

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
25 MARCH 1998**

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

Apologies for Absence were received from:
Councillors Bayle, Sargeant and Taylor

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR JAMES G FINNIE, IN THE CHAIR

1. Election of Mayor

It was proposed by Councillor Birch, seconded by Councillor Mrs Doyle, *that Councillor James G Finnie be elected Mayor for the 1998/99 municipal year.*

There being no other nominations it was

RESOLVED that Councillor James G Finnie be elected Mayor of the Borough of Bracknell Forest for the 1998/99 municipal year.

Councillor Finnie made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor. He then thanked Members of the Council for his election to a second term of office and advised the Council that arrangements would be made for his formal investiture on 2 April 1998.

2. Appointment of Deputy Mayor

It was proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Councillor Good, *that Councillor Barry Egan be appointed Deputy Mayor for the 1998/99 municipal year.*

There being no further nominations it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Barry Egan be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Bracknell Forest for the 1998/99 municipal year.

Councillor Egan then made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for his appointment.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 February 1998 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

4. **Mayor's Announcements**

Charity Concert

The Mayor reminded Members of the Council of the concert to be held in support of his charity for the 1997/98 municipal year at the Wilde Theatre on 30 March 1998.

Mayor's Charity 1998/99

The Mayor advised the Council that he had selected the British Heart Foundation as the Mayor's charity for the 1998/99 municipal year commencing from 1 May 1999. This would ensure that his existing charity had the benefit of a full year's support.

5. **Leisure Services Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held on 24 February 1998 was submitted.

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

6. **Public and Environmental Services Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Public and Environmental Services Committee held on 25 February 1998 was submitted.

RESOLVED on the proposition of Councillor Egan, duly seconded, that the report be received.

7. **Planning and Transportation Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Planning and Transportation Committee held on 3 March 1998 was submitted.

It was then moved by Councillor McCormack, seconded by Councillor Jones, that Minute 568 be not received by the Council in so far as it related to consideration of Application No. 623299 by the Planning Control Sub Committee on 9 February 1998.

At 7.44 p.m. Councillor Bettison declared a pecuniary interest in Application No. 623299 and withdrew from the meeting for the duration of consideration of this item.

Following debate, the motion relating to Minute 568 was put to the meeting and, on a vote being taken, was declared lost.

It was then

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

8. **Social Services Transition and Housing Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Social Services Transition and Housing Committee held on 17 March 1998 was submitted and the Chairman answered questions thereon.

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

9. **Education Transition Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Education Transition Committee held on 18 March 1998 was submitted.

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

10. **Strategy and Policy Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Strategy and Policy Committee held on 19 March 1998 was submitted and the Chairman drew attention to the recommendations contained in Minute Nos. 621, 623, 625 and 626.

The Chairman further answered questions from Members.

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

11. **Local Government and Housing Act 1989: Review of Allocation of Seats and Appointments to Committees 1998/99**

Consideration was given to a report by the Director of Corporate Services on the legal requirements and arrangements proposed for the allocation of seats and appointments to Committees for the 1998/99 municipal year.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the total number of seats on ordinary Committees appointed by the Council be 106 and that such seats be allocated to political groups as follows:-

Conservative Group - 60
Labour Group - 46

- (ii) Members and Substitute Members be appointed to serve on the Committees indicated as set out in Appendix A to these Minutes;
- (iii) the following formula be adopted for the allocation of seats on Sub Committees to be appointed by all other Committees

Number of Members	Allocation of Seats
3	2 : 1
5	3 : 2
9	5 : 4
20 (Planning Control Sub Committee)	12 : 8

12. Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies and Other Organisations

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the persons indicated be appointed to serve as the Council's representatives on the bodies and other organisations listed in Appendix B to these minutes.
- (ii) the undermentioned members be appointed to serve as the Council's representatives on the bodies listed below:
 - (a) Economic Strategy Group Councillors Bettison and Finnie
 - (b) Environmental Impact Group Councillor Mills
 - (c) Quality Group Councillor Birch
 - (d) Health & Safety Panel Councillor Sargeant
 - (e) Social Services Complaints Review Panel Any 1 eligible Member of the Council to be appointed by the Director of Corporate Services as required
 - (f) Education Admission & Exclusion Appeals Panels Any 2 eligible Members of the Council appointed by the Clerk to the Appeal Committee as required
 - (g) Housing Benefits Review Boards Any 3 eligible Members of the Council appointed by the Director of Corporate Services as required
- (iii) the Council note the nomination of the Members listed below to attend pre-agenda meetings with the appropriate Chairman and Vice Chairman
 - (a) Strategy & Policy Committee Councillor Angell
 - (b) Education Committee Councillor Harrison
 - (c) Leisure Services Committee Councillor Miss Haydon
 - (d) Public & Environmental Services Committee Councillor Mrs Pile
 - (e) Planning & Transportation Committee Councillor Mrs Doyle
 - (f) Social Services & Housing Committee Councillor Simonds

13. **Corporate Management Team and Staff**

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor closed the meeting by thanking all Members of the Corporate Management Team and Council staff for their hard work and sound advice as the Council had moved to unitary status over the year. The 1998/99 municipal year would be an exciting period for the new unitary authority with many new challenges for Officers and Members alike.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.
and concluded at 8.30 p.m.

MAYOR