

BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL held at the Council Offices,
Farnborough on Thursday, 8th October, 2015 at 7.20 p.m.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (CR. M.J. TENNANT, B.Sc.)
THE DEPUTY MAYOR (CR. JACQUI VOSPER)

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

Honorary Alderman C. Balchin J.P.

a Honorary Alderman R.J. Debenham, M.B.E.

Honorary Alderman R.J. Kimber

a Honorary Alderman G.J. Woolger

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Crs. A.M. Ferrier, R. Hughes, A. Jackman, B. Jones, P.G. Taylor and B.A. Thomas.

27. **MINUTES** –

Following an amendment to the Minutes to include Cr. Sophia Choudhary in the list of those present, it was **MOVED** by Cr. P.J. Moyle; **SECONDED** by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

RESOLVED: That, the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting and the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 30th July, 2015 (copies having been circulated previously) be taken as read, approved and signed as correct records.

28. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- (1) The Mayor reported that, on the occasion of Her Majesty The Queen having become the United Kingdom's longest serving Monarch on 9th September, 2015, he had sent a letter of congratulations offering the Borough's good wishes to mark the occasion. The Council stood to give three cheers for Her Majesty The Queen.
- (2) The Mayor reported that Aldershot and Farnborough's best gardeners had been celebrated at the Rushmoor in Bloom presentation evening held on 14th September, 2015. Awards had been handed out in thirteen different categories together with an additional five special awards. The five special awards had been given to individuals and groups who had been judged to have made a special contribution to Rushmoor in Bloom or their community. The Chairman's Award had been presented to Mr. John Stockings of Veolia; The Mayor's Award to Mr. Patrick Price of Connaught Road, Aldershot; The Forum Award to Farnborough Hill gardeners and the Best Front Garden on the Prospect Estate had been won by Elizabeth Grimshaw of Caswell Close. In the schools' competition, St. Mark's Church of England Primary School, Farnborough had won the Best School Grounds category.
- (3) The Mayor reported that his charity golf tournament had been held on 18th September at Southwood Golf Course. 20 teams had taken part, including TAG Farnborough Airport, Veolia/Team Rushmoor, Aldershot Town Football Club, the Meads Shopping Centre and HQ 11 Infantry Brigade. The Mayor was pleased to report that at least £4,000 had been raised for the Mayor's charities. The George Dawson Trophy had been won by the Meads Shopping Centre.
- (4) The Mayor advised Members of various events being held over forthcoming months in aid of the Mayor's Charities which all Members and guests would be most welcome attend:
 - Charity Supper Club on 19th October, 2015 at the Mimosa restaurant in Westgate, Aldershot
 - Mayor's Christmas Afternoon Tea Party on 4th December, 2015
 - "A Christmas Cracker" – An evening of Christmas poetry and prose on 3rd December, 2015
- (5) The Mayor asked Members to note in their diaries that he would be holding his Charity Jazz Ball on Friday, 4th March, 2016.
- (6) On behalf of the Council, the Mayor extended congratulations to Councillor Gareth Lyon and his wife, Rebecca, on the birth of their son, Thomas, in August.

29. **STANDING ORDER 8 – QUESTIONS –**

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

30. **NOTICE OF MOTION – SYRIAN REFUGEES –**

The Council was asked to consider the following Motion, which had been submitted by Cr. A.H. Crawford in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 9 (1). It was MOVED by Cr. A.H. Crawford; SECONDED by Cr. K. Dibble
- That

“This Council is moved by the plight of Syrian refugees. We support the Government’s pledge to fund the work in the refugee camps bordering Syria. We will accept responsibility for our fair share of the 20,000 of those in greatest need of humanitarian aid. We also call on the Government to agree with the European Union to accept a fair share of those refugees arriving in Europe, while asking other member states of the European Union to increase their funding of the work in the refugee camps bordering Syria.”

