



EPSOM AND EWELL

Minutes of the Meeting of the COUNCIL of the BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL held at the The Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom on 18 December 2019

PRESENT -

The Mayor (Councillor John Beckett); The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Humphrey Reynolds); Councillors Arthur Abdulin, Steve Bridger, Kate Chinn, Christine Cleveland, Alex Coley, Nigel Collin, Neil Dallen, Robert Foote, Chris Frost, Liz Frost, Bernice Froud, Rob Geleit, Luke Giles, Christine Howells, Previn Jagutpal, Colin Keane, Eber Kington, Jan Mason, Steven McCormick, Lucie McIntyre, Debbie Monksfield, Julie Morris, Bernie Muir, Barry Nash, Phil Neale, David Reeve, Guy Robbins, Clive Smitheram, Alan Sursham, Chris Webb and Clive Woodbridge

Absent: Councillors David Gulland, Monica Coleman, Hannah Dalton, Peter O'Donovan and Peter Webb

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

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

20 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23 July 2019 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

21 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS/BUSINESS

The Mayor announced the sad passing of Jimmy Upton who was a former Mayor and Cuddington RA Councillor for over 20 years. The Council observed a minute's silence.

The Mayor made a number of announcements relating to noteworthy events over the past four months and to forthcoming charity events.

An apology was received from Councillor Muir regarding comments made at the Annual Meeting. The Mayor accepted the apology.

22 CHAIRMEN'S STATEMENTS

The Council received written statements from the Chairmen of Strategy & Resources, Community and Wellbeing Committee and the Environment & Safe Communities Committee.

Four questions were asked relating to the statement from the Community and Wellbeing Committee and responded to by the Committee Chairman.

23 PETITION FOR COUNCIL DEBATE

Council received a petition, entitled "Planning strategy in light of the governments housing building targets" which had met the threshold for Council debate (receiving a total of 1,815 valid signatures) and had been accepted under the requirements of the Council's Petition Scheme. Details of the Petition were set out at Annex 1 to the report.

In line with the Council's general rules of debate and the Petition Scheme, the petition organiser was given 5 minutes to present the petition and Chairman of Licensing & Planning Policy Committee responded to the Petition.

The meeting was then opened to debate and concluded with a final reply from the Chairman of Licensing & Planning Policy Committee.

24 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

Four questions had been addressed to Committee Chairmen to which written answers had been provided and published.

Four supplementary questions were asked at the meeting and answers given by the relevant Committee Chairmen.

25 EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL PENSIONS DISCRETIONS POLICY

Council received a report from the Head of HR and Organisational Development requesting approval for the Pension Discretions Policy required under the Local Government Pensions Regulations. The draft Pensions Discretion Policy had been considered by the Strategy & Resources Committee in November 2019.

Councillor Eber Kington **MOVED** the recommendation in the report.

Upon being put the recommendation was **CARRIED**, 30 being in favour and 2 against.

Accordingly it was resolved that:

(1) Council approved the Pension Discretions Policy at Annex 1

26 CONSTITUTION UPDATE -REVISIONS TO PARTS 1, 2 AND 4

Council received a report from the Chief Legal Officer setting out the recommendations of the Standards Committee regarding proposed changes to Parts 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Liz Frost **MOVED** the recommendation in the report.

Upon being put the recommendation was **CARRIED**, 31 being in favour and 1 against.

Accordingly it was resolved that:

Council approved:

- (1) Revisions to Parts 1, 2 and 4 of the Constitution as set out in Annex 1;
- (2) **Delegated the authority to the Monitoring Officer to make any further changes as may be necessary arising out of the report in consultation with the Chair of the Standards Committee**

27 POLLING STATIONS REVIEW 2019

Council received a report from the Chief Legal Officer setting out the recommendations from Strategy and Resources Committee for proposed changes following the conclusion of the Polling Places and Districts Review.

Councillor Eber Kington **MOVED** the recommendation in the report.

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

Accordingly it was resolved that:

Council:

- (1) **Approved the changes to location of the polling places and districts as set out at para 3.1 of the report for a five year period from 1 January 2020, or until it is superseded by any subsequent review of any polling place or district;**
- (2) **Delegated the Chief Executive any ongoing review or change of polling places during this period, to ensure that polling arrangements in the Borough remain fit for purpose for each election called.**

28 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020-2021

Council received a report setting out the proposed extended Municipal Calendar for 2020-2021.

Councillor Eber Kington **MOVED** the recommendation in the report.

Councillor Clive Smitheram **SECONDED** the recommendation in the report.

Upon being put the recommendation was **CARRIED**, 29 being in favour and 3 abstentions, subject to a further report being brought to Council in April 2020 setting out the reasons for a 7pm start time for Planning Committee and Licensing & Planning Policy Committee.

Accordingly it was resolved that:

(1) Council approved the Municipal Calendar for 2020-2021.

29 MOTIONS

Motion 1: “Local Electricity Bill”

This motion was withdrawn prior to the meeting by proposer Councillor Julie Morris

Motion 2: “Contribution to Emily Davison Memorial Statue”

In pursuance of the Council’s Rules of Procedure, Councillor Kate Chinn **MOVED** and Councillor Debbie Monksfield **SECONDED** the following Motion:

“I am sure we all know Epsom saw one of the most significant events of women’s suffrage take place when on the 4 June 1913 Emily Davison was fatally injured at the Epsom Derby under the hooves of the king’s horse.

I propose this Council notes the importance of commemorating that event, the significance of the suffragette movement and the role played by Emily Davison. In recognition of this the Council approves a further contribution of £20,000 to enable the statue to be erected in the newly refurbished market square.”

An amendment to the motion was **MOVED** by Councillor Eber Kington and **SECONDED** by Councillor Barry Nash:

To amend the motions as follows:

~~*I am sure we all know. Epsom saw one of the most significant events of women’s suffrage take place when on the 4th June 1913 Emily Davison was fatally injured at the Epsom Derby under the hooves of the king’s horse. I propose*~~ ***This Council notes the importance of commemorating that event, the significance of the suffragette movement and the role played by Emily Davison. In recognition of this the council approves a further contribution has set aside up to £20,000 to support the project and has continued to encourage local and national funding support to enable the statue to be erected in the newly refurbished market square. The Council therefore calls upon all those with an interest in promoting the heritage and economy of our borough and of the town centre to add their funding support so as to ensure that the funding target is reached in early 2020.***

Upon being put the amendment was **CARRIED** and became the substantive motion.

Following resolution of the amendment the substantive motion was debated and put to a vote.

Upon being put, the motion was **CARRIED** with 32 being in favour, 3 against, 1 abstention, and the Mayor not voting

According, the Council resolved:

Epsom saw one of the most significant events of women's suffrage take place when on the 4th June 1913 Emily Davison was fatally injured at the Epsom Derby under the hooves of the king's horse. This Council notes the importance of commemorating that event, the significance of the suffragette movement and the role played by Emily Davison. In recognition of this the council has set aside up to £20,000 to support the project and has continued to encourage local and national funding support to enable the statue to be erected in the newly refurbished market square. The Council therefore calls upon all those with an interest in promoting the heritage and economy of our borough and of the town centre to add their funding support so as to ensure that the funding target is reached in early 2020.

The meeting began at 7.30 pm and ended at 9.20 pm

COUNCILLOR JOHN BECKETT
MAYOR