

# BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

**MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL** held at the Council Offices,  
Farnborough on Thursday, 8th December, 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (CR. JACQUI M. VOSPER)  
THE DEPUTY MAYOR (CR. SOPHIA CHOUDHARY, L.L.B.)

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| CR. MRS. D.B. BEDFORD               | CR. B. JONES, M.Sc., A.R.C.S.,        |
| CR. D.M.T. BELL                     | M.N.E.I.M.M.E., C.Eng., M.I.E.T.,     |
| CR. T.D. BRIDGEMAN, B.A. (Hons.)    | M.B.C.S., C.I.T.P.                    |
| a CR. SUE CARTER                    | CR. G.B. LYON, B.A. (Oxon)            |
| CR. M.S. CHOUDHARY, M.A.            | CR. J.H. MARSH, C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E.   |
| CR. D.E. CLIFFORD, M.P.A., M.C.M.I. | CR. S.J. MASTERS                      |
| CR. R. COOPER                       | a CR. P.J. MOYLE                      |
| CR. LIZ CORPS, N.N.D., A.T.D.       | a CR. MARINA MUNRO                    |
| CR. A.H. CRAWFORD, J.P., B.Sc.,     | CR. K.H. MUSCHAMP                     |
| A.R.C.S., Dip.Man. (Open).          | CR. A.R. NEWELL                       |
| CR. P.I.C. CRERAR, B.A. (Hons.),    | CR. J.J. PREECE                       |
| a M.Arch., M.A.                     | CR. M.J. ROBERTS, B.Sc., F.R.S.A.     |
| CR. K. DIBBLE, M.A.F.M., B.I.F.M.   | CR. P.F. RUST, A.I.M.E.E., M.I.S.M.   |
| CR. SUE DIBBLE                      | CR. M.L. SHEEHAN                      |
| CR. R.L.G. DIBBS                    | CR. M.D. SMITH                        |
| a CR. JENNIFER M. EVANS, B.Sc.,     | CR. M. STAPLEHURST                    |
| M.Sc.                               | CR. L.A. TAYLOR                       |
| CR. D.S. GLADSTONE                  | CR. P.G. TAYLOR, A.C.I.B.             |
| CR. C.P. GRATTAN                    | CR. M.J. TENNANT, B.Sc.               |
| CR. BARBARA J. HURST, B.A., M.A.    | CR. B.A. THOMAS                       |
| CR. A. JACKMAN, B.Sc.               | CR. J.E. WOOLLEY, B.Sc., L.L.B., M.A. |
| a                                   |                                       |

Honorary Alderman C. Balchin J.P.  
a Honorary Alderman R.J. Debenham, M.B.E.  
a Honorary Alderman R.J. Kimber  
Honorary Alderman G.J. Woolger

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Crs. Sue Carter, P.I.C. Crerar, R.L.G. Dibbs, A. Jackman, P.J. Moyle and Marina Munro.

Before the meeting was opened, the meeting was led in prayers by the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Steve Stewart.

## 28. **MINUTES –**

It was **MOVED** by Cr. D.E. Clifford; **SECONDED** by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

**RESOLVED:** That, the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6th October, 2016 (copy having been circulated previously) be taken as read, approved and signed as a correct record.

## 29. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS –**

- (1) The Mayor reported that she had attended the unveiling of the Jetstream monument on 8th November, 2016 at the Farnborough Air Sciences Museum. The monument, which symbolised Farnborough's history, had previously been located in Queensmead and consisted of an arrow and four plaques mounted on a plinth. The monument had been restored by Farnborough Air Sciences Trust (FAST) volunteers and relocated at the FAST museum. The monument had been unveiled by Mrs. Barbara Allday, the widow of the original designer of the monument.
- (2) The Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended Remembrance Day services around the Borough on 13th November, 2016. The Mayor remarked that it had been pleasing to see so many Members had attended the services to show their respect.
- (3) The Mayor reported that she had attended the 18th World Championships for Powerlifting, Bench Press and Dead Lift at the Connaught Leisure Centre on 19th November 2016. Over 100 lifter entries from six nations had taken part. The Mayor expressed her pride that the Borough had hosted these world championships.
- (4) The Mayor reported that her Christmas Afternoon Tea had been held on 25th November, 2016 and had been a great success and had raised £674 for the Mayor's Charities.
- (5) The Mayor advised Members that she had attended a reception at Ashburton Hall at The Castle in Winchester on 29th November, 2016 to mark the achievements of Hampshire's Olympians and Paralympians at the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- (6) The Mayor advised Members that her Charity Ball would be held on Friday, 10th March, 2017 and asked Members to note the date in their diaries. Invitations would be sent out in due course.
- (7) The Mayor thanked all those Members who had decided to donate money to the Mayor's Charities this year rather than send Christmas cards.
- (8) The Mayor then congratulated Cr. Frank Rust on having completed twenty years' service in local government.