Speaking in support of his Motion, Cr. Crawford referred to a recent announcement by the Prime Minister that the UK would re-settle up to 20,000 Syrian refugees over the remainder of the current Parliament. Cr. Crawford stated that the Government was right also to say that the other members of the European Union should provide more funding to improve conditions in the refugee camps bordering Syria. However, he also felt that that view did not sit well with a refusal to assist with the resettlement of Syrian refugees already in Europe. Cr. Crawford felt that the Government should respond to the humanitarian needs of the people who had fled to Europe from their war-torn country by accepting a fair share of these people – bearing in mind that Germany and France had agreed to accept 40,000 and 32,000 respectively and Ireland had agreed to 4,000. Cr. Crawford felt that Rushmoor should meet the humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees as quickly as possible while minimising the impact on Rushmoor’s communities. The Council had a wealth of experience in settling ex-Gurkhas and their families in the area over the previous four years. Cr. Crawford urged the Council to adopt the Motion.

During debate on the Motion, Cr. P.J. Moyle spoke of the moving scenes of distress of the Syrian people. Cr. Moyle felt that, as presented, the Motion suggested that the Council could accept responsibility for its share of the 20,000 in greatest need and that this would be something that the Council could fulfil. Cr. Moyle was of the opinion that it would be disingenuous to the Borough’s residents to suggest so, given the current status of housing in Rushmoor. The Council did not own or directly manage a housing stock and, therefore, did not have any direct access to accommodation it could offer. Current demand across the Borough for privately rented housing was very high. Cr. Moyle believed that this was also the situation in other areas of the South of England. He also stated that the UK was leading support for refugee camps in and around Syria with over £1 billion in funding to keep families safe.

Cr. Moyle also confirmed that a number of the Borough's home owners had asked for details of how they could consider taking in refugees and, in concert with other councils, the Council had guided them to the South East Strategic Partnership for Migration, which would provide support and information directly. He was of the opinion that the Council would work with neighbouring authorities to make the best use of any appropriate resources and think creatively how to offer help and support regarding cohesion and integration. In view of these comments, it was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle and SECONDED by Cr. R.L.G. Dibbs that the Motion be amended as follows:

"This Council is moved by the plight of the Syrian refugees and

- Supports the ongoing humanitarian and funding efforts by the Government and other member states of the European Union
- Encourages the Government to take appropriate steps to tackle the humanitarian issues at source, to include asking other member states of the European Union to increase their funding of the work in refugee camps bordering Syria

The Council will work together with local organisations and residents to support the work that is being co-ordinated within the region by the South East Strategic Partnership for Migration."

With the leave of the Council, Cr. Crawford accepted the Amendment. The Council then proceeded to debate the Substantive Motion. During the debate, Members acknowledged the severity of the situation concerning Syrian refugees, however reference was made to the current housing shortage in the Borough and that Rushmoor was not best placed to make a significant response to the refugee situation.

In summing up, Cr. Crawford felt that it would be important to work in partnership with other agencies in the voluntary, public and private sectors to provide the support required.

The Motion was then put to the Meeting. There voted FOR: 30; AGAINST: 0 and the Motion was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

24. **QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET –**

The Mayor reported that no questions had been submitted for Cabinet Members.

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

(1) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 28th July, 2015 (Para. Nos. 109 - 115) be received.

(2) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. K.H. Muschamp and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 1st September, 2015 (Para. Nos. 116 – 123) be received.

(3) **Cabinet –**

It was MOVED by Cr. P.J. Moyle; SECONDED by Cr. R.L.G. Dibbs and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 22nd September, 2015 (Para. Nos. 124 – 129) be received.

(4) **Development Management Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. G.B. Lyon; SECONDED by Cr. R.L.G. Dibbs and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 22nd July, 2015 (Para. Nos. 130 – 136) be received.

(5) **Development Management Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. R.L.G. Dibbs; SECONDED by Cr. J.H. Marsh and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 19th August, 2015 (Para. Nos. 137 - 143) be received.

(6) **Development Management Committee –**

It was MOVED by Cr. G.B. Lyon; SECONDED by Cr. J.H. Marsh and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 16th September, 2015 (Para. Nos. 144 – 152).

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

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

POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL	DATE OF MEETING	PARA. NOS. RECEIVED
Leisure and Youth	7th September, 2015	153 - 156
Environment	8th September, 2015	157 – 161
Borough Services	14th September, 2015	162 – 165
Community	17th September, 2015	166 - 170

The Meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.
