

COUNCIL

14 MAY 2008

Present :- Councillor Ray Gamble (Chairman)
Councillors Christopher Arnold, Nick Barlow,
Lyn Barton, Kevin Bentley, Mary Blandon,
Elizabeth Blundell, John Bouckley, Nigel Chapman,
Peter Chillingworth, Helen Chuah, Barrie Cook,
Nick Cope, Peter Crowe, Robert Davidson,
Beverly Davies, Tina Dopson, John Elliott,
Margaret Fairley-Crowe, Margaret Fisher,
Stephen Ford, Wyn Foster, Christopher Garnett,
Martin Goss, Chris Hall, Mike Hardy, Dave Harris,
Pauline Hazell, Peter Higgins, Theresa Higgins,
Mike Hogg, Martin Hunt, John Jowers,
Margaret Kimberley, Justin Knight, Sonia Lewis,
Michael Lilley, Sue Lissimore, Jackie Maclean,
Jon Manning, Richard Martin, Kim Naish, Nigel Offen,
Beverley Oxford, Gerard Oxford, Philip Oxford,
Gaye Pyman, Ann Quarrie, Paul Smith, Henry Spyvee,
Terry Sutton, Laura Sykes, Nick Taylor, Jill Tod,
Anne Turrell, Dennis Willetts, Julie Young and
Tim Young

1. Election of Mayor

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Bentley, SECONDED by Councillor Hunt and SUPPORTED by Councillors T. Young and G. Oxford and –

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that Councillor Peter Crowe be elected Mayor of this Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Crowe took the customary oath and made and subscribed the declaration of acceptance of office.

The Mayor then took the Chair and returned thanks for his election.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2008 and the Special Council meeting on 20 February 2008 were confirmed as a correct record.

3. Election of Deputy Mayor

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Hall, SECONDED and SUPPORTED by Councillors Davidson, T. Young and G. Oxford and –

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that Councillor William Henry Forester Spyvee be elected Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Spyvee then made and subscribed the declaration of acceptance of office and returned thanks for his election as Deputy Mayor.

4. Vote of Thanks to Retiring Mayor

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Hogg, SECONDED and SUPPORTED by Councillors Davidson, T. Young and G. Oxford and –

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that the best thanks of the Council are due and are hereby accorded to Councillor Raymond John Gamble for the admirable manner in which he has discharged the responsible duties of the mayoralty during the past year and that a transcript of this resolution under the Common Seal be furnished to Councillor Gamble.

5. Mayor's Chaplain and Other Announcements

The Mayor intimated that he had appointed the Reverend Doctor Christopher Garland to be his Chaplain for the ensuing Municipal Year and indicated that the theme of his mayoralty would be 'Employment and Prosperity'.

The Civic Service would take place on Sunday, 25 May 2008 at Messing Church and the "Mayoress at Home" would take place on 31 May 2008 at the Town Hall.

The Mayor also indicated that he would be supporting the following charities:-

- Army Benevolent Fund;
- Headway Essex;
- Young Carers;
- Grass Roots;
- Essex Wildlife Trust;
- Essex Air Ambulance.

6. Adjournment

RESOLVED that the meeting stand adjourned until 11.30am and be resumed in the Council Chamber.

7. Reconvened Meeting

Present:- Councillor Crowe - The Mayor
Councillor Spyvee - The Deputy Mayor
Councillors Christopher Arnold, Nick Barlow, Lyn Barton, Kevin Bentley, Mary Blandon, Elizabeth Blundell, John Bouckley, Nigel Chapman, Peter Chillingworth, Helen Chuah, Barrie Cook, Nick Cope, Robert Davidson, Beverly Davies, Tina Dopson, John Elliott, Margaret Fairley-Crowe, Margaret Fisher, Stephen Ford, Wyn Foster, Ray Gamble, Christopher Garnett, Martin Goss, Christopher Hall, Mike Hardy, Dave Harris, Pauline Hazell, Peter Higgins, Theresa Higgins, Mike Hogg, Martin Hunt, John Jowers, Margaret Kimberley, Justin Knight, Sonia Lewis, Michael Lilley, Sue Lissimore, Jackie Maclean, Jon Manning, Richard Martin, Kim Naish, Nigel Offen, Beverley Oxford, Gerard Oxford, Philip Oxford, Gaye Pyman, Ann Quarrie, Paul Smith, Terry Sutton, Laura Sykes, Nick Taylor, Jill Tod, Anne Turrell, Dennis Willetts, Julie Young and Tim Young.

