



EPSOM AND EWELL

Minutes of the Meeting of the COUNCIL of the BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL held at the Council Chamber - Epsom Town Hall on 13 December 2016

PRESENT -

The Mayor (Councillor George Crawford); The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Liz Frost); Councillors Chris Frost, Michael Arthur, Tony Axelrod, Richard Baker, Kate Chinn, Alex Clarke, Lucie Dallen, Neil Dallen, Graham Dudley, Rob Geleit, Eber Kington, Omer Kokou-Tchri, Jan Mason, Tina Mountain, Barry Nash, Martin Olney, Keith Partridge, Jane Race, David Reeve, Humphrey Reynolds, Vince Romagnuolo, Clive Smitheram, Alan Sursham, Mike Teasdale, Peter Webb, David Wood, Clive Woodbridge and Tella Wormington

Absent: Councillors Rekha Bansil, John Beckett, Steve Bridger, Hannah Dalton, Robert Foote, Peter O'Donovan, Guy Robbins and Jean Steer

The Meeting was preceded by prayers led by the Mayor's Chaplain

27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by Councillors regarding items on the Agenda.

28 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary and Special Meetings of the Council held on 19 July 2016, and, subject to amendments notified to members prior to and at the meeting, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 21 November 2016, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

29 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS/BUSINESS

The Mayor reminded members that at the weekend he would be leading Christmas Carols in the Ashley Centre. The Mayor gave details of a charity event to be held in Ewell Village on Boxing Day, with the Ewell St Mary's Morris Men.

The Mayor also noted that at this time last year, the Council offered its thanks to, and support for, all the members of the armed forces who will not be home with their families this Christmas, and acknowledged that whilst it is hard at any time of the year, at Christmas it is especially so. The Mayor offered the Council's thanks in similar terms again this year and also recognised the work of other public services, emergency services, charities and others at this time.

30 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Seven questions had been addressed to Committee Chairmen, and written answers had been provided and published.

31 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - CHARGING SCHEDULE

Council received a report from the Head of Place Development regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule.

Councillor Eber Kington moved, and Councillor Neil Dallen seconded the recommendations in the report. Upon being put the recommendations were **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- (1) endorsed the Charging Schedule set out in Annexe 1 to the Report, which had been issued and published by the Council**
- (2) agreed that £79,660.62 be repaid forthwith to Edificio Headley Limited in respect of the CIL charged in connection with planning permission reference 14/00606/FUL**
- (3) Noted the proposed review of the Charging Schedule, and requested the Licensing & Planning Policy Committee to initiate the review at the earliest opportunity.**

32 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

Council received a report from the Director of Finance & Resources which set out proposals for appointing the external auditor to the Council for the 2018/19 accounts and beyond.

RESOLVED

That the Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited's (PSAA) invitation, to 'opt in' to the sector led option for the appointment of external auditors for five financial years commencing 1 April 2018, be accepted.

33 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2017/18

Council received a report from the Head of Legal & Democratic Services regarding the proposed Calendar of Council and Committee meetings.

Councillor Eber Kington moved, and Councillor Neil Dallen seconded the recommendation in the report, subject to the following changes:

- The briefing evening proposed for 19 April 2018 was to be deleted, as it would clash with the Audit, Crime & Disorder and Scrutiny meeting the same evening, and to be replaced with a date "To be advised"
- The briefing evening proposed for 29 March 2018 was to be deleted, as it was scheduled for Maundy Thursday, and be replaced with a date "To be advised".
- Tuesday and Wednesday were to be deleted from the "day" column for Licensing & Planning Policy Committee.
- Wednesday was to be deleted from the "day" column for the Planning Committee.
- Local Committee dates would be added to the published version.

Upon being put the recommendation was **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED

that the Calendar of Meetings for 2017/2018 be approved.

34 MOTIONS TO COUNCIL

Pursuant to FCR 79, Councillor Eber Kington **MOVED** and Councillor Jan Mason **SECONDED**, the following Motion:

"This Council agrees, as part of the Public Realm Improvements, to the construction of a permanent dais with attached utilities, in the Market Square to be used for civic events, performance art and other community uses."

Following consideration of advice given by the Chief Executive, and representations from the mover of the motion, the Council **RESOLVED** to debate the motion.

Upon the motion being put, it was **LOST**, there being 8 Members in favour and the majority against, with 1 abstention, and with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor not voting.

35 APPOINTMENT OF RECRUITMENT PANEL

In the opinion of the Mayor, by reason of the following special circumstances, an item be considered regarding the appointment of a Panel to oversee the recruitment of a new Chief Executive, be considered as a matter of urgency.

The Chief Executive has given notice of her intention to resign as Head of Paid Service of the Council. The Chief Executive is required under her contract of employment to give 3 months' notice, and her last day of service is expected to be 2 April 2017.

A Panel is required to be appointed to undertake various tasks relating to the recruitment of a new Chief Executive. The Panel would ordinarily be appointed by Strategy & Resources Committee. In view of the need to ensure that the recruitment exercise can start early in the new-year, it is necessary that the Panel be appointed at the earliest opportunity.

Council received a report from the Chief Executive regarding the appointment of the necessary Panel.

Councillor Eber Kington moved, and Councillor Neil Dallen seconded the recommendations in the report. Upon being put the recommendations were **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the costs associated with the recruitment of a new Chief Executive be met from the Corporate Projects Reserve, capped at £20,000 without further authority.**
- (2) That a Panel be appointed for the purposes of recruiting a new Chief Executive, to undertake the roles set out in the Council's Officer Employment Procedure Rules and comprising:**
 - Councillor Eber Kington (Chairman of Strategy & Resources Committee)**
 - Councillor Alex Clarke**
 - Councillor Hannah Dalton**
 - Councillor Chris Frost**
 - Councillor Clive Woodbridge**

36 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Council resolved to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended) and that pursuant to paragraph 10 of Part 2 of the said Schedule 12A the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

Note: Members of the Council were reminded of the need for confidentiality in respect of those items not considered in public

37 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING - COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 21 November 2016 (considered exempt from publication) were agreed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

The meeting began at 7.30 pm and ended at 8.35 pm

GEORGE CRAWFORD
MAYOR