Cr. Rust had been first elected to serve the Newport Ward in 1994 and, following a boundary review, Heron Wood Ward from 2002 – 2004. Cr. Rust had regained his position on the Council following a by-election in January 2006 when he had been elected to the North Town Ward.

Cr. Rust had been Deputy Mayor in 2002/03 and had served as Mayor in 2003/04.

Cr. Rust had served on most of the Council's committees and panels over the years. Most notably, Cr. Rust had been Chairman of the Human Resources Sub-Committee in 1998/99 and Vice-Chairman of the Management Committee in 1995/96 and Vice-Chairman of the Standards and Audit Committee in 2009/10.

Cr. Rust had a keen interest in health issues affecting residents and was active on health sector groups working inside the Borough and beyond. He had been a long-time supporter of town twinning activities and Rushmoor in Bloom. As Chairman of the Aldershot and District Allotment Association, he had worked with the Council on allotment issues.

Cr. Rust had represented the Council on a number of outside bodies, particularly on the Aldershot and Farnborough Festival of Music and Arts, Rushmoor Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Committee, Rushmoor Town Twinning Committee and South East Employers Local Democracy and Accountability Network. Cr. Rust was also Chairman of the Aldershot Senior Citizens' Forum.

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor thanked Cr. Rust for his excellent service to the Council and the Borough and extended sincere congratulations on reaching this milestone. Cr. Rust was then presented with a long service medal.

**30. STANDING ORDER 8 – QUESTIONS –**

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted in pursuance of Standing Order 8(3).

**31. NOTICES OF MOTION –**

**(1) Housing Provision –**

The Council was asked to consider the following Motion, which had been submitted by Cr. M.L. Sheehan in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 9 (1). It was MOVED by Cr. M.L. Sheehan; SECONDED by Cr. M.S. Choudhary – That

“This Council:

- believes all its residents should have access to affordable good quality housing and related services
- recognises that town centre regeneration is an opportunity for delivering high quality affordable housing

- welcomes the Government's recent announcement to significantly increase house building across all sectors of the UK housing market and looks forward to the publication of the forthcoming White Paper
- recognises the value of a preventative approach to tackle homelessness locally
- will take full advantage of the recently announced changes in national housing policy when delivering its revised Housing and Homelessness Strategy."

In introducing the Motion, Cr. Sheehan stated that, on 10th December, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 25 stated that "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and wellbeing of himself and his family including food, clothing, housing and medical care ...". Cr. Sheehan felt that everyone across the world accepted that having a safe and secure home was a basic necessity for life; a place to rest; a place to live; a place to call one's own. Cr. Sheehan questioned why it was, almost 68 years to the day after the UN declaration, that many of the Borough's residents were without a safe and secure home – somewhere they could call a place of their own.

Cr. Sheehan said that, in Rushmoor, there were 103 homeless households living in temporary or short-term accommodation. Temporary accommodation that was difficult and expensive for the Council to provide and temporary accommodation that was expensive and unsuitable for the people being housed. Cr. Sheehan stated that 121 children from the Borough's community would be sleeping in temporary accommodation that night and who would be spending Christmas in such accommodation. He felt that it was a scandal that shamed everyone.

Cr. Sheehan welcomed the Homeless Reduction Bill which was currently before Parliament. He felt it would bring about a cultural change in how society addressed homelessness. Its aim was to help prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place and to combat homelessness before it became a crisis.

