



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes Annual Council

Time and date

7.00pm on Thursday 13 May 2010

Place

The Council Chamber, South Street, Farnham

- * Cllr L J Fleming (Town Mayor) (Chairman for the first 4 items only)
 - * Cllr J A Ward (Deputy Town Mayor) (Chairman from item 5 onwards)
 - * Cllr D J Attfield
 - * Cllr G M Beel
 - * Cllr C Cockburn
 - * Cllr V Duckett
 - * Cllr (Mrs) P M Frost
 - * Cllr R D Frost
 - * Cllr C G Genziani
 - * Cllr G P Hargreaves
 - * Cllr S L Hill
 - * Cllr D Le Gal
 - o Cllr A J Lovell
 - * Cllr J E Maines
 - * Cllr S J O'Grady
 - * Cllr R J Steel
 - * Cllr C S Storey
 - o Cllr A P Thorp
-
- * Present
 - o Apologies for absence

Officers Present:

Roland Potter (Town Clerk)
Wendy Coulter (Members and Committees Services Co-ordinator)
Ginny Gordon (Town Clerk's Secretary)

Janet Stanton (Civic Events)

C 001/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lovell and Thorp.

C 002/10 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest received for any items on the agenda.

C 003/10 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

Cllr G Beel proposed and Cllr V Duckett seconded that Councillor John Ward be elected Town Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year 2010/2011. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED: That Cllr John Ward be elected Town Mayor of Farnham for the Municipal Year 2010/2011.

Cllr Lucinda Fleming invested Cllr Ward with the Chain and Badge of Office.

C 004/10 THE TOWN MAYOR TO MAKE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Having been invested with the Chain and Badge of Office, Cllr John Ward made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and continued with the duties of the Mayor.

The Town Mayor made the following speech:

“Ladies and gentlemen. Firstly may I thank you for the honour you have bestowed upon me by electing me to be Mayor of this fantastic town.

It has a long and interesting history with a character that I hope to be instrumental in preserving and I’m deeply touched that two past Mayors, although from different sides of the political spectrum, should be prepared to propose and second me to this prestigious office.

I’ve enjoyed my time as Deputy Mayor and I’m really looking forward to my year in the Mayoral Office, supported by a dedicated team of Councillors and officers.

Although, it is not without a little trepidation as my immediate predecessor is what has already been described as, a hard act to follow.

I trust that I shall be sensible enough not to try to compete but to do things a little differently but still I hope to the satisfaction of the people of Farnham.

I am particularly interested in doing what i can to help disadvantaged young people and so during my year I hope to visit and help as many schools and voluntary organisations as possible.

I’ve often been asked what will be the theme of your year and this has given me something to think about. Coming from an army family i certainly intend to constitute building on our current good relationship with our local forces but the thing that i have found to be fundamental, wherever I have been is good communication.

This, when efficiently managed, can strengthen bonds of friendship but also avert misunderstandings, which can often lead to unforeseen difficulties. I’m therefore adopting communications as my main theme.

Much has been done by the Council recently in improving it communications with the public but this is a two way street and I would encourage anyone who has ideas, to make Farnham a better place, to get in touch with us. Because, although our budget and powers are a bit limited we may be able to help in many other ways.

This theme leads very conveniently to my choice of Mayor charity. A very difficult decision as there are so many worthy causes from big and national institutions to lesser known, but equally important local schools and charities.

Most of us, take for granted the ability to speak and hence communicate with other people, but with my passion for good communication there comes an awareness and sympathy for those, especially young people, who find great difficulty speaking or cannot communicate verbally at all.

My daughter works in America teaching autistic children and this has been instrumental in focusing my mind on youngsters like this. Having seen great joy on their faces when they manage to master, just one word. I very much wanted my charity to be a smaller Farnham based one and so I have decided to try and raise funds to buy an item called a Proxtalker, for the Ridgeway Community School. This is a portable, programmable electronic tool actually designed by a man with an autistic son that utilises a specially interchangeable pictorial keyboard to help children verbalise so that they can begin to communicate. It has proven very successful in the USA and will, I'm sure, be of equal benefit here.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am indebted to my fellow councillors for electing me to this office and I'm very grateful to you all for coming here to share this occasion with us. Gillian and I promise to work hard and do our very best to make you proud of us but much more importantly make you even prouder to be part of this great town of Farnham. Thank you very much".

The Town Mayor presented the Mayoress' badge to Mrs G Ward and presented a button hole of flowers to the new Mayoress.

C 005/10 ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

Cllr C Cockburn proposed and Cllr S O'Grady seconded that Cllr G Hargreaves be elected Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year 2010/2011. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED: That Cllr G Hargreaves be elected Deputy Town Mayor for the Municipal Year 2010/2011.

Cllr J Ward the Town Mayor invested Cllr J Hargreaves with the Badge of Office.

C 006/10 THE DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR TO MAKE THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Having received the Badge of Office, Cllr G Hargreaves made her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for her appointment.

C 007/10 VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING TOWN MAYOR

A vote of thanks to the retiring Town Mayor, Cllr L Fleming, was proposed by Cllr D Attfield who thanked Cllr L Fleming for doing a wonderful job as Town Mayor.

In response Cllr Fleming expressed her thanks to all the people she had met during her Mayoral year and how much she had enjoyed her year as the Farnham Town Mayor and she also thanked her fellow Councillors for their support during her year as Mayor. Cllr Fleming also thanked the officers of the Town Council for their support.

