

Runnymede Borough CouncilANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL15 May 2003

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Mrs P.I. Broadhead, Retiring Mayor) in the Chair

Members of the
Council present:

Councillors A. Alderson, Mrs. F.M. Angell, J.R. Ashmore, E.G. Barrett, J. Broadhead, Mrs. P.I. Broadhead, Ms. D.V. Clarke, A.G. Collins, A.J. Davis, J.B. Dean, D.P. Easton, J.M. Edwards, J.R. Furey, Mrs. C.E. Gant, Mrs. L.M. Gillham, P.A. Greenwood, J.E. Haas, R.K. Habgood, Mrs. S.E. Jacobs, Mrs. C.Y. Jones, C. Knight, A.M. Moore, C.J. Norman, Mrs. J. Norman, D.W. Parr, R. Pate, P.J. Poole, Mrs. E.E. Price, R.J. Ray, B.J. Relph, Ms. C.M. Simmons, N. Thewlis, A.P. Tollett, P.B. Tuley, P.J. Waddell, K.J.T. Walmsley, J.R. Whiteley and G.B. Woodger

Members of the
Council absent:

Councillors Mrs F.J. Barden, M.J. Brown, H.W.V. Meares and Mrs. V.A. Smallman

1. RETIRING MAYOR

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor welcomed her guests and the three new Members. She also thanked Members, the Chief Executive Officer, Officers and friends for the great support they had given her during her year of office.

The Mayoral Year had coincided with the Queen's Golden Jubilee, and the high point of the year had been a meeting with Her Majesty at Ardingley. She had also met the Lord Lieutenant of the County, and the High Sheriff. Over 300 events and visits had filled her schedule, ranging from prisons and hospitals to Annual General Meetings and degree ceremonies at Royal Holloway and Brunel. She had also attended numerous church and Cathedral services.

Over £20,000 had been raised for the Mayor's charity, and she proffered special thanks to Procter and Gamble who had sponsored several events, including the Golf Day. Council staff had contributed £5,000 towards the total.

In conclusion, the Mayor paid special tribute to her husband, Jim, who had supported her most ably in his capacity as Consort, and also expressed special thanks to Councillor Norman, Councillor Mrs Norman, and Councillor Poole who had helped her with the Mayor's charity. She also thanked the Mayor's Secretary, Mrs. Mandy Smith, for her immense dedication and was pleased to present her with a small gift.

The Leaders of the three political groups (Councillors G.B. Woodger, A.M. Moore and P.A. Greenwood) congratulated the Mayor on her year of office and her stewardship of Council meetings.

2. ELECTION OF MAYOR

RESOLVED that -

Councillor Mrs. F.M. Angell be Mayor of Runnymede for the Municipal Year 2003/04.

3. DECLARATION BY MAYOR OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The statutory declaration of acceptance of office was made and signed by Councillor Mrs. F.M. Angell, who thanked the Council for her election and took the Chair.

(The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Mrs. F.M. Angell, in the Chair).

4. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR**RESOLVED that -**

Councillor Mrs. C.Y. Jones be Deputy Mayor of Runnymede for the Municipal Year 2003/2004.

5. DECLARATION BY DEPUTY MAYOR OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The statutory declaration of acceptance of office was made and signed by Councillor Mrs. C.Y. Jones.

6. MINUTES**RESOLVED that -**

the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 April 2003 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

7. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs. F.J. Barden, M.J. Brown, H.W.V. Meares, and Mrs. V.A. Smallman

8. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reiterated the retiring Mayor's welcome to guests and friends. She thanked the retiring Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Broadhead, for assisting her in the role of Deputy Mayor and making the transition to the role of Mayor that much easier.

Looking forward to the year ahead, the Mayor advised that her charity would be split between Shooting Star Trust Children's Hospice Appeal and Homestart Runnymede. She urged Members to sponsor Councillor Tollett who would be undertaking a sponsored row from Staines Lock to Windsor in June for her Charity Appeal.

The Civic Service would be held on Sunday 22 June at Royal Holloway College Chapel, and a Mayor's lunch would be held at the Runnymede Hotel on 19 September. The Mayor's Reception would be held at the Hythe Centre on Friday 5 December. The Mayor's Ball would be held at Wentworth on Saturday 13 March 2004.

Finally, the Mayor announced that she would be setting up an award for the Runnymede Citizen of the Year. The public would be asked to submit nominations and the award would be made at the Mayor's Reception in December.

9. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING AND OTHER COMMITTEES

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive Officer which set out the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Members received information as to the wishes of the various Political Groups as to Committee appointments.

Accordingly, the Council

RESOLVED that -

i) the allocation of seats be as follows:-

	<u>Political Groups</u>			
	Con	R.Ind	Lab	Total
Corporate Management	8	1	1	10
Economic Development	7	2	1	10
Planning	12	2	1	15
Housing & Community Services	8	1	1	10
Leisure and Environment	7	2	1	10
Review Board	7	1	1	9
Totals	49	9	6	64

ii) the allocation of Committee seats to Members of Political Groups as at the commencement of the Municipal Year 2003/2004 as requested by those Groups be approved;

iii) any Member of the Council be eligible for appointment to any Committee or Sub-Committee.

10. ENGLEFIELD GREEN COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that -

the Englefield Green Committee (as required by the Crown Lease) for the year 2003/2004 be established and constituted as follows:

Councillors A.G. Collins, J.E. Haas, Mrs. C.Y. Jones, H.W.V. Meares, N. Thewlis and K.J.T. Walmsley; and Mrs. M.J. Bairstow and Mr. A.E. Panter (Residents' Representatives)

11. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that -

the Standards Committee be established for the year 2003/2004 as required by Section 53 of the Local Government Act 2000 and constituted as follows:-

Councillors E.G. Barrett, A.J. Davis, Mrs. E.E. Price, Ms. C.M. Simmons and A.P. Tollett; and Dr. R.F. Miller and Mrs. C. Spurling (independent members appointed for a period to terminate no later than 17 July 2003 when the new selection process will have been concluded).

12. SURREY LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION – APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED that -

i) Councillor G.B. Woodger be the Council's representative on the Surrey L.G.A. and Councillor R.K. Habgood be the deputy representative; and

ii) the Surrey L.G.A. be advised that;

(a) Councillor J.R. Furey is nominated by this Council to serve on the Community Safety Strategy Group;

- (b) Councillor P.B. Tuley is nominated to serve on the S.C.C. Pension Fund - Investments Advisors Group; and**
- (c) Councillor Mrs. V.A. Smallman is nominated to serve on the Management Committee of Victim Support Surrey.**

13. RETIREMENT OF LEADER - COUNCILLOR G.B. WOODGER

The new Leader of the Council, Councillor R.K. Habgood, paid tribute to Councillor G.B. Woodger, the retiring Leader. Councillor Habgood praised Councillor Woodger for his successful leadership over such issues as the proposed paedophile treatment unit at Silverlands, traveller occupations at Homewood Park, the January floods, and the on-going issue of Central Railways. He had consistently opposed Central Government's increasing control of local government, and had never failed to make his views known. On a more local note, he had overseen the building of the new Hythe Centre and established the first steps toward the reprovision of the Addlestone Community Association building. Councillor Habgood also paid tribute to Councillor Pate, who was stepping down as Leader of the Labour Group. Councillors Woodger and Pate thanked Councillor Habgood for his kind words.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.27 pm)