Cr. Sheehan was of the opinion that the problem stemmed from a lack of housing across all sectors of the housing market. He felt that Rushmoor had brownfield sites, including abandoned shops, which could be developed and that the Council's goal ought to be to promote the development of those abandoned sites and bring them back to life. Members were advised that the Government had announced plans to build one million new homes by 2020 and would shortly be publishing a White Paper outlining how they would be expanding the housing sector. Cr. Sheehan said that the Council would be publishing its new Housing and Homelessness Strategy in 2017 and that all Councillors should be involved in the debate to shape the housing policy to ensure that all the Borough's residents, whatever their means, could have a

decent and affordable place in which to live and call their own.

In seconding the Motion, Cr. M.S. Choudhary referred to the disproportionate number of people sleeping rough in Britain having come from the armed forces. He felt it was of utmost importance to ensure that when people left the armed forces they were given proper support and accommodation to keep them off the streets. He referred to the tremendous work of the local charity, Mike Jackson House, in supporting the Borough's ex-servicemen and women to adjust to life outside the armed forces. Cr. Choudhary referred to a recent report from the charity St. Mungo's, which had identified that four out of every ten rough sleepers in England had a mental health condition. Poor mental health made it harder for a rough sleeper to get off the streets and almost impossible to access mainstream NHS services. He felt that homelessness was not just an issue about accommodation. The Council's Housing Options Team often became the gateway by which people could enter other services. He stressed the importance of the Council developing a preventative approach to tackling homelessness. He also welcomed the Government's announcement to build one million homes by 2020. He referred to Hampshire County Council's affordable homes programme, which had a capital budget of £7.1 million, which would fund a wide range of affordable homes, including affordable rent, rent to buy and shared ownership. This was all part of a programme that would ensure that the area had 400,000 affordable homes by 2020. In Rushmoor this would mean supporting urban regeneration – building homes in the town centres where people wanted to live and he referred to the Aldershot Town Centre Prospectus, which provided the blueprint by which the Council could deliver these homes.

During debate, it was recognised that homelessness was a huge and growing issue for the Borough. Reference was made to the work of organisations such as The Vine Centre and the Aldershot Winter Night Shelter. The view was also expressed regarding the need for affordable housing for the area which local people could afford. It was stressed that infrastructure issues would also need to be addressed to meet the demand brought about by additional housing in the area. Some Members referred to the detailed work already being carried out on housing policy and provision and in particular the Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2017-2011 which was due to be considered by the Cabinet early in 2017 prior to adoption by the Council on 23rd February, 2017.

The Motion was then put to the Meeting. On a recorded vote, there voted FOR: Crs. Mrs. D.B. Bedford, M.S. Choudhary, D.E. Clifford, R. Cooper, Liz Corps, D.S. Gladstone, Barbara Hurst, G.B. Lyon, J.H. Marsh, S.J. Masterson, K.H. Muschamp, A.R. Newell, M.L. Sheehan, P.G. Taylor, M.J. Tennant, B.A. Thomas and J.E. Woolley (17); ABSTAINED: Crs. D.M.T. Bell, T.D. Bridgeman, A.H. Crawford, Keith Dibble, Sue Dibble, Jennifer Evans, C.P. Grattan, B. Jones, J.J. Preece, M.J. Roberts, P.F. Rust, M.D. Smith, M. Staplehurst, L.A. Taylor, Deputy Mayor (Cr. Sophia Choudhary) and the Mayor (Cr. Jacqui Vosper) (16) and AGAINST: (0) and the Motion was **DECLARED CARRIED.**

**(2) National Health Service –**

The Council was asked to consider the following Motion, which had been submitted by Cr. P.F. Rust in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 9 (1). It was MOVED by Cr. P.F. Frust; SECONDED by Cr. M.J. Roberts - That

“Aware of the dangers facing future funding of the National Health Service, this Council calls on the Frimley Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) to consult members as a matter of urgency about the gaps identified in the National Health Service locally, the priorities for the next five years, the initiatives in the next 18 months, the difficulties in recruiting staff, and the financing of plans going forward.”

In introducing his Motion, Cr. Rust stated that the STP process was one of the key mechanisms for making decisions about the future delivery of health care in England. There were 44 plans for areas across the country. Individual STPs had been tasked with delivering improvements in health outcomes and the quality of services, as well as achieving financial sustainability. Cr. Rust commented that, despite their critical role, STP footprints across the country had no statutory status and were being asked to work at a rapid pace, developing plans with significant implications for the future of NHS services in a matter of months.

