



**Council**  
**Wednesday 26 July 2000, 7.30 pm**

*NB: Reports on these items may be available at the Berkshire Record Office, 9 Coley Avenue, Reading, RG1 6AF.*

**AGENDA**

- |   | Page No |
|---|---------|
| 1. <b>Apologies for Absence</b>   |         |
| 2. <b>Minutes</b><br>To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council and of the Extra-ordinary Meeting held on 24 May 2000.   | 3 - 10  |
| 3. <b>Mayor's Announcements</b>   |         |
| 4. <b>To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of Committees</b><br>All Standing Committees - 24 May 2000<br><br>Leisure Services Committee - 13 June 2000<br><br>Public & Environmental Services Committee - 21 June 2000<br><br>Social Services & Housing Committee - 27 June 2000<br><br>Standards Committee - 4 July 2000<br><br>Education Committee - 4 July 2000<br><br>Planning & Transportation Committee - 5 July 2000<br><br>Strategy & Policy Committee - 12 July 2000 |         |
| 5. <b>Reports by Members</b><br>To consider the attached report by Councillor Mills, as Chairman of the Health Panel in accordance with the terms of Motion 1/99.   |         |
| 6. <b>Central and Local Government Concordat on Good Enforcement</b>  |         |

To consider the attached report by the Chief Executive.

**7. Motions Submitted Under Standing Order 8**

(i) 6/2000 Submitted by Councillors Beadsley and Mrs Shillcock

“This Council has welcomed its status as a new Local Education Authority and the opportunity to provide active support for local schools.

It calls on the Leader of the Council to write to the Leader of the Conservative Party deploring the new “free schools” education policy, which would take away its local power to support its schools and replace it with a remote national bureaucracy.

It is also concerned that the right of parents to choose their child’s school will become a schools right to choose its pupils and a chaotic hunt for a school place”.

(ii) 7/2000 Submitted by Councillors McCormack and Beadsley

“This Council believes that self-congratulation amongst Members of the Council serves only the promotion of elitism. This Council will therefore introduce a Community Award Scheme that recognises the outstanding contribution made by other Members of the community towards improving the health and well being of all those who live and work in the Borough”.

## **COUNCIL 24 MAY 2000**

Present: Councillors Adams, Mrs Ballin, Barnard, Beadsley, Bettison, Birch, Mrs Birch, Blatchford, Ms Brown, Browne, Mrs Clifford, Edger, Egan, Finnie, Flood, Glasson, Grayson, Harrison, Miss Haydon, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Henfrey, Jones, Kendall, McCormack, McCracken, Mills, North, Piasecki, Mrs Pile, Mrs Ryder, Sargeant, Mrs Shillcock, Simonds, Thompson, Turrell, Wade, Wallace, Ward and Worrall

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Mattick.

### **THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR JAMES G FINNIE, IN THE CHAIR**

The Mayor invited his Chaplain, Revd D Osborn, to open the meeting with prayers.

#### **1. Election of Mayor**

It was proposed by Councillor Finnie, seconded by Councillor Bettison, that Councillor Barry Egan be elected Mayor for the 2000/2001 Municipal Year.

There being no other nominations it was

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Barry Egan be elected Mayor of the Borough of Bracknell Forest for the 2000/2001 Municipal Year.

#### **2. Appointment of Deputy Mayor**

It was proposed by Councillor Egan, and seconded by Councillor Barnard, that Councillor Mrs Dorothy Hayes be appointed Deputy Mayor for the 2000/2001 Municipal Year.

There being no further nominations it was

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs Dorothy Hayes be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Bracknell Forest for the 2000/2001 Municipal Year.

#### **3. Vote of Thanks to Retiring Mayor**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Bettison, expressed the Council's gratitude on behalf of all residents of the Borough to Councillor James G Finnie for the outstanding contribution he had made to the civic life of the Borough during the three years in which he had served as Mayor of the Borough of Bracknell Forest. He then moved a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor.

**RESOLVED** that the Council place on record its appreciation of the exemplary way in which Councillor Finnie had undertaken the duties falling upon the Mayor over the past three years.

The Chief Executive then presented the immediate past Mayor's badge to Councillor Finnie.

