

**COUNCIL  
25 JANUARY 2012  
7.30 - 8.30 PM**



**Present:**

The Mayor (Councillor Chris Turrell), Councillors Mrs McCracken (Deputy Mayor), Allen, Angell, Mrs Angell, Baily, Mrs Barnard, Dr Barnard, Bettison, Birch, Mrs Birch, Blatchford, Brossard, Ms Brown, Brunel-Walker, Davison, Dudley, Finch, Gbadebo, Harrison, Mrs Hayes, Ms Hayes, Heydon, Kendall, Kensall, Leake, McCracken, McLean, Ms Miller, Mrs Pile, Porter, Sargeant, Mrs Temperton, Virgo, Wade, Ward, Ms Whitbread and Worrall

**Apologies for absence were received from:**

Councillors Mrs Ballin, Finnie, Thompson and Ms Wilson

**38. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 November 2011 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

**39. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**40. Mayor's Announcements**

CAB presentation

Rhiannon Stocking-Williams, Chief Executive and Brian Fries, Chair of Trustees from Bracknell & District Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) gave a presentation on the work of the CAB, their 50 successful years in operation and the future challenges facing the organisation.

In response to questions from the Council it was clarified that welfare and benefit queries were the highest number of interventions within Bracknell; Bracknell CAB was working to bid for Comic Relief funding to help support the over 65s and that the CAB worked closely with the Council and its officers and received referrals as appropriate.

The Mayor thanked them for their presentation and for answering Members questions.

Mayor's Charity Events

The Mayor reminded Members that he was hosting a Masquerades Ball in aid of his charity, Age Concern Bracknell Forest on Saturday 11 February. Tickets are £30 for a single and £50 for a double and could be purchased through the Mayor's PA, Sue Brunt.

### Executive Member for Children and Young People

Councillor Dr Barnard congratulated and thanked staff working at the Larchwood Short Break Unit which was graded 'outstanding' in all six areas through the unannounced Ofsted inspection under the new more stringent framework.

### Executive Member for Culture, Corporate Services and Public Protection

Councillor McCracken advised that the Council and Bracknell Forest CID officers had received commendations awards by Thames Valley Police for their tireless efforts to successfully conclude the abductions in Bracknell Forest.

He was pleased to report that Ascot Heath library enhancement works had been completed and the facility was now open.

Councillor McCracken announced that Anne Eckersley was the successful winner in the photography competition which was themed 'Routes and Trees'. Photographs from 11 photographers would be displayed at South Hill Park between 11 February to 8 April 2012.

He was pleased to report that the improvement works undertaken at Savernake Park had been completed and included planting, resurfacing of footpaths and the installation of three timber sculptures.

Councillor McCracken advised the meeting that the extensive works to maintain the Council's first class facility at the Easthampstead Park Cemetery and Crematorium by the provision of new cremators and a new mercury abatement system was nearing completion. He went on to say that the lack of disruption to services was due in large part to good planning and the excellent work of all of the staff involved not least those at the facility itself.

## 41. **Executive Report**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Bettison, presented his report on the work of the Executive since that reported at the Council meeting on 30 November 2011. The Executive had met twice on 13 December 2011 and 10 January 2012.

The Leader highlighted the following matters that had been considered:

- Children and Young People:
  - Youth Justice Strategic Plan
  - Ofsted Children's Assessment 2011
  - Safeguarding & Looked After Children Inspection
  
- Corporate Services/Public Protection:
  - Community Safety Partnership Plan 2011/14
  - Neighbourhood Engagement Review
  - Corporate Performance Overview Report
  
- Adult Services, Health & Housing
  - Advocacy Commissioning Strategy
  - Adult Social Care & Health Local Account 2010/11
  - Drug & Alcohol Recovery Services

- Other Service issues
  - Intelligent Transport Systems Strategy Implementation plan agreed
  - Community Infrastructure Levy
  - Binfield Nursery
  - Carbon management Plan

The report contained recommendations that the Council was asked to resolve in respect of the following matters:

- Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011/12
- Community Safety Partnership Plan 2011-2014

#### Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011/12

On the proposition of Councillor Dr Barnard, Executive Member for Children and Young People seconded by Councillor Kendall it was

**RESOLVED** that the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011/12 be approved for submission to the England and Wales Youth Justice Board (YJB).

