

BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Farnborough on Thursday, 22nd February, 2018 at 7.00 pm.

The Worshipful The Mayor (Cllr Sophia Choudhary (Chairman))
The Deputy Mayor (Cllr S.J. Masterson (Vice-Chairman))

Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford
Cllr J.B. Canty
Cllr M.S. Choudhary
Cllr R.M. Cooper
Cllr A.H. Crawford
Cllr K. Dibble
Cllr R.L.G. Dibbs
Cllr D.S. Gladstone
Cllr Barbara Hurst
Cllr B. Jones
Cllr J.H. Marsh
Cllr K.H. Muschamp
Cllr J.J. Preece
Cllr P.F. Rust
Cllr M.D. Smith
Cllr L.A. Taylor
Cllr M.J. Tennant
Cllr Jacqui Vosper

Cllr D.M.T. Bell
Cllr Sue Carter
Cllr D.E. Clifford
Cllr Liz Corps
Cllr P.I.C. Crerar
Cllr Sue Dibble
Cllr Jennifer Evans
Cllr C.P. Grattan
Cllr A. Jackman
Cllr G.B. Lyon
Cllr Marina Munro
Cllr A.R. Newell
Cllr M.J. Roberts
Cllr M.L. Sheehan
Cllr M. Staplehurst
Cllr P.G. Taylor
Cllr B.A. Thomas
Cllr J.E. Woolley

Honorary Alderman C. Balchin
Honorary Alderman R.J. Kimber

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr T.D. Bridgeman.

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

43. **MINUTES**

It was **MOVED** by Cllr Barbara Hurst; **SECONDED** by Cllr K.H. Muschamp and

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 7th December, 2017 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 30th January, 2018 be taken as read, approved and signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

44. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (1) The Mayor spoke with sadness regarding the death of Honorary Alderman Geoff Woolger on 31st December, 2017. Geoff Woolger had served as a councillor consistently for over 35 years, having first been elected to

Farnborough Urban District Council in the mid 1960s. When local government was reorganised in the mid 1970s, he was elected to the newly created Rushmoor Borough Council where he had remained continuously as a councillor through to his retirement in 2000.

His loyal and distinguished service had subsequently been recognised by the Council in 2001 when he had been made an Honorary Alderman.

Throughout his long and distinguished career in local government, Geoff Woolger had carried out an extensive range of roles and responsibilities. He had taken a particular interest in recreation and sporting facilities and had chaired the Borough's Recreation and Amenities Committee for many years.

He had had a seat on all the Council's main committees and had chaired the Council's then most senior committee - the Policy and Resources Committee - for eight years.

Geoff Woolger had also served one term as a Hampshire County Councillor. He had also represented Rushmoor on over 40 internal and external bodies over his time on the Council.

Geoff Woolger would be long remembered, having left a lasting legacy through his contribution to community life and the well-being of the Borough.

- (2) The Mayor reported that Mark Staplehurst has resigned as a councillor on 8th January, 2018. The Mayor paid tribute to Mr Staplehurst's time on the Council and his service to the residents of the Borough.

Mr Staplehurst had joined the Council in 2007 when he had been elected to serve the residents of West Heath Ward and had served on most of the Council's Policy and Review Panels as well as the Licensing and General Purposes Committee.

- (3) The Mayor thanked all those who had baked cakes and supported her Christmas Afternoon Tea event on 8th December, 2017 and reported that this event had raised just under £800 for her charities.
- (4) The Mayor reported that a Quiz Night had been held on 26th January, 2018 in aid of her charities and this event had raised £420. The Mayor expressed her gratitude to her Chaplain who had been the quizmaster for the event and to all who had taken part.
- (5) The Mayor reported that her Bollywood Charity Ball would be held on 9th March, 2018 at Princes Hall.

45. **STANDING ORDER 8 - QUESTIONS**

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

46. **NOTICE OF MOTION - PARKING CHARGE NOTICES**

The Council was asked to consider a Motion which had been submitted by Cllr A.H. Crawford in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 9 (1). It was MOVED by Cllr A.H. Crawford; SECONDED by Cllr M.D. Smith – That

“In view of the high incidence of complaints about the unfairness of parking charge notices issued by private operators in the Borough, we call on this Council to investigate their activities and procedures and to report back on which are legitimate and which are not.”

