

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL7 March 2006 at 7.30 p.m.The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Mrs F.J. Barden) 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, Ms D.V. Clarke, A.J. Davis, J.M. Edwards, J.R. Furey, Mrs C.E. Gant, Mrs E. Gill, Mrs L.M. Gillham, P.A. Greenwood, J.E. Haas, 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.J. Ray, B.J. Relph, C.J. Ruane, Ms C.M. Simmons, N. Thewlis, P.B. Tuley, P.J. Waddell, K.J.T. Walmsley, J.R. Whiteley and G.B. Woodger.

Members of the
Council absent:

Councillors M.J. Brown, J.B. Dean, R.K. Habgood, R.Pate, Mrs M. Roberts, and A.P. Tollett

592. FORMER COUNCILLOR DOUGLAS CHARLES (BILL) BAKER

The Council stood in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of former Councillor Douglas Charles Baker (known as Bill) who had died this week. Mr Baker was first elected to Egham Urban District Council in 1967, re-elected when Runnymede Borough Council was formed in 1974, and was an active Member of the Labour Group on the Council until he retired in 1998.

Councillor Baker always represented the Hythe Ward and served on the Housing Services, Housing Management, and Housing and Community Services Committees (1973 - 1988), Environmental Health and General Purposes Committee - 1981 - 1993, and Leisure and Amenities Committee and Leisure & Environment Committee - 1975 - 1996.

Mr Baker had played an active community role and had represented the Council on several outside bodies. He was a Council Representative on Hythe First School from 1977 and Hythe Middle School from 1981, becoming a Governor on both in 1984 until 1989 and was also a Governor of the Hythe New County First and Middle Schools from 1984 - 1986.

The Leader of the Labour Group and Leader of the Council, on behalf of all Members present, paid tribute to Mr Baker and expressed their condolences to his grandson who was present, and Mr Baker's family.

593. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 December 2005 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

594. RUNNYMEDE DESIGN AWARDS 2005

The Mayor presented the Runnymede Design Awards in respect of the following schemes:

Category 1 - Best New Building

Englefield Green Infants School, Squirrels Nursery, Englefield Green

Recipient: Felix Bolger, Managing Director, Home Lodge Builders.

Category 2 - Best Sustainable Development

Painesfield Drive, Eastworth Road, Chertsey

Recipient: Peter Taylor, Chairman A2 Housing Group.

Category 3 - Best Housing Development

Victoria Mews, St Jude's Road, Englefield Green

Recipient: Chris Palomba, Managing Director, James Smith Associates.

Category 4 - Best Commercial Development

Listed Buildings at Plots 23-25 Guildford Street, Chertsey

Recipient: Ted Mukabaa, Ardmore Construction Limited.

Category 5 - Best Environmental Improvement Scheme

Station Road, Addlestone

Recipient: Steve Fuggles (Head of Engineering, Runnymede Borough Council) and Richard Bolton (SCC Project Development Group).

With regard to the award for the Best Environmental Improvement Scheme, Councillor Furey, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, paid tribute to the contribution of the late Bill Jones, Senior Highway Engineer for the Council, who had been responsive to all the policy aspirations, and ensured the Station Road project was completed on time and within budget.

595. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors R Pate, A.P. Tollett and Mrs M. Roberts.

596. PETITION

Councillor Mrs Jones presented a Petition on behalf of parents and children in the Englefield Green area. The Petition requested the Council to consider the provision of a play area for children over the age of 5 years on land adjacent to the existing play area on Englefield Green.

The Petition was referred to the Englefield Green Committee for consideration at its next meeting on 28 June 2006.

597. DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT - REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

RESOLVED that -

the recommendation of the Corporate Management Committee as set out in paragraph 459(v)(vi) on page 675 (Minutes of 5 January 2006) be approved.

598. REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS (RIPA) ACT 2000 - POLICY REVIEW

RESOLVED that -

the recommendation of the Corporate Management Committee as set out in paragraph 460, on page 677 (Minutes of 5 January 2006) be approved.

599. BUDGET FOR WORKS FOR ADDITIONAL FACILITIES FOR DISABLED TENANTS 2005/6

RESOLVED that -

the recommendation of the Corporate Management Committee as set out in paragraph 527(a) on page 823 (Minutes of 2 February 2006) be approved.

600. PROPOSED PLAY AREA AT CHERTSEY MEADS - FURTHER REPORT

RESOLVED that -

the recommendation of the Corporate Management Committee as set out in paragraph 529, on page 825 (Minutes of 2 February 2006) be approved.

601. PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR 2006/7

RESOLVED that -

the recommendation of the Corporate Management Committee as set out in paragraph 532, on page 829 (Minutes of 2 February 2006) be approved.

602. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR 2006/7

RESOLVED that -

the recommendation of the Corporate Management Committee as set out in paragraph 533, on page 830 (Minutes of 2 February 2006) be approved.

603. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT - PLANNING OBLIGATIONS DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

The Council considered a recommendation from the Planning Committee which had met on 15 February 2006.

RESOLVED that -

the Supplementary Planning Document - Planning Obligations Issues for Consultation as reported be approved for consultation.

604. PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATION OF MAYORAL SELECTION

The Council considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee which had met on 2 March 2006.

RESOLVED that -

- i) Councillor A.M. Moore be nominated for the Office of Mayor for the Municipal Year 2006/07; and**
- ii) Councillor H.W.V. Meares be recommended for the Office of Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2006/07.**

605. SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

(Ref: Minutes of Council December 2005, page 662, para 438)

By reason of special circumstances, namely to allow further consideration of this matter within the current scheme year, the Mayor was of the opinion that this matter be considered as a matter of urgency under section 100B of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with Standing Order 10.4.

At its meeting in December 2005, Council had made a small amendment to the Scheme of Members' Allowances in respect of the Regulatory Committee, and also resolved, on the recommendation of Corporate Management Committee to ask the Independent Remuneration Panel to examine the Scheme of Members' Allowances and report on potential amendment, in particular by;

- a) removing the provision for inflation in the current scheme year and afterwards (i.e. with practical effect from 1 January 2006 to 31 March 2007); and

- b) removing the special responsibility allowance payable to ordinary Members of the Licensing Committee with effect from the next scheme year (i.e. from 1 April 2006)".

The Independent Remuneration Panel had been consulted, and taking into account all the circumstances, supported the proposals.

The current Scheme would end in March 2007 and it would be necessary to convene an Independent Remuneration Panel during the latter part of 2006 to make recommendation for a new Scheme.

RESOLVED that –

the Scheme of Members' Allowances be amended as set out above.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.08pm)