

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL12 May 2005 at 7.30 p.m.The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Mrs C.Y. Jones, Retiring Mayor) in the Chair

Members of the
Council present:

Councillors A. Alderson, Mrs F.M. Angell, J.R. Ashmore, Mrs F.J. Barden, Mrs P.I. Broadhead, J. Broadhead, M.J. Brown, Ms D.V. Clarke, A.J. Davis, J.B. Dean, J.M. Edwards, Mrs C.E. Gant, Mrs E.Gill, Mrs L.M. Gillham, P.A Greenwood, J.E. Haas, R.K. Habgood, Ms R.E. Haylor, Miss M.N. Heath, Mrs S.E. Jacobs, Mrs C.Y. Jones, C. Knight, Mrs Y.P. Lay, H.W.V. Meares, Prof. A.M. Moore, C.J. Norman, Mrs J. Norman, D.W. Parr, R. Pate, R.J. Ray, B.J. Relph, Mrs M. Roberts, C.J. Ruane, Ms C.M. Simmons, A.P. Tollett, P.B. Tuley, P.J. Waddell, K.J.T. Walmsley, G.B. Woodger

Members of the
Council absent:

Councillors J.R. Furey, N. Thewlis and J.R. Whiteley

1. RETIRING MAYOR

The retiring Mayor reported that she had thoroughly enjoyed a challenging year. She had slept overnight on the pavement to help the Salvation Army, had endured a Bungee jump, and had visited Ashford Women's Prison. She had met the Countess of Wessex and shared a joke with the Bishop of Kensington and Chelsea. However, the highlight of the Mayoral Year had probably been the many meetings with children (she had visited virtually every school in the Borough) which culminated in the highly successful Operation Christmas Child.

The year had also seen interface with the many local community and voluntary organisations who did so much to enhance the quality of life in the Borough. The Surrey Herald had allowed her a weekly column which she had used to promote the work of such groups, and possibly as a result Runnymede Association of Voluntary Services had seen a 300% increase in volunteers coming forward. As always, the private companies in the Borough had continued their community support, one benefit being the provision of a crèche at Egham Hythe.

The Mayor's Charity had raised amongst other sums an impressive £47,000 for the Early Birth Fund at St. Peter's Hospital. A contribution had also been made to the Samaritans, whilst the proceeds of a charity lunch had been donated to White Lodge. Other smaller contributions had been made to other charities. Thanks were due to her Charity Committee, and also to the Mayor's Secretary, Mandy Smith. She was pleased to present Mrs Smith with a token of her appreciation for her unstinting support during the Mayoral Year.

Finally, she thanked her husband Martin, who had been her Consort, and the Officers and Members who had helped her throughout a very busy year.

Councillors Norman, Mrs Gillham, and Pate thanked Councillor Mrs Jones for her dedicated service to the Borough during her year of office.

2. ELECTION OF MAYOR

RESOLVED that -

Councillor Mrs F.J. Barden be Mayor of Runnymede for the Municipal Year 2005/2006.

3. DECLARATION BY MAYOR OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

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

(The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Mrs F.J. Barden, in the Chair).

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

Councillor A.M. Moore be Deputy Mayor of Runnymede for the Municipal Year 2005/2006.

5. DECLARATION BY DEPUTY MAYOR OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The statutory declaration of acceptance of office was made and signed by Councillor A.M. Moore.

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors J.R. Furey, N. Thewlis and J.R. Whiteley.

7. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The new Mayor thanked the Council for bestowing the honour upon her, and making her the fourth female Mayor in succession. Her year as Deputy Mayor had been a good preparation, and she looked forward to working with Councillor Moore. Her consort would be her husband, Bernard.

Her charity for the Mayoral Year would be the Runnymede Alzheimer's Society (3B's Club) which cared for people suffering from dementia and memory loss. The Runnymede Care Assistance Scheme which gave respite to long-term carers would also be supported. She hoped that local people would continue to support the Runnymede Association of Voluntary Services and come forward to offer assistance to those less fortunate than themselves.

She would offer Personal Achievement Certificates to honour the work of Runnymede citizens in two categories (under 16 and Adult). These would be presented at the Civic Reception in December. Nominations were requested.

Finally, she was pleased to announce that a Special Meeting of the Council would be held in June to receive a proposal to bestow the Freedom of the Borough on two distinguished former Councillors, Mr Howard Langley and Mrs Eiry Price.

8. CONSTITUTION FOR 2005/2006**RESOLVED that -**

the Constitution for 2005/2006, as circulated, be adopted.

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.

With no member voting against, the statutory seat allocation on the Regulatory Committee was amended by removing one Conservative seat and adding one Labour seat.

Accordingly the Council

RESOLVED that -

i) the allocation of seats be as follows:-

	<u>Political Groups</u>			Total
	Con	R.Ind	Lab	
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	8	2	0	10
Regulatory Committee	3	1	1	5
Review Board	7	1	1	9
Totals	53	10	6	69

- ii) **the allocation of Committee seats to Members of Political Groups as at the commencement of the Municipal Year 2005/2006 as requested by those Groups and as laid before the Council be approved;**
- iii) **any Member of the Council be eligible for appointment to any Committee or Sub-Committee.**

10. STANDARDS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Council noted that Dr R.F. Miller and Mrs C.M. Spurling would hold office as the two independent Members until 2007 as determined by the Council in October 2003.

RESOLVED that -

the Standards and Audit Committee be established for the year 2005/2006 as required by Section 53 of the Local Government Act 2000, and that the five elected Members for the Municipal Year 2005/2006 be Councillors Mrs Gillham, Greenwood, Ms Haylor, Ms Simmons and Tollett.

11. LICENSING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that -

the Members of the Licensing Committee for the Municipal Year 2005/2006 be Councillors Mrs Angell, Mrs Broadhead, Davis, Ms Haylor, Mrs Jones, Knight, Mrs Lay, Mrs Norman, Parr, Mrs Roberts, Whiteley, Mrs Gill, Relph, Greenwood and Pate.

12. ENGLEFIELD GREEN COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that -

the Englefield Green Committee (as required by the Crown Lease) for the year 2005/2006 be established and constituted as follows:

Councillors, Haas, Miss Heath, Mrs Jones, Meares, Thewlis, and Walmsley; and Mrs M.E.J. Bairstow and Mr A.E. Panter (Residents' Representatives).

13. SURREY LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED that -

- i) **Councillor Norman be the Council's representative to serve on the Surrey L.G.A. and Councillor Mrs Angell be the deputy representative; and**
- ii) **the Surrey L.G.A. be advised that;**

- a) **Councillor Relph is nominated for re-appointment to the Surrey Historic Buildings Trust;**
- b) **Councillor Mrs Jones is nominated for the High Sheriff's Award; and**
- c) **Councillor Tuley be nominated to serve on the SCC Pension Fund - Investment Advisors Group.**

14. ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Council noted that the External Appointments Sub-Committee would meet on Tuesday 1 June 2005.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.45pm)