Speaking in support of his Motion, Cllr Crawford explained that this issue had come to the fore after the sale of the garage block sites at Tices Meadow when residents first started receiving penalty charge notices from private parking operators for parking on the former garage block sites. This issue seemed to be repeated across the Borough on housing estates as sales of former garage block sites had occurred. As a result, Cllr Crawford had launched an on-line survey and he reported that he had so far received 260 responses containing many hundreds of descriptions of unfairness, abuse and bullying of Borough residents by private parking operators. Some of these responses had also related to the Aldershot Centre for Health where patients were being caught out because of the way the system for parking had been designed. The system was based on CCTV which captured number plates before entering the car park and then as exiting at the junction with Hospital Hill. No allowance was made for the time taken to find a parking space, park and get a ticket on the way in, or for the time taken to exit onto Hospital Hill.

Cllr Crawford also gave an example of the unfair situation faced by one blue badge holder resident on Tices Meadow where the private parking company had placed parking spaces across the access to off-road parking on his property and referred to the stress and inconvenience this had caused.

Cllr Crawford called for Members to support the Motion so that an appropriate policy and review panel could assess the activities and procedures of the private parking operators.

In seconding the Motion, Cllr Smith asked for Members to support the Motion so that the activities of the private parking operators could be investigated by the Council.

During debate, Members referred to way in which the former garage blocks had been sold off by First Wessex Housing Association. Reference was also made to a Private Member's Bill which aimed to regularise private parking and enforcement bodies. The suggestion was made that there should be better communication to patients using the Aldershot Centre for Health car park on how the system operated and the ability to top-up fees paid for parking.

Following further discussion, the Motion was put to the Meeting. There voted FOR: 34; AGAINST: 0 and the Motion was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

47. MAYOR-ELECT AND DEPUTY MAYOR-ELECT 2018/19

The Chairman of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee (Cllr A. Jackman) reported that the Committee had considered the nominations for the Mayor-Elect and the Deputy Mayor-Elect for 2018/19 at its meeting on 29th January, 2018. Having regard to the criteria adopted by the Council, the Committee had agreed to recommend that:

(i) Cllr Stephen John Masterson be selected as Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2018/19; and

(ii) Cllr Sue Carter be selected as Deputy Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

It was **MOVED** by Cllr A. Jackman; **SECONDED** by Cllr J.E. Woolley – That the Recommendations of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee be approved in respect of the Mayor-Elect and Deputy Mayor-Elect.

There voted **FOR**: 33; **AGAINST**: 0 and the Motion was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

48. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES

(1) Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax Level 2018/19

The Leader of the Council (Cr. D.E. Clifford) introduced the Report of the Cabinet meeting held on 6th February, 2018, which recommended the approval of the Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax Level 2018/19. It was **MOVED** by Cllr D.E. Clifford; **SECONDED** by Cllr P.G. Taylor – That approval be given to the recommendations set out in the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme budget booklet 2018/19 in respect of the following:

(i) the General Fund Revenue Budget Summary;

(ii) the detailed General Fund Revenue Budget;

(iii) the additional items for inclusion in the budget;

(iv) the Council Tax Requirement of £6,147,509 for this Council;

(v) the Council Tax level for Rushmoor Borough Council's purposes of £198.49 for a Band D property in 2018/19;

(vi) the Capital Programme;

(vii) the Strategy for the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts;

(viii) the Head of Financial Services' report under Section 25 of the Local Government Act, 2003; and

- (ix) the holding of reserves and use of the Service Improvement Fund, as previously detailed in Report No. FIN1808.

