

ANNUAL COUNCIL
16TH MAY 2001

PRESENT: Crs. Minns (Mayor), Davies (Deputy Manager), Mrs. Anslow, Bailey, Barr, Braid, Mrs. Brehaut, Brown, Mrs. Cook, Elphick, Franklin, Mrs. Freeman, Galbraith, Gottesmann, Hardy, Harrison, Mrs. Hogan, Mrs. Howe, Kendall, Kenny, Mrs. Long, Mrs. McGinley, C.Myers, Mrs. Myers, Payne, Robins, J. Russell, Mrs. Russell, Shawcross, Smith, Straw, Taylor, Wakeley, Wheatley and Wright.

APOLOGIES: Crs. Aspinell and Lewis.

1. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND PRESENTATIONS: The Mayor:

1. With regret reported the sudden death of the new Mayor of Castle Point, Councillor Arthur Stevens, following that Council's Mayor making ceremony on 14.5.2001. All present stood in silence as a mark of respect.
2. Was pleased to open the very successful Brentwood Dog Show on 13.5.2001.
3. Reported that a total of £6,848.80 had been raised towards the Mayor's Chosen Charities, 'Brentwood Crossroads', the Brentwood Project of the Alzheimer's Society and the Liz Bottomley Charity Fund of Brentwood.

The Mayor presented cheques to representatives of each of the Mayor's Chosen Charities.

The Mayor was pleased to receive in turn a Friends of Essex Carers award.

The Mayor presented the Honorary Town Clerk with a personal gift to thank him for his assistance to the Mayor during the past civic year.

2. ELECTION OF MAYOR: Proposed by Cr. Mrs. Long, seconded by Cr. Mrs. Russell that Cr. Davies be elected as Mayor the Borough for the year 2001/2002.

RESOLVED that Cr. Davies be elected as Mayor of the Borough until his successor becomes entitled to act as Mayor.

Cr. Davies made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

(The meeting was adjourned whilst Crs. Davies and Minns, together with the Honorary Town Clerk, left the Chamber to enable the new Mayor and Mr. McLintock, the new CE&TC, to be robed.)

Cr. Davies thanked the Council for his appointment.

Proposed by Cr. Elphick and seconded by Cr. Shawcross that the Council thank Cr. Minns, the retiring Mayor for his work during his term of office. RESOLVED accordingly.

The Mayor presented Cr. Minns with a badge to commemorate his year of office.

At the request of the Mayor, on behalf of the Officers of the Council, the CE&TC presented gifts to the retiring Mayor and Mrs. Minns, the retiring Mayoress.

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Cr. Minns, the retiring Mayor, thanked the Council.

3. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR:** Proposed by Cr. Bailey and seconded by Cr. Mrs. Cook that Cr. Hardy be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the year 2001/2002 until his successor be entitled to act as Deputy Mayor.

RESOLVED that Cr. Hardy be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the year 2001/2002 until his successor becomes entitled to act as Deputy Mayor.

Cr. Hardy made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for his appointment.

4. **HONORARY TOWN CLERK:** Mr. Sivell, the HTC, had assisted the past two Mayors, Councillors Minns and Bailey, at civic and ceremonial occasions during the past eighteen months. However, with the appointment of Mr. McLintock as Chief Executive & Town Clerk, Mr. Sivell had indicated that it would be inappropriate for him to continue in the role of Honorary Town Clerk.

Proposed by Cr. Minns and seconded by Cr. Bailey that the Council thank Mr. Sivell for his assistance as Honorary Town Clerk. RESOLVED accordingly.

The Mayor presented Mr. Sivell with a farewell gift on behalf of the Council. Mr. Sivell thanked the Council.

5. **APPOINTMENT OF POLICY BOARD, EXECUTIVE PANELS AND COMMITTEES ETC. DESIGNATION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL:** This item together with subsequent items on the agenda dealing with Members' Allowances 2001/2002, Standing Groups, Boards and Working Parties, Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of every Committee and Sub-Committee and Standing Groups and Boards etc. and Appointment of Representatives on Outside Organisations were considered at this time.

A report had been circulated which reminded Members that the Council had a duty under Section 15 of the Local Government Act 1989, to review the allocation of seats to the political groups on the Council at the Annual Council or as soon as possible thereafter. The requirement for a review could also be triggered following receipt of a notice of a wish to join a political group on the Council.

The by-election for the vacant seat in the Ingatestone & Fryerning Ward had been postponed until 7.6.2001.

The Council considered a suggestion that Standing Orders be suspended and the items of business which would usually be transacted at the Annual Meeting be deferred to a Special Meeting of the Council to take place 27.6.2001.

In the interim period, the current membership including Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen (except for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee) of the Policy Board, Panels and Committees etc. together with representatives on Outside Organisations would remain unchanged. Members' Allowances would also continue to be paid in accordance with the scheme approved at the Ordinary Council meeting on 6.12.2000.

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RESOLVED:

1. To suspend Standing Orders and defer the following items for consideration at a Special Meeting of the Council to be held on 27.6.2001:-
 1. Leader of the Council : Designation of Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council.
 2. Appointment of Policy Board, Executive Panels and Committees etc.
 3. Members' Allowances 2001/2002.
 4. Appointment of Standing Groups, Boards and Working Parties.
 5. Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Policy Board, Executive Panels, Committees, Standing Groups, Boards, etc.
 6. Appointment of Representatives on Outside Organisations.
2. To appoint Cr. Mrs. Long Chairman and Cr. Wakeley Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee until the Special Council Meeting on 27.6.2001.
3. To make no changes to the current membership of the Policy Board, Executive Panels and Committees and appointments on Outside Organisations.
4. To continue to pay Members' Allowances in accordance with the scheme approved at the Ordinary Council meeting on 6.12.2000.

[CE&TC-McLintock, BT-Keeble, ATC-Horgan]

6. **MEMORIALS OR PETITIONS:** There were none.
7. **QUESTIONS:** There were none.
8. **DAY AND HOUR OF MEETINGS:** RESOLVED to approve and adopt the Calendar of Meetings which had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.
9. **FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE : REQUEST TO RE-OPEN WEALD AND THORNDON COUNTRY PARKS:** Consideration of this request had been deferred from the Ordinary Council meeting held on 25.4.2001. A report received from Essex County Council to support the request had been circulated to all Members.

Members noted that there were now no foot and mouth infected areas in Essex. The last infected area in Essex was cleared on 13.5.2001. The Brentwood infected area status had been lifted on 23.4.2001.

The goats at Thorndon had been moved to Jury Hill adjacent to Old Thorndon Pastures which enabled all of Thorndon North including both car parks to be opened to the public. The top park at Weald was to be kept closed as previously advised in accordance with the DETR Framework, details of which were before the Council.

Adjacent landowners had been consulted and supported the opening of the footpaths. It was noted that rangers would be making extra patrols to ensure that visitors were complying with the areas of access. MAFF were also happy with the decision to open the paths.

RESOLVED to agree to the request to re-open Thorndon North and Thorndon South Country Park keeping Thorndon Old Pastures closed and the re-opening of Weald Country Park keeping Top Park closed with effect from 18.5.2001.

[HoEHPPS-Bennett, CE&TC/Plumb]

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10. **BEST VALUE REVIEW - STREET SWEEPING:** A revised improvement plan for the Council's Street Sweeping service had been circulated. The revisions had been made in the light of comments made by the Best Value Inspectors who undertook the inspection of this service recently.

RESOLVED to approve the revised improvement plan for street sweeping.
[DCE/Marchant]

11. **NOTICES OF MOTION:** There were none.
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