Councillor Finnie responded by thanking the Council for the opportunity to serve the Borough and its residents over the last three years. Of the many occasions and functions at which he had been privileged to represent the Borough he recalled with particular pride the ceremony at which the Freedom of the Borough had been conferred upon the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He then presented a cheque to the Lewis Marsh Fund, the Mayor's Charity for 1999/2000, which was received by Miss Chevaun Marsh.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Council meeting adjourned at 7.55pm to enable the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor to take up office. The Council reconvened at 8.00 pm.

### **THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR BARRY EGAN, IN THE CHAIR**

Councillor Egan made and signed the declaration of acceptance of the office of Mayor. He made a short address thanking members of the Council for honouring him, and his wife Jean, in this way. They were looking forward to working as ambassadors on the Borough's behalf and to the pleasure of meeting many of the citizens of the Borough. The Chief Executive then invested the Mayoress, Mrs Jean Egan, with her chain of office.

Councillor Mrs Hayes then made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office of Deputy Mayor. The Mayor then presented the Deputy Mayor with her chain of office. Councillor Mrs Hayes thanked the Council for her appointment. She and her husband, David, who would act as Deputy Mayor's Consort, were looking forward to playing a full part in the civic life of the Borough. The Chief Executive then presented Mr Hayes with his badge of office.

#### **4. Borough Election Results – 4 May 2000**

The Council received and noted the results of the May 2000 elections for the Borough of Bracknell Forest as set out in Appendix A hereto.

#### **5. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 April 2000 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

#### **6. Local Government and Housing Act 1989: Formation of Political Groups**

The Council received notification of the formation of political groups in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 as follows:-

Conservative Group - 30 members

Councillors:

Mrs Ballin  
Dr Barnard  
Bettison  
Birch  
Mrs Birch  
Blatchford  
Browne  
Edger  
Egan  
Finnie  
Flood  
Harrison  
Miss Haydon  
Mrs Hayes  
Mrs Henfrey  
Kendall  
McCracken  
Mrs Mattick  
Mills  
North  
Mrs Pile  
Mrs Ryder  
Sargeant  
Simonds  
Thompson  
Turrell  
Wade  
Wallace  
Ward  
Worrall

(Leader – Councillor Paul Bettison)  
(Deputy Leader – Councillor Dale Birch)

Labour Group - 10 members

Councillors:

Adams  
Beadsley  
Ms Brown  
Mrs Clifford  
Glasson  
Grayson  
Jones  
McCormack  
Piasecki  
Mrs Shillcock

(Leader – Councillor Austin McCormack)  
(Deputy Leader – Councillor Mike Beadsley)

In accordance with Standing Order 54 Councillor Bettison would act as Leader of the Council

**7. Local Government and Housing Act 1989: Review of Allocation of Seats and Appointments to Committees 2000/2001**

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the total number of seats on ordinary Committees appointed by the Council shall be 96 and that such seats shall be allocated to party groups as follows:-

Conservative Group – 72

Labour Group – 24

- (ii) Members be appointed to serve on the following Committees in accordance with nominations made by the political groups as set out in Appendix B hereto.

Name of Committee	Number of Members	Allocation to Groups	Substitute Members
Strategy & Policy Committee	16	12 : 4	3 : 3
Education Committee	16†	12 : 4	3 : 3
Leisure Services Committee	16	12 : 4	3 : 3
Planning & Transportation Committee	16	12 : 4	3 : 3
Public & Environmental Services Committee	16	12 : 4	3 : 3
Social Services & Housing Committee	16	12 : 4	3 : 3
	96	72 : 24	

† *plus 2 Church Representatives (voting), 2 Parent Governor Representatives (voting) and 3 Teacher Representatives (non-voting)*

- (iii) the following formula for the allocation of seats on Sub-Committees to be appointed by Committees be adopted.

Number of Members	Allocation of Seats
4	3 : 1
8	6 : 2
20*	15 : 5

*\*Planning Control Sub Committee*

- (iv) a review of the Council's Committee and Sub Committee structure be carried out by the Strategy and Policy Committee at its next available meeting for consideration by the Council on 26 July 2000.

