

BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL held at the Princes Hall, Aldershot on Thursday, 24th June, 2021 at 7.00 pm.

The Worshipful The Mayor (Cllr B.A. Thomas (Chairman))
The Deputy Mayor (Cllr J.H. Marsh (Vice-Chairman))

Cllr Gaynor Austin
Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford
Cllr J.B. Canty
Cllr M.S. Choudhary
Cllr A.K. Chowdhury
Cllr R.M. Cooper
Cllr P.J. Cullum
Cllr Christine Guinness
Cllr Michael Hope
Cllr Prabesh KC
Cllr Nadia Martin
Cllr T.W. Mitchell
Cllr K.H. Muschamp
Cllr M.J. Roberts
Cllr M.D. Smith
Cllr P.G. Taylor
Cllr Nem Thapa

Cllr Jessica Auton
Cllr Jib Belbase
Cllr Sue Carter
Cllr Sophia Choudhary
Cllr D.E. Clifford
Cllr P.I.C. Crerar
Cllr K. Dibble
Cllr A.J. Halstead
Cllr L. Jeffers
Cllr Mara Makunura
Cllr S.J. Masterson
Cllr Marina Munro
Cllr Sophie Porter
Cllr M.L. Sheehan
Cllr Sarah Spall
Cllr M.J. Tennant
Cllr Jacqui Vosper

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr T.D. Bridgeman, Cllr A.R. Newell and Cllr Calum Stewart.

Before the meeting was opened, the Mayor's Chaplain (Reverend Malcolm Cummins) led the meeting in prayers and a period of silence in memory of former councillors Roland Dibbs and Shelagh Stephenson who had passed away the previous week.

9. MINUTES

It was MOVED by Cllr K.H. Muschamp; SECONDED by Cllr P.G. Taylor and

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 25th May 2021 (copy having been circulated previously) be taken as read, approved and signed as a correct record.

10. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Mayor reported that, on 21st June 2021, the Armed Forces Day flag was raised in Princes Gardens, Aldershot. He stated that he and the Mayoress had been joined by the Deputy-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Lieutenant General Sir

Mark Mans), the Garrison Commander (Lieutenant Colonel Nick Burley), the Mayor's Chaplain (Reverend Malcolm Cummins), Deputy Leader (Cllr Ken Muschamp), Military Champion (Cllr Jacqui Vosper), Shadow Military Champion (Cllr Nadia Martin), together with Standard Bearers from the Aldershot and Farnborough Branches of the Royal British Legion. The flag would be flown until the end of Armed Forces Day on 26th June 2021.

The Mayor advised the Council that 'beacons of light' would be beamed from the roofs of six buildings across Aldershot town centre during the evening of 26th June. The idea behind this was that people from around the area could celebrate and pay their respects to the Armed Forces without having to leave their gardens or be part of a large crowd. In addition to this, Princes Hall and the bandstand in Princes Gardens would be lit up. The bandstand would contain a schools' arts project over the weekend of 26th and 27th June 2021.

- (2) The Mayor reported that he had been delighted to cut the ribbon at the re-opening of the North Town Post Office and the formal opening of the coffee shop there. There were a number of other guests present, including Peter Gordon of BBC Radio Surrey, local Ward Councillors (Keith Dibble, Gaynor Austin and Sarah Spall) and a number of distinguished guests from the Nepali community. On behalf of the Council, the Mayor wished Mr Dhan Sarki every success for the future.
- (3) The Mayor advised Members that the first meeting of his Charity Committee had been held the previous week. A programme of events was being put together – Covid restrictions permitting. In particular, he drew Members' attention to:
 - Two Mayoress's Afternoon Tea events on Friday 10th December 2021 and Wednesday 6th April 2022
 - The Mayor's Charity Ball on Friday 11th March 2022
 - A charity golf day would be organised – date to be finalised
- (4) Now that the Council could meet in person, it was the first opportunity that the Council had to present Cllr Sue Carter with her Past Mayor's Badge and Scroll signifying the Council's resolution on her Mayoral Year of 2019-2020. The Mayor called Cllr Carter forward to collect her Past Mayor's Badge, as Past Mayor's Consort Badge for her husband, Mr Ian White, and the framed scroll.

