie Morriss	Salary (Nov.)	719.66
2935	Ian McDonald	Wages (26/10-27/11)	637.80
2936	Jennifer Tuffnail	Town Hall Cleaning	44.58
2937	Diane M Briggs	Victorian Extravaganza	28.00

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		Expenses	
2938	Petty Cash	Reimbursement	88.52
2939	PDM Screenprint Ltd	Hecham Chronicle 8	240.00
2940	Stephen J Pell	S. P. Gutter Repairs	345.00
		Repair Play Safety	
2941	Assoc. Surfaces & Materials Ltd	Surface	4,710.40
2942	RAO Stationers Ltd	Laminating Pouches	25.56

NB. Cllr. Mrs M E Tuffnail declared an interest in Ref. No. 2936.

09/383 **BANK RECONCILIATION**

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

Mayor

22 December 2009