

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

19 July 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H.W.V. Meares) in the Chair

Members of the  
Council present:

Councillors Prof. I.O. Angell, J.R. Ashmore, Mrs. F.J. Barden, Mrs P.I. Broadhead, J. Broadhead, H.A Butterfield, M.J. Brown, Ms D.V. Clarke, D.A. Cotty, A.J. Davis, Mrs R.M. Denby, R.J. Edis, J.M. Edwards, J.R. Furey, Mrs C.E. Gant, Mrs E. Gilli, Mrs L.M. Gillham, D.R. Hamilton, Ms R.E. Haylor, Miss M.N. Heath, R.N. Jones, C. Knight, M.T. Kusneraitis, H.W.V. Meares, A.D. Mills, Prof. A.M. Moore, C.J. Norman, Mrs J. Norman, D.W. Parr, J.W.C. Perschke, Mrs M. Roberts, Ms C. Simmons, N. Stewart, A.P Tollett, P.B. Tuley, and P.J. Waddell

Members of the  
Council absent:

Councillors A. Alderson, Mrs F.M. Angell, Mrs Y.P. Lay, P Roberts, BJ. Relph, and G.B. Woodger.

144. FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Mayor read out the Fire Precautions Procedure to be followed in event of fire or other emergency.

145. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2007 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

146. PRESENTATION TO MAYOR

Mr Malcolm Hickford, a representative of the local branch of Gideons International, presented the Mayor with a personal copy of the Gideon Bible, for which the Mayor expressed his gratitude.

147. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the start of his Mayoral Year, the Mayor had found the many invitations to local schools very rewarding.

Other highlights so far included:-

- the Triennial Magna Carta celebrations at Canterbury;
- Addlestone festival and fair
- Carnival Capers at Virginia Water
- judging 31 entrants to the 'Runnymede In Bloom' competition;
- attending the lunch for Surrey Mayors given by the Bishop of Guildford
- being interviewed at Runnymede Meadows by Tony Robinson for Channel 4 on the contribution of Magna Carta to the development of medieval law.

Future events in the Mayoral Year included:

26 September – Business lunch at Great Fosters  
30 September – Civic service at St. Mary's Church, Thorpe  
5 December – Civic reception at Great Fosters  
14 February – Opera Interludes at Royal Holloway College  
24 April – Mayoral Golf Day at Foxhills.

148. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Alderson, F.M. Angell, Mrs Y.P. Lay, B.J. Relph, P. Roberts and G.B. Woodger.

149. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Stewert declared a personal interest under the Runnymede Code of Conduct for Members in the item on 'Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Needs – Joint Advice Note To SEERA' as he was a substitute Member of the Surrey Local Government Surrey Supporting People Commissioning Body.

150. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LDF) – SAVED POLICIES

**RESOLVED that -**

**the recommendation of the Planning Committee as set out in paragraph 687 on page 1150 (Minutes of 25 April 2007) be approved.**

151. FINAL ACCOUNTS 2006/07

**RESOLVED that -**

**the recommendation of the Corporate Management Committee as set out in paragraph 36 on page 16 (Minutes of 31 May 2007) be approved.**

152. SUPPORT FOR FAIRTRADE

The Council considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee which had met on 28 June 2007.

**RESOLVED that -**

- i) Fairtrade be supported and Fairtrade tea and coffee would be served in Council offices and canteens; and**
- ii) Officers report further if the qualifications for Fairtrade Zone status change.**

153. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – CORE STRATEGY – PROGRESS REPORT

The Council considered a recommendation from the Planning Committee which had met on 4 July 2007.

**RESOLVED that -**

- i) the Secretary of State be asked to withdraw the Local Development Framework – Core Strategy.**
- ii) part of the planned LDF budget be used to seek specialist advice on identified topics; and**
- iii) a further report be presented to Committee setting out the way forward with reference to timing and revised expenditure.**

154. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LDF) – REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2007 – 2010

The Council considered a recommendation from the Planning Committee which had met on 4 July 2007.

**RESOLVED that –**

- i) the revised LDS at Appendix A be approved; and**
- ii) the revised LDS be submitted to the Secretary of State for his approval together with the request that the Secretary of State withdraw the February 2006 Runnymede Core Strategy.**

155. ANNUAL REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FUNCTION

The Council considered a recommendation from the Review Board which had met on 5 July 2007.

**RESOLVED that –**

- i) the Annual Report be received; and**
- ii) it be noted that items 2, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 11 in the Report have been satisfactorily concluded and that the other items in the Report remain ongoing.**

156. GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS ACCOMMODATION NEEDS - JOINT ADVICE NOTE TO SEERA

The Housing Act 2004 required local authorities to produce a gypsy and traveller accommodation strategy and to undertake a needs assessment. North Surrey authorities (Runnymede, Elmbridge, Spelthorne and Woking) commissioned the needs assessment from Anglia Ruskin University in 2006.

The South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) now required all authorities to provide advice on the current and future needs for further gypsy and traveller sites on a district basis. The exact number of pitches per local authority would be determined by the Regional Spatial Strategy Review process, and SEERA had requested each area to provide advice on gypsy and traveller site provision by 15 October 2007.

A Steering Group had been set up to provide such advice to SEERA on behalf of the North Surrey authorities and it was drafting an Advice Note, on which this authority would wish to comment and mandate Officers as to how the final note was to be settled. The major issues for the Advice Note fell within the purview of the Planning Committee.

Rather than try to hold meetings of both Housing and Planning Committees, or constitute a new Joint Committee, or have both Committees consider the matter and report back to Council (which would either require an extraordinary meeting or delay the finalisation of the Advice Note beyond the deadline) it was agreed that the Planning Committee be designated Lead Committee under paragraph 1.1 of the scheme for Committee responsibilities of the Council's Constitution to enable the Planning Committee to take all necessary decisions (including authorising Officers to approve the final note in consultation with Chairmen) and it was proposed that the matter be reported to that Committee on 15 August. Other Members of the Council would have the usual rights to attend and, with the consent of the Chairman, to contribute to the discussions. Members of Housing and Community Services Committee in particular might wish to do so.

**RESOLVED that -**

**Planning Committee be designated the Lead Committee for the purposes of considering the joint Advice Note on gypsy and traveller accommodation, and authorising the process for settling the final version.**

Mayor

(The meeting ended at 8.15pm)