Cllr Sue Carter addressed the Council with some words of thanks and some memories of her Mayoral Year.

11. **STANDING ORDER 8 - QUESTIONS**

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted under Standing Order 8.

12. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES**

- (1) **Council Business Plan 2021 – 2024**

The Leader of the Council (Cllr D.E. Clifford) introduced the Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 8th June 2021, which recommended the approval of the Council's three-year Business Plan - April 2021 to March 2024, as set out in Annex A to the Report.

It was MOVED by Cllr D.E. Clifford; SECONDED by Cllr K.H. Muschamp - That approval be given to the recommendation as set out in the Report.

On a Recorded Vote, there voted FOR: Cllrs Jessica Auton, Mrs. D.B. Bedford, J. Belbase, J.B. Canty, Sue Carter, M.S. Choudhary, Sophia Choudhary, A.K. Chowdhury, D.E. Clifford, R.M Cooper, P.I.C. Crerar, P.J. Cullum, M. Hope, L. Jeffers, Prabesh KC, Mara Makunura, S.J. Masterson, Marina Munro, K.H. Muschamp, M.L. Sheehan, M.D. Smith, P.G. Taylor, M.J. Tennant, N. Thapa, Jacqui Vosper and the Deputy Mayor (Cllr J.H. Marsh) (26); AGAINST: 0; ABSTAINED: Cllrs. Gaynor Austin, K. Dibble, Christine Guinness, A.J. Halstead, Nadia Martin, T.W. Mitchell, Sophie Porter, M.J. Roberts, Sarah Spall and the Mayor (Cllr. B.A. Thomas) (10) and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(2) Introduction of Weekly Food Waste Collection Service

The Portfolio Holder for Operational Services (Cllr. M.L. Sheehan) introduced the Report of the Cabinet meeting held on 8th June 2021, which recommended the approval of an additional revenue budget of £90,000 in 2021/22 to facilitate the roll out of the food waste collection service and to note that the financial impact of these changes in future financial years would need to be addressed in the 2022/23 budget setting process.

It was MOVED by Cllr M.L. Sheehan; SECONDED by Cllr M.J. Tennant – That approval be given to an additional revenue budget of £90,000 in 2021/22 to facilitate the roll out of the food waste collection service.

There voted FOR: 35; AGAINST: 0 and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(3) Pay Policy Statement

The Chairman of the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee (Cllr Sue Carter) introduced the Report of the Committee meeting held on 27th May 2021, which recommended approval of the Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22, as set out in the Appendix to the Report.

It was MOVED by Cllr Sue Carter; SECONDED by Cllr P.J. Cullum – That approval be given to the Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 as set out in the Appendix to the Report.

During discussion, it was MOVED by Cllr P.G. Taylor; SECONDED by Cllr Christine Guinness – That the recommendation be amended by adding the following wording:

“In light of the contents of the statutory Pay Policy Statement, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be requested to undertake a review of the structure and

application of the Council’s pay policies to make sure that they meet the equitable requirements of the Council’s taxpayers.”

The proposed Amendment received the support of the Council and, with the consent of Cllr Sue Carter and Cllr Peter Cullum as Mover and Seconder of the original Motion, the Amendment was incorporated in the recommendation as the Substantive Motion.

After a period of debate, the Motion was put to the Meeting. There voted FOR: 34; AGAINST: 0 and the amended Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED** and it was

RESOLVED: That

- (i) The Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22, as set out in Appendix A to the Report, be approved; and
- (ii) In light of the contents of the statutory Pay Policy Statement, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be requested to undertake a review of the structure and application of the Council’s pay policies to make sure that they meet the equitable requirements of the Council’s taxpayers.

13. QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted for response by the Cabinet.

14. REPORTS OF CABINET AND COMMITTEES

RESOLVED: That the Reports of the following meetings be received:

Cabinet	20th April 2021
Cabinet	8th June 2021
Development Management Committee	21st April 2021
Development Management Committee	26th May 2021
Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee	27th May 2021

15. REPORT OF POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD

RESOLVED: That the Report of the meeting of the Policy and Project Advisory Board held on 9th June 2021 be received.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.