8. **Appointment of Representatives to Other Groups**

**RESOLVED** that the following members be appointed to serve on the groups indicated for the 2000/2001 Municipal Year:-

Standards Committee (2:2:2 Independent members)

Conservative Group - Councillors Finnie and Thompson

Labour Group – Councillors Glasson and Jones

Environmental Impact Group (1)

Councillor Mills

Countryside Management Steering Group (2)

Councillors North and McCracken

Councillors to serve on the Social Services Complaints Review Panels

Any one member of the Council who may not be a member of the Social Services and Housing Committee, appointed by the Director of Corporate Services as required.

Councillors to serve on Council Tax and Housing Benefit Review Boards

Any three members of the Council appointed by the Director of Corporate Services as required.

9. **Appointment of Representatives to External Organisations**

**RESOLVED** that the persons indicated be appointed to serve as the Council's representatives on the Bodies and other organisations listed in Appendix C hereto.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm  
and concluded at 8.15 pm

**MAYOR**

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**EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
24 MAY 2000**

Present: Councillors Adams, Mrs Ballin, Barnard, Beadsley, Bettison, Birch, Mrs Birch, Blatchford, Ms Brown, Browne, Mrs Clifford, Edger, Egan, Finnie, Flood, Glasson, Grayson, Harrison, Miss Haydon, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Henfrey, Jones, Kendall, McCormack, McCracken, Mills, North, Piasecki, Mrs Pile, Mrs Ryder, Sargeant, Mrs Shillcock, Simonds, Thompson, Turrell, Wade, Wallace, Ward and Worrell

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Mrs Mattick

**THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR BARRY EGAN, IN THE CHAIR**

**65. Freedom of the Borough of Bracknell Forest**

The Mayor advised the Council that this special meeting had been convened under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 to consider a motion conferring the Freedom of the Borough of Bracknell Forest on the immediate past Mayor, Councillor James G Finnie. He reminded members that the Freedom of the Borough was the highest honour the Council could bestow and was reserved for those who had rendered eminent service to the Borough. He then called upon the Leader of the Council, Councillor Bettison, to move the motion.

Councillor Bettison reminded the Council that Councillor Finnie had been elected to the former District Council in 1976 and had served as Chairman of the Development Committee from 1978 to 1984 and the Planning Committee from 1994 to 1995; as Chairman of the Liaison Committee for the Physically Disabled from 1992 to 1994 and Vice Chairman of the Access Committee from 1996 to 1997. He continued to serve on many committees and sub committees of the Council and had been a member of Crowthorne Parish Council since 1975. He had been elected Mayor of the Borough in May 1997 and had played a full part in the transition to a unitary authority. He had been re-elected Mayor when the Council became a unitary authority on 1 April 1998 and had served the Borough as Mayor until the present day. His commitment to the Borough and all its residents was beyond question and he had been tireless in his determination to see Bracknell Forest succeed as one of the new Unitary Authorities which were quickly becoming established as a model for the future. Councillor Finnie had served the Council and the community with much distinction during a particularly critical period and for this reason Councillor Bettison considered it an honour to move the motion that he be conferred with the title of Honorary Freeman of the Borough. On being put to the vote 29 members present voted in favour of the motion and there were no votes against the motion. It was therefore

**RESOLVED** that pursuant to the provisions of Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, to mark his eminent service as a Councillor since 1976 and, more particularly his term of office as Mayor from May 1997 to May 2000, Councillor James G Finnie FRICS be admitted an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Bracknell Forest.

Councillor Finnie then took the Freeman's oath. Whereupon, the Mayor formally declared that Councillor James G Finnie had been duly appointed as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough.

The Chief Executive advised that a commemorative scroll and casket had been commissioned and would be presented to Councillor Finnie at a later date. He then presented Councillor Finnie with a signed certificate and read letters of congratulation from the Lord Lieutenant of the Royal County of Berkshire, the High Sheriff of Berkshire, the immediate past High Sheriff of Berkshire and other civic dignitaries.

Councillor Finnie then made a short address thanking members of the Council for the honour bestowed upon him.

The meeting commenced at 8.30pm  
and concluded at 9.00 pm

**MAYOR**