

COUNCIL

26 APRIL 2000

Present: Councillors Adams, Bailey, Mrs Ballin, Barnard, Bayle, Beadsley, Bettison, Birch, Blatchford, Mrs Clifford, Mrs Doyle, Egan, Fawcett, Finnie, Flood, Good, Harrison, Miss Haydon, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Hirst, Jones, Mrs Keene, McCormack, Mills, North, Piasecki, Mrs Pile, Ryan, Sargeant, Mrs Shillcock, Simonds, Mrs Sutcliffe, Taylor, Thompson, Wade, Ward, Wheaton and Worrall

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Councillor Grayson

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR JAMES G FINNIE IN THE CHAIR

The Revd J Harris, Vicar of St Andrew's, Priestwood opened the proceedings with prayers.

637. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 1 March 2000 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

638. Matters Arising

Minute 514

Councillor Mills, Chairman of the Health Panel, reported to the Council on progress with the development of the Health Panel as required by Motion 1/99 adopted at the Council meeting on 21 July 1999. The report had been circulated previously to members. Councillor Mills answered questions thereon.

639. Mayor's Announcements

Retiring Members

The Mayor advised the Council that the following Members of the Council would not be standing for re-election at the Borough Council elections on 4 May 2000:

Councillor Good, first elected 1991
Councillor Mrs Hirst, first elected 1995
Councillor Ryan, first elected 1995
Councillor Mrs Sutcliffe, first elected 1997
Councillor Taylor, first elected 1995

On behalf of the Council the Mayor thanked these Members for their hard work on behalf of their constituents over the years and for their contribution to the life of the Council and to the wider community.

Engagements

The Mayor's list of engagements for the period 1 March 2000 to 26 April 2000 was circulated to Members of the Council for information.

640. **Public Participation at Meetings**

Petition by Mr J T Martin

In accordance with Standing Order 12 the Council received a Petition in the following terms organised by Mr J T Martin, signed by 220 persons.

Petition to stop the change of use of St Michael's CofE school playing field from sole use of the school to general public use

We the undersigned, residents of Sandhurst, strongly object to this change of use and insist that you, the Council, our elected representatives, cancel the current plans. Furthermore, not to introduce any such plans for the use of this field in the future.

Following questions, the Mayor indicated that the Petition would be brought to the attention of the relevant committees.

Petition by Mrs A Parten

In accordance with Standing Order 12 the Council received a Petition in the following terms organised by Mrs A Parten, signed by 223 persons.

Parking problems – Wildridings Square

We the undersigned call on Bracknell Forest Borough Council to take immediate action with a view to resolving the problems arising from acute vehicle congestion in Wildridings Square and adjacent roads.

Following questions, the Mayor indicated that the Petition would be brought to the attention of the Parking Issues Focus Group.

641. **Leisure Services Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on 21 March 2000 was submitted and the Chairman responded to questions thereon.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor North, seconded by Councillor Thompson, that the report be received.

642. **Direct Services Board**

The report of the meeting of the Direct Service Board held on 22 March 2000 was submitted.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor Sargeant, seconded by Councillor Miss Haydon, that the report be received.

643. **Public and Environmental Services Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Public and Environmental Services Committee held on 28 March 2000 was submitted and the Chairman responded to questions thereon.

A Motion arising from Minute 563 and relating to the national formula for Police funding was moved and seconded but subsequently withdrawn.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor North, seconded by Councillor Thompson, that the report be received.

644. **Social Services and Housing Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Social Services and Housing Committee held on 29 March 2000 was submitted and the Chairman responded to questions thereon.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor Barnard, seconded by Councillor Mrs Pile, that the report be received.

645. **Education Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Education Committee held on 4 April 2000 was submitted and the Chairman responded to questions thereon.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Mrs Hayes, that the report be received.

646. **Planning and Transportation Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Planning and Transportation Committee held on 6 April 2000 was submitted.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor Mrs Ballin, seconded by Councillor Worrall, that the report be received.