8. Have Your Say!

Ms Paula Whitney addressed the Council pursuant to the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 6(2). She hoped that that the new administration would look at the sustainability triangle, that it would reject the PFI contract for waste disposal, that it would oppose the park and ride scheme at the Community Stadium and that the bus station would kept at its present location and enhanced.

Mr Robert Johnstone addressed the Council pursuant to the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 6(2). He offered his congratulations to the leaders of the political groups forming the new administration and to all newly elected councillors. He called on them to remember to represent all those in their ward and advised all councillors to forget party politics and work together. He thanked Brian Jarvis for his work in support of Myland.

9. Appointment of the Leader of the Council

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Hunt that Councillor Turrell be appointed Leader of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The MOTION was carried (THIRTY ONE voted FOR, TWENTY SIX voted AGAINST and ONE ABSTAINED).

A named vote having been requested pursuant to the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 15(2) the voting on the Motion was as follows:

Those who voted FOR: Barlow, Barton, Blandon, Chuah, Cook, Cope, Dopson, Fisher, Ford, Gamble, Goss, Hall, Harris, P. Higgins, T. Higgins, Hogg, Hunt, Knight, Lilley, Manning, Naish, Offen, B. Oxford, G. Oxford, P. Oxford, Smith, the Deputy Mayor

(Spyvee), Sykes, Turrell, J. Young and T. Young.

Those who voted AGAINST: Arnold, Bentley, Blundell, Bouckley, Chapman, Chillingworth, Davidson, Davies, Elliot, Fairley-Crowe, Foster, Garnett, Hardy, Hazell, Jowers, Kimberley, Lewis, Lissimore, Maclean, Martin, Pyman, Quarrie, Sutton, Taylor, Tod, and Willetts.

The Mayor (Councillor Crowe) abstained from voting.

10. Appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council

RESOLVED that Councillor Hunt be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

11. Delegations made by the Leader of the Council

RESOLVED that the allocation of responsibility for portfolios by Cabinet members for the ensuing municipal year, as determined by the Leader of the Council, as circulated at the meeting be noted.

12. Appointment of the Cabinet

RESOLVED that in accordance with the provisions of Section 24 of the Local Government Act 2000 the number of seats, Group representation and membership of the Cabinet for the ensuing Municipal Year be as circulated at the meeting.

13. Appointments of Panels, Committees and Sub-Committees

RESOLVED that:-

(i) in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the number of seats, Group Representation and membership of the Accounts and Regulatory Committee, Finance and Audit Scrutiny Panel, Licensing Committee, Local Development Framework Committee, Planning Committee, Policy Review and Development Panel and the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel for the ensuing municipal year be as circulated at the meeting and attached to these minutes.

(ii) that the membership of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel be confirmed as follows:-

Samantha Drummond;
Paul Nunny; and
David Priest

14. Former Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council hereby records its grateful thanks to former Councillors Roger Buston, Andrew Ellis, Richard Gower, Don Henshall, Brian Jarvis, Eugene Kraft, Ron Levy, Andy Raison and Craig Sutton for the public service rendered by them to the Borough during their periods of office as Councillors and instructs that a transcript of this resolution be furnished to each of them under the Common Seal of the Borough as a permanent record of the appreciation of the Council.

15. Recommendations of the Cabinet, Panels and Committees

Alderman Cooke addressed the Council pursuant to the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 6(2). He expressed disappointment that the existing Aldermen had not been consulted on the proposed change in the criteria for the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman. He considered that a minimum period of service of twenty years was appropriate in order for a Councillor to be eligible for consideration for appointment as Honorary Alderman.

RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in draft minute 21 of the Accounts and Regulatory Committee's meeting of 18 March 2008 be approved and adopted.

16. Composition of the Standards Committee

RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in the Monitoring Officer's report be approved and adopted and that Councillors Chapman and Gamble be appointed as the past mayors to serve on the Standards Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year.