Following debate, the Motion was put to the meeting. On a Recorded Vote, there voted FOR: Cllrs Mrs. D.B. Bedford, D.M.T. Bell, J.B. Canty, Sue Carter, M.S. Choudhary, D.E. Clifford, R.M. Cooper, Liz Corps, P.I.C. Crerar, R.L.G. Dibbs, D.S. Gladstone, Barbara Hurst, A. Jackman, G.B. Lyon, J.H. Marsh, Marina Munro, K.H. Muschamp, A.R. Newell, M.L. Sheehan, M.D. Smith, P.G. Taylor, M.J. Tennant, B.A. Thomas, Jacqui Vosper and J.E. Woolley (25); AGAINST: Cllrs A.H. Crawford, Keith Dibble, Sue Dibble, Jennifer Evans, C.P. Grattan, B. Jones, J.J. Preece, M.J. Roberts, P.F. Rust and L.A. Taylor (10); and ABSTAINED: The Deputy Mayor (Cllr S.J. Masterson) and the Mayor (Cllr Sophia Choudhary) (2) and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(2) Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2018/19 and Prudential Indicators for Capital Finance

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services (Cllr P.G. Taylor) introduced the Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 6th February, 2018, which recommended the approval of the Annual Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Borrowing Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy, Prudential Indicators and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement.

It was MOVED by Cllr P.G. Taylor; SECONDED by Cllr D.E. Clifford – That approval be given to the Annual Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Borrowing Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators for 2018/19 and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement.

There voted FOR: 33; AGAINST: 0 and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(3) Rushmoor Borough Council Plan 2018/19

The Leader of the Council (Cllr D.E. Clifford) introduced the Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 6th February, 2018, which recommended the approval of the Council Plan 2018/19, which built on the four Council priorities and the key actions which had been identified by the Cabinet.

It was MOVED by Cllr D.E. Clifford; SECONDED by Cllr K.H. Muschamp – That approval be given to the adoption of the Council Plan 2018/19.

There voted FOR: 23; AGAINST: 10 and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(4) Amendment to the Standing Orders for the Regulation of Business – Notices of Motion

The Chairman of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee (Cllr A. Jackman) introduced the Report of the Committee meeting held on 29th January, 2018 which recommended the approval of a proposed change to the Council Procedure Rules

(Standing Orders) relating to Notices of Motion. The Committee recommended that the following change be made to encourage a focus on local issues on which the Council might be able to take action and thereby use the Council's meeting time more effectively:

“Every motion shall be relevant to some matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties ~~or which affects the Borough directly.~~”

It was MOVED by Cllr A. Jackman; SECONDED by Cllr J.E. Woolley – That approval be given to the amendment to Council Procedure Rule (Standing Order) 9 (6), to be read as follows:

“Every motion shall be relevant to some matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties.”

There voted FOR: 21; AGAINST: 10 and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

NOTE: The recommendation to amend Standing Order 9 (6) will stand adjourned without discussion until the Council Meeting on 19th April, 2018.

(5) Honorary Aldermen

The Chairman of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee (Cllr A. Jackman) introduced the Report of the Committee meeting held on 29th January, 2018 which recommended changes to the appointment and role of Honorary Aldermen. It was proposed that there should be a reduction in the period of eligible service with the Council and its constituent authorities from 25 to a total of 16 years (i.e. four full terms of office) and the inclusion of a provision that Honorary Aldermen should normally be Borough residents. In addition, it was proposed that Honorary Aldermen could ask to speak at meetings, subject to agreement by the relevant Council body. This arrangement was the same as that which was currently afforded to elected Members who were not already Members of that body. At Council Meetings, each Alderman would be able to speak on one agenda item at a meeting, subject to the other rules of debate set out in Standing Orders. A provision would also be included in the protocol on Honorary Aldermen enabling them to be appointed to represent the Council on outside bodies.

It was MOVED by Cllr A. Jackman; SECONDED by Cllr J.E. Woolley – That approval be given to the changes to the appointment and role of Honorary Aldermen.

There voted FOR: 21; AGAINST: 10 and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

(6) Appointment of Independent Person

The Chairman of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee (Cllr A. Jackman) introduced the report of the Committee meeting held on 29th January, 2018, which recommended an appointment to the role of Designated Independent Person for

Rushmoor Borough Council, as part of the regime on Members' Standards, which had been introduced by the Localism Act, 2011.

It was MOVED by Cllr A. Jackman; SECONDED by Cllr J.E. Woolley – That approval be given to the appointment of Mrs. Mary Harris as the Council's Designated Independent Person for a three-year term.