647. **Strategy and Policy Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Strategy and Policy Committee held on 16 March 2000 was submitted and the Chairman answered questions thereon. He

drew attention to minute 633, which was a recommendation to the Council rather than a resolved item as shown.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor Bettison, seconded by Councillor Birch, that the report be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

648. Planning Control Sub Committee

The recommendation of the Planning Control Sub Committee from its meeting held on 16 March 2000 was before the Council (Minute 109 refers). At the invitation of the Mayor, the Director of Planning and Transportation reported on discussions with the applicants which had taken place following the Sub Committee meeting and, in the light of that information, the Chairman of the Planning Control Sub Committee sought the Council's permission to withdraw the recommendation in order that the Sub Committee could consider proposed revisions to the current application.

In accordance with Standing Order 25 Councillors Finnie and Wade declared a pecuniary interest in the following item and withdrew from the Chamber during its consideration.

THE DEPUTY MAYOR, COUNCILLOR EGAN, IN THE CHAIR

649. Crowthorne Parish Council – Application in respect of Members' Interests

The Council had been notified by Crowthorne Parish Council that it proposed to consider the condition of unadopted roads in the Parish at its next meeting on 16 May 2000. At the time the Parish Council meeting took place, there would be ten Parish Councillors, five of whom would have a direct pecuniary interest in the matter. The Parish Council had requested that a dispensation be granted to permit the five Councillors to speak and vote on the relevant agenda item.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Subject to the Condition in (ii) below the following named Members of Crowthorne Parish Council be granted dispensation to speak and vote at meetings of the Parish Council held on or before 31 December 2000 on any agenda item concerning the condition and/or adoption of roads within the Parish of Crowthorne which are not maintainable at public expense:-

Councillor J G Finnie
Councillor R C Rand
Councillor Mrs M E Pierce-Jones
Councillor Mr M Pierce-Jones
Councillor R H Wade

- (ii) The dispensation referred to in (i) above shall not extend to speaking or voting on any motion proposing expenditure upon or works to unadopted roads within Crowthorne by the Parish Council.

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR JAMES G FINNIE IN THE CHAIR

In accordance with Standing Order 25 Councillor Simonds declared a pecuniary interest in motion 4/2000 and withdrew from the Chamber during its consideration.

Motion 4/2000

Motion 4/2000 as set out in the agenda for the meeting was moved by Councillor Flood and seconded by Councillor Bettison. An amendment was then moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Beadsley in the following terms:

delete the first sentence and replace by : "that this Council continue to work in close co-operation with the Meteorological Office to explore every opportunity in enabling them to achieve what they require while remaining in the Borough."

delete "assistance" and replace with "support".

delete "Conservative".

On being put to the meeting and a vote being taken, the amendment was declared not carried.

The mover of the motion accepted an amendment in the following terms:

Delete "member of the Labour Government" and replace by "Labour Member of Parliament".

On being put to the meeting, and a vote being taken, motion 4/2000, as amended, was declared carried. It was therefore

RESOLVED that this Council deplores the arrogant, cynical and uncaring attitude displayed by a local Labour Member of Parliament in her desire to move the Headquarters of the Meteorological Office away from Bracknell. Further, that this Council seeks the assistance of the two Conservative Members of Parliament representing this Borough and pledges its support for the employees, spouses, children and other family members who face the prospect of either having to move hundreds of miles away or seeking alternative employment.

(ii) Motion 5/2000

Motion 5/2000 as set out in the agenda for the meeting was moved by Councillor Harrison and seconded by Councillor Ward. In accordance with Standing Order 8 (iv), the Mayor indicated that the Motion would stand referred to the Social Services & Housing Committee.

640. **Closing Remarks**

The Mayor took the opportunity of this final meeting of the current Council to record his best wishes to all candidates in the forthcoming Borough Council

elections. He thanked all members of the Council for their support during his term of office as Mayor.

The Leader of the Council on behalf of the Council thanked the Mayor for his hard work and dedication to his mayoral duties during the past three years and remarked on the outstanding contribution the Mayor had made to the proceedings of the Council.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm
and concluded at 9.50pm.

MAYOR