Cr. Rust explained his involvement in local health services as a patient/public consultant continuously since 1983. He was a member of the Wessex Clinical Senate and was currently involved in a project with The Nuffield Trust visiting smaller general hospitals in England. Cr. Rust made the observation that the National Health Service was a business which did not obey the usual rules of business, because the more successful it was, the more it cost. The invention of new drugs meant that a new group of people could potentially be helped and also the development of new surgical techniques created further new markets. In view of these developments, people were living longer and with long term conditions, which again involved greater cost. In addition to these factors, there was an ever increasing population. Therefore, there had to be an increase in funding each year just to achieve a status quo. Cr. Rust accepted that in any system there were inefficiencies, but he felt that the STPs were not the right way to achieve sustainability.

Cr. Rust stated that, in 2011/12, the overall budget for the NHS was £97 billion. In 2015/16 it had been £118 billion and the Government had stated that it wanted savings of £20 billion by 2020. In his opinion, Cr. Rust felt that this would cripple the service now provided and foresaw the closure of large general hospitals and a reduction in centres for services such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, maternity and children’s services, mental health, dementia and neurological conditions. Cr. Rust was of the opinion that one of the strengths of the NHS was its ability to work across systems with the

clinical networks and cutting it up in to sections would lose much efficiency and be detrimental to health care. In order to keep people out of hospitals and in their own homes, money and resources needed to be put into primary care and more support staff. Cr. Rust felt it was of great importance that local government was involved in the STP process.

During debate on the Motion, it was **MOVED** by Cr. Barbara Hurst and **SECONDED** by Cr. D.E. Clifford that the Motion be referred to the Community Policy and Review Panel for further examination.

During discussion on this, it was mentioned that the STP assumed that health providers could make efficiency savings of 3% per year for five years and could reduce demand by 1% per year for five years, which effectively was a 20% reduction despite the significant growth in population and increasing number of elderly people requiring health and social care. Another assumption being made was that efficiencies in social care would deliver approximately £176 million in savings by 2020/21.

It was noted that Sir Andrew Morris OBE had been invited to attend a meeting of the Community Panel to discuss the issues concerning the Frimley STP. The Council would also be involved with the Vanguard programme process for the STP in order to deliver better health care locally.

The amendment was then put to the meeting. There voted **FOR: 29; AGAINST: 0** and it was **DECLARED CARRIED** that the Motion be referred to the Community Policy and Review Panel for further investigation.

**NOTES:**

- (1) Cr. P.F. Rust declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item in respect of his involvement with the Nuffield Trust and, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, remained in the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon.
- (2) Cr. G.B. Lyon declared a pecuniary interest in this item in respect of his work in the health industry and, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, left the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon.
- (3) Cr. Sophia Choudhary declared a pecuniary interest in this item in respect of her professional work and, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, left the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon.

32. **QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET –**

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted.

33. **REPORTS OF CABINET AND COMMITTEES –**

(1) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. D.E. Clifford; SECONDED by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

**RESOLVED:** That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 18th October, 2016 (Para. Nos. 186 - 189) be received.

(2) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. D.E. Clifford; SECONDED by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

**RESOLVED:** That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 15th November, 2016 (Para. Nos. 190 – 204) be received.

(3) **Licensing and General Purposes Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. M.L. Sheehan; SECONDED by Cr. Sophia Choudhary and

**RESOLVED:** That the Report of the Meeting of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee held on 26th September, 2016 (Para. Nos. 205 – 207) be received.

(4) **Development Management Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. B.A. Thomas; SECONDED by Cr. J.H. Marsh and

**RESOLVED:** That the Report of the Meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 12th October, 2016 (Para. Nos. 208 – 216) be received.

(5) **Development Management Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. B.A. Thomas; SECONDED by Cr. J.H. Marsh and

**RESOLVED:** That the Report of the Meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 9th November, 2016 (Para. Nos. 217 – 224) be received.



34. **REPORTS OF POLICY AND REVIEW PANELS –**

**RESOLVED:** That the Reports of the undermentioned meetings of the Policy and Review Panels be received:

<b>POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL</b>	<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>PARA. NOS. RECEIVED</b>
Leisure and Youth	7th November, 2016	225 – 229
Environment	8th November, 2016	230 – 236
Corporate Services	10th November, 2016	237 – 239
Borough Services	14th November, 2016	240 – 245
Community	17th November, 2016	246 – 251

The Meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

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