There voted FOR: 23; AGAINST: 0 and the Recommendation was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

49. **THE COUNCIL TAX 2018/19**

It was MOVED by Cllr D.E. Clifford; SECONDED by Cllr P.G. Taylor – That

- (i) it be noted that the Council calculated the amount of £30,971.38 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the 'Act').
- (ii) the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) £78,181,984 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act
 - (b) £72,034,475 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £6,147,509 being the amount by which the aggregate at (ii)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (ii)(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
 - (d) £198.49 being the amount at (ii)(c) above, all divided by the amount at (i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.
 - (e) **Valuation Bands**

A	£132.33
B	£154.38
C	£176.44
D	£198.49
E	£242.60

F	£286.71
G	£330.82
H	£396.98

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (ii)(d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands;

- (iii) it be noted that for the year 2018/19 Hampshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands	
Hampshire County Council (including Adult Social Care precept)	A	£800.64
	B	£934.08
	C	£1067.52
	D	£1200.96
	E	£1467.84
	F	£1734.72
	G	£2001.60
	H	£2401.92

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands	
Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire	A	£118.31
	B	£138.02
	C	£157.74
	D	£177.46
	E	£216.90
	F	£256.33
	G	£295.77
	H	£354.92

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands	
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority	A	£43.83
	B	£51.13
	C	£58.44
	D	£65.74
	E	£80.35
	F	£94.96
	G	£109.57
	H	£131.48

- (iv) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (ii)(e) and (iii) above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2018/19 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands	
A	£1095.11
B	£1277.61
C	£1460.14
D	£1642.65
E	£2007.69
F	£2372.72
G	£2737.76
H	£3285.30

Following debate, the Motion was put to the meeting. On a Recorded Vote, there voted FOR: Cllrs Mrs. D.B. Bedford, D.M.T. Bell, J.B. Canty, Sue Carter, M.S. Choudhary, D.E. Clifford, R.M. Cooper, Liz Corps, P.I.C. Crerar, R.L.G. Dibbs, D.S. Gladstone, Barbara Hurst, A. Jackman, G.B. Lyon, J.H. Marsh, Marina Munro, K.H. Muschamp, A.R. Newell, M.L. Sheehan, P.G. Taylor, M.J. Tennant, B.A. Thomas, Jacqui Vosper and J.E. Woolley (24); AGAINST: Cllrs A.H. Crawford, Keith Dibble, Sue Dibble, Jennifer Evans, C.P. Grattan, B. Jones, J.J. Preece, M.J. Roberts, P.F. Rust and L.A. Taylor (10); and ABSTAINED: The Deputy Mayor (Cllr S.J. Masterson) and the Mayor (Cllr Sophia Choudhary) (2) and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED.**

50. QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET

The Mayor reported that one question had been submitted for response by the Cabinet.

Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford asked a question of the Health and Housing Portfolio Holder regarding rough sleepers in the light of the recent decision not to open a night shelter in Aldershot during the winter.

In response, Cllr Hurst stated that The Vine was an important and valued partner in the Council's work with rough sleepers and referred to the help and assistance that had been offered which had been provided at a lower cost than that of the provision of a night shelter the previous year. Cllr Hurst also referred to work undertaken to move rough sleepers into appropriate, independent accommodation. Cllr Hurst said that in Rushmoor no one ever needed to sleep outdoors as help was available which was provided through the strong partnership working in the Borough that made this possible.

51. **REPORTS OF CABINET AND COMMITTEES**

(1) **Cabinet**

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

RESOLVED: That the Reports of the Meetings of the Cabinet held on 12th December, 2017 and 9th January and 6th February, 2018 be received.

(2) **Licensing and General Purposes Committee**

It was MOVED by Cllr A. Jackman; SECONDED by Cllr J.E. Woolley and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee held on 27th November, 2017 be received.

(3) **Development Management Committee**

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

RESOLVED: That the Report of the meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 6th December, 2017 be received.

(4) **Licensing and General Purposes Committee**

It was MOVED by Cllr A. Jackman; SECONDED by Cllr J. Woolley and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Meeting of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee held on 29th January, 2018 be received.

(5) **Development Management Committee**

It was MOVED by Cllr J.H. Marsh; SECONDED by Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford and

RESOLVED: That the Report of the meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 31st January, 2018 be received.

52. **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
Leisure and Youth	15th January, 2018
Borough Services	22nd January, 2018
Environment	23rd January, 2018
Community	25th January, 2018

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.