C 008/10 PRESENTATION OF PAST TOWN MAYOR'S BADGE

The Town Mayor presented Cllr L Fleming with a past Town Mayor's Badge and a corsage of flowers. The Past Town Mayor, Cllr L Fleming presented the Town Mayor, Cllr J Ward with a button hole of flowers.

C 009/10 INSPECTION OF REGALIA, DEEDS AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

The Town Mayor reported that he would inspect the Regalia, Deeds and Management Agreements and report his findings at the next Council meeting.

C 010/10 APPOINTMENT OF A LEADER OR SPOKESPERSON OF THE COUNCIL (Standing Order 57 (j))

There were no proposals for the election to the role of Spokesperson for the Council and the role would therefore be undertaken by the Lead Member of the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group in accordance with Standing Order 57(j).

C 011/10 APPOINTMENT TO WORKING GROUPS AND PLANNING CONSULTATIVE GROUP

Members considered a report of the Councillors' preferences for membership of Working Groups.

Members noted that all representative positions were offered to all Councillors for 2010/2011.

Councillor Cockburn suggested that where Members had volunteered for all Working Groups, in the spirit of equity, they may consider standing down to allow other Councillors to have a place on the Working Groups.

The Town Mayor asked whether there were any Members who wished to stand down before the voting commenced.

The Town Mayor reminded Members that it had been the Town Council's practice to vote by confidential paper ballot to appoint members to Working Groups.

The Town Mayor requested a Proposer and Seconder for the practice to be adopted for the appointment of Members to Working Groups for 2010/2011.

Councillor S O'Grady proposed and Councillor J Maines Seconded that there be a confidential paper ballot to appoint members to Working Groups.

RESOLVED: that a confidential paper ballot be taken to appoint members to Working Groups for 2010/2011.

Ballot papers were distributed to all Members and a confidential vote was taken on all Working Groups and the results were as follows:

Cemeteries and Appeals Working Group

RESOLVED: that the membership of the Cemeteries and Appeals Working Group would be:

**Cllr C Cockburn
Cllr V Duckett
Cllr L Fleming
Cllr G Hargreaves
Cllr C Genziani**

Corporate Development and Audit Working Group

RESOLVED: That the core membership of the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group would be as follows with the inclusion of the Lead Members of the other Working Groups as full Members if they had not already been elected to the core membership of the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group.

**Cllr L Fleming
Cllr G Hargreaves
Cllr S Hill
Cllr J Maines
Cllr S O'Grady**

Farnham in Bloom

RESOLVED: that the membership of Farnham in Bloom Working Group would be:

**Cllr D Attfield
Cllr V Duckett
Cllr P Frost
Cllr G Hargreaves
Cllr S O'Grady**

Tourism and Events

RESOLVED: that the membership of Tourism and Events Working Group would be:

**Cllr G Hargreaves
Cllr S Hill
Cllr D Le Gal
Cllr S O'Grady
Cllr C Storey**

Planning Consultative Group

RESOLVED: that the membership of Planning Consultative Group would be:

**Cllr D Attfield
Cllr V Duckett
Cllr L Fleming
Cllr R Frost
Cllr C Genziani
Cllr G Hargreaves
Cllr J Maines
Cllr S O'Grady
Cllr C Storey**

C 012/10 APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Members noted that all representative positions were offered to all Councillors for 2010/2011 and where possible representations were allocated as per each individual request.

RESOLVED: That the Representatives for Outside Bodies as identified below for the municipal year 2010/2011 be agreed.

OUTSIDE BODY	REPRESENTATIVES 2010/2011
Badshot Lea Recreation Ground	Cllr D Attfield
Bourne Recreation Ground	Cllr D Le Gal
Hale Recreation Ground	Cllr J Maines
Rowledge Recreation Ground	Cllr C Genziani
Weybourne Recreation Ground	Cllr G Beel
Wrecclesham Recreation Ground	Cllr P Frost
Allotments Liaison Group	Cllr D Attfield
The Bourne Children and Youth Initiative CYI Management Committee	Cllr C Cockburn
Blackwater Valley Recreation and Countryside Management Committee	Cllr D Attfield
Brightwells Gostrey Centre	Cllr L Fleming
Farnborough Aerodrome Consultative Committee	Cllr D Attfield, Cllr S O'Grady
Farnham/Andernach Friendship Association	Cllr J Maines
Farnham Public Arts Trust	Cllr L Fleming
Farnham Community Task Force	Town Mayor (Cllr J Ward), Cllr C Cockburn
Farnham and District Sports Advisory Council	Cllr R Frost
Farnham Maltings Association Council of Management	Cllr C Storey
Farnham Park Advisory Group	Cllr S O'Grady
Farnham River Watch	Cllr L Fleming
Farnham Visitors Forum	Cllr C Storey
Farnham Transportation Task Group	Cllr R Frost, Cllr R Steel
40 Degreez	Cllr P Frost, Cllr D Le Gal
Road Safety and Noise Partnership Group	Cllr S O'Grady
Surrey Passenger Transport Forums	Cllr R Frost
Surrey County Association of Parish and Town Councils	Town Mayor (Cllr J Ward), Leader of Corporate Development and Audit Working Group
Town Council Representatives at Waverley Towns and Parishes Meetings	Councillors D Attfield, C Genziani, J Maines, C Storey.
Wrecclesham Community Centre	Cllr P Frost

C 013/10 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND PLANNING SITE INSPECTIONS

Members agreed that two representatives to attend Planning Site Inspections would be appointed from the Planning Consultative Group as required.

The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.57pm. .

Date

Chairman