#### Community Safety Partnership Plan 2011-2014

On the proposition of Councillor McCracken, Executive Member for Culture, Corporate Services and Public Protection seconded by Councillor Brossard it was

**RESOLVED** that the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2011-2014 be approved.

#### 42. **Revised Proportionality Calculations and Committee Membership**

The Council considered the report which set out the position regarding the overall allocation of seats on committees following the reduction in the number of councillors in the Conservative Group by three.

On the proposition of Councillor Bettison, Leader of the Council seconded by Councillor Leake it was

**RESOLVED** that

- i) the revised proportionality calculations be agreed;
- ii) there were no changes to the allocation of seats agreed at the Annual Council Meeting on 25 May 2011; and
- iii) excepting the restrictions on acting as substitutes there were no changes to the membership of committees and/or external organisations tabled at the meeting, in accordance with the wishes of the Conservative Group.

#### 43. **Appointment of Parent Governor**

The Council considered the report recommending the appointment of Mrs Carol Murray to the current secondary Parent Governor vacancies on the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and the Children, Young People & Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel as both these meetings functions relate wholly or partly to any education functions.

On the proposition of Councillor Leake, Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Commission seconded by Councillor Mrs Birch it was

**RESOLVED** that Mrs Carol Murray be appointed as a parent governor representative to the Overview & Scrutiny Commission for a term of office of four years and the Commission Chairman's recommendation to appoint Mrs Carol Murray to the Children, Young People & Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel be endorsed.

**44. Adoption of Byelaws for Special Treatment**

The Council considered the report recommending that the Council adopt new byelaws for Special Treatments addressing all matters relating to the regulation of cosmetic piercing and semi permanent skin colouring, acupuncture, tattooing, electrolysis and ear piercing under one set of consolidated model byelaws.

On the proposition of Councillor McCracken, Executive Member for Culture, Corporate Services and Public Protection seconded by Councillor Brunel-Walker it was

**RESOLVED** that the Byelaws for Special Treatments as set out in Appendix A to the report be adopted.

**45. Question Submitted Under Council Procedure Rule 10**

(i) By Councillor Mrs Temperton to Councillor Kendall, Executive Member for Education the following published question:

*The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment has identified Sexual Health and Mental Ill Health as priority needs for Bracknell Forest. How will early intervention be achieved if support for each of these areas is withdrawn from schools, as proposed in the budget?*

It was noted that the question related to the portfolios of two Executive members and both would respond to the relevant part.

In response Councillor Kendall stated that the Targeted Mental Health project grant had been available for a limited time only and the proposed deletion of budget directly related to the £125K associated with that work. The project had been in place for two years and had helped to develop the capacity of staff in schools to identify and work with children who may be, or were at risk of developing mental health problems. Councillor Kendall advised the meeting that the Council was working with schools to see how the capacity that had been built and developed in schools was utilised. The Educational Psychology Service and Behaviour Support Service would continue to ensure that further training, commissioned by an individual or a group of schools, would be provided. A training day was being held on Friday 27 January to disseminate information to schools and Councillor Mrs Temperton was welcome to attend.

In response Councillor Dr Barnard stated that the previous Government's prescriptive approach to dealing with sexual health did not meet the needs of Bracknell Forest. The local approach was to target resources where they were needed. The budget proposals indicated a proposed £5K reduction in the support for the Youth Service and schools for sexual health services which equated to a 6% reduction in the budget. Teenage conception rates had dropped and the borough was the third lowest in England and Wales. Two examples of successful projects were the drop-in clinics at Ranelagh School and Garth Hill College. Councillor Dr Barnard concluded that the

Council's continuing objective that all schools should be good schools was positively contributing to young people's self worth and this was reflected in the statistics.

**MAYOR**