

Runnymede Borough Council

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

21 July 2011 at 8.00pm

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor D W Parr) in the Chair

Members of the Council present: Councillors A Alderson, Mrs F J Barden, Mrs P I Broadhead, J Broadhead, M J Brown, Mrs D V Clarke, D A Cotty, Mrs R M Denby, R J Edis, J M Edwards, P A Francis, Mrs E Gill, Mrs M T Harnden, R J Jones, Mrs G M Kingerley, C Knight, M T Kusneraitis, Mrs Y P Lay, S Mackay, H W V Meares, A M Moore, C J Norman, D W Parr, Mrs M Roberts, P Roberts, N Sorgiovanni, P Taylor, P B Tuley, Mrs G Warner, and G B Woodger

Members of the Council absent: Councillors J R Ashmore, H A Butterfield, C Chapman, T Dicks, J R Furey, Mrs L M Gillham, Miss M N Heath, N Prescott, P Sohi, A P Tollett, P J Waddell, and J J Wilson

177. FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Mayor read out the Fire Procedures.

178. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18 May 2011 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

179. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on his recent engagements and also mentioned his forthcoming Charity or Mayoral events.

The Mayor reported the death of former Councillor Mrs Angela Gould, who was a Labour Councillor from 1986 to 1992, and represented the Chertsey St Ann's Ward.

Finally, the Mayor reported that Alan Guy, a former Environmental Health Officer with the Council had been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for his services to the British Korean Veterans' Association.

180. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Ashmore, Butterfield, Dicks, Furey, Mrs Gillham, Miss Heath, Sohi, Tollett, Waddell and Wilson.

181. FINANCIAL RESULTS 2010/2011

The Council considered a recommendation from Corporate Management Committee held on 26 May 2011.

RESOLVED that –

the methods of financing capital expenditure in 2010/2011, as reported, be approved.

182. FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2011/12

The Council considered a recommendation from the Environment and Sustainability Committee held on 23 June 2011.

RESOLVED that –

the Food Service Plan for 2011/12, as reported be approved.

183. WOODHAM LANE, NEW HAW – AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Council considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 30 June 2011.

RESOLVED that –

a capital estimate be approved in the sum of £80,000 from the Housing Capital Programme for the supported housing scheme at Woodham Lane, New Haw.

184. LOCAL TAXATION RECOVERY – AUTHORISATION OF OFFICERS TO TAKE PROCEEDINGS

The Council considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 30 June 2011.

RESOLVED that –

- i) Seamus Boylan be authorised under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972 to take proceedings in the Magistrates' Court to recover Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates; and**
- ii) the Corporate Heads of Finance and Governance and Assets be authorised under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972 to authorise such named Officers as they see fit to take proceedings in the Magistrates' Court to recover Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates.**

185. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The Council considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 30 June 2011.

RESOLVED that –

- i) a capital estimate be approved in the sum reported for the purpose of purchasing the maximum number of new low floor minibuses for Community Transport that can be obtained for this sum; and**
- ii) the expenditure at i) above be financed from capital receipts in hand.**

186. ANNUAL REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FUNCTION

The Council considered a recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee held on 7 July 2011.

RESOLVED that –

the Annual Report be received and noted.

187. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2011 – 2014

The Council considered a recommendation from the Crime and Disorder Committee held on 14 July 2011.

RESOLVED that –

the Community Safety Strategy for 2011/2014 be approved.

188. NOTICE OF MOTION

The following Motion, as amended, was moved by Councillor Moore, Deputy Leader of Runnymede Independent Residents' Group, and seconded by Councillor Cotty:-

- "i) Runnymede Borough Council notes the publication of the Inspector's Report of her Examination of the Surrey Minerals Plan and, in particular, the implications for Runnymede Borough. Several 'Preferred Areas' for mineral working are identified in this Plan: Addlestone Quarry Extension (Preferred Area A), Hamm Court Farm (C), Milton Park Farm (D) and Whitehall Farm (E).
- ii) The Council is pleased that Land North of Thorpe (Preferred Area I) has now been deleted from the Surrey Minerals Plan; and we wish that all the other 'Preferred Area' sites in Runnymede would remain unworked.
- iii) If Surrey County Council should give permission for working any of the 'Preferred Area' sites specified in (i) above, then the Council request that mitigation measures are put in place: in particular, sequential (phased) working, leaving adequate unworked margins and quarrying wet rather than dry.
- iv) Concern be expressed that the Inspector has commented upon the specific application by Hanson Aggregates to quarry Milton Park Farm (D), which could give rise to 280 lorry movements per day, taking away sand and gravel: (five times worse than the recently withdrawn Trumps Farm Incinerator Project). Furthermore, the Council would have grave concerns about the potential for increased risk of flooding, additional noise and poorer air quality at nearby schools, residences and business premises.
- v) The Council expresses concerns that the Inspector's comments could be viewed as prejudging the decision on Hanson's planning application and could influence the County Planning and Regulatory Committee.
- vi) The Leader of this Council should communicate this Motion to Surrey County Council."

Very strong concern was expressed by all Members over the impact of proposed mineral extraction on residents, schools and businesses in the Borough in terms of poorer air quality, increased risk of flooding, increased traffic generation, heavy lorry movements and noise pollution.

Strong concern was also expressed over the likely length of operation of these 'Preferred Sites', as a consequence of the lack of inert fill to restore the sites. Council also expressed concern over the disproportionate number of mineral sites identified in the Borough.

The Leader confirmed that he would shortly be meeting the Chief Executive and Leader of Surrey County Council, and would communicate the Motion and strength of opposition of the Council to the working of any of the 'Preferred Sites'.

Upon the Motion, as amended, being put to the vote it was –

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that –

- i) Runnymede Borough Council notes the publication of the Inspector's Report of her Examination of the Surrey Minerals Plan and, in particular, the implications for Runnymede Borough. Several 'Preferred Areas' for mineral working are identified in this Plan: Addlestone Quarry Extension (Preferred Area A), Hamm Court Farm (C), Milton Park Farm (D) and Whitehall Farm (E);**
- ii) the Council is pleased that Land North of Thorpe (Preferred Area I) has now been deleted from the Surrey Minerals Plan; and we wish that all the other 'Preferred Area' sites in Runnymede would remain unworked;**
- iii) if Surrey County Council should give permission for working any of the 'Preferred Area' sites specified in (i) above, then the Council request that mitigation measures are put in place: in particular, sequential**

(phased) working, leaving adequate unworked margins and quarrying wet rather than dry;

- iv) concern be expressed that the Inspector has commented upon the specific application by Hanson Aggregates to quarry Milton Park Farm (D), which could give rise to 280 lorry movements per day, taking away sand and gravel: (five times worse than the recently withdrawn Trumps Farm Incinerator Project). Furthermore, the Council would have grave concerns about the potential for increased risk of flooding, additional noise and poorer air quality at nearby schools, residences and business premises;**
- v) the Council expresses concerns that the Inspector's comments could be viewed as prejudging the decision on Hanson's planning application and could influence the County Planning and Regulatory Committee; and**
- vi) the Leader of this Council should communicate this Motion to Surrey County Council.**

Mayor

(The meeting ended at 9.21pm)