

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Town Hall, Slough on Tuesday, 29th November, 2011 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor S K Dhaliwal), in the chair; Councillors Abe (arrived at 7.33 pm), Anderson, Bains, Basharat, Buchanan, Carter, S Chaudhry, Chohan, Coad, Dale-Gough, Dar, Davis, A S Dhaliwal, Dodds, Grewal, P K Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Munawar, O'Connor, Pantelic, Parmar, Plenty, Plimmer, Rasib, Sharif, Small, Smith, Sohal, Stokes, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Walsh and S P Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors P Choudhry, Haines, Long, M S Mann, Qureshi and A S Wright

36. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Basharat, S Chaudhry and Rasib declared a personal interest in that Members of their families are employed by Slough BC.

37. **Minutes of the Council held on 29th September and 19th October, 2011**

The minutes of the proceedings of the Council at its meeting held on 29th September and 19th October, 2011, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

38. **Mayor's Communications**

Remembrance Sunday

The Mayor thanked those Members who attended the Remembrance Sunday and the Armistice Day events arranged throughout the Borough. The efforts made to mark these important occasions were very well received.

Christmas Lights

The Christmas lights were switched on in the Town Square on Thursday, 17th November, signalling the start of the Festive Season in Slough. The enthusiastic crowd enjoyed the entertainment and firework display.

Extraordinary Council meeting

The Mayor advised that she had received a request for an Extraordinary Council meeting to consider Children's Services. She had agreed to call the meeting on Monday 19th December at 7.15 pm, in the Council Chamber, and the agenda would be issued later in the week.

Council - 29.11.11

Christmas Celebration Evening

The Mayor would hold a Christmas Celebration Evening on Friday, 9th December and all members were invited. This would be the last civic event to be held in the Town Hall and it is was hoped that all members would join the Mayor in celebrating both Christmas and the conclusion of almost 75 years of Council business being transacted in the Town Hall.

39. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9

None received.

40. Questions from Members re the Thames Valley Police Authority under Procedure Rule 10

None received.

41. Annual Audit Letter 2010/11

The Mayor invited Mr Westwood, the Council's appointed Auditor, to address the Council, and Members asked him a number of questions of detail about the Annual Audit Letter 2010/11. Following completion of the questioning, the Mayor thanked Mr Westwood for his presentation.

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

"That the recommendation as set out in the report be approved and adopted".

The recommendation was put and carried by 24 votes to 0 votes with 9 abstentions.

Resolved- That the report and the recommendations contained therein be accepted and that the Council's Corporate Plan and the appropriate service plans be amended to address the recommendations.

42. Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Walsh,

"That the recommendation as set out in the report be approved and adopted".

The recommendation was put and carried unanimously.

Resolved- That the draft response to the Boundary Commission for England's initial proposals for the Slough Constituency, as attached at Appendix A of the report be agreed.

43. Designation of Polling Places - Polling District NC and KA

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Walsh,

“That the recommendations as set out in the report be approved and adopted”.

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved-

- (a) That the designated Polling Place for Polling District NC be Khalsa Primary School, Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL2 5QR, with immediate effect.
- (b) That the designated Polling Place for Polling District KA be Langley Pavilion, Langley Road, Langley, Slough, Berkshire, SL3 8BS, with immediate effect.

44. Review of the Council's Flag Regulations

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Anderson,

“That the recommendations as set out in the report be approved and adopted”.

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved-

- (a) That the Council's Flag Regulations be amended to allow for:
 - (1) The Union Flag to be flown on all days that the Council is open for business, and other nationally significant occasions that fall on the weekend and public holidays.
 - (2) The Civic Flag (Borough Coat of Arms) to be flown on all days that the Council is open for business.
 - (3) A flag bearing the Slough Borough Council corporate logo to be flown on all days the Council is open for business apart from days of significant English occasions, including weekend and public holidays, when the St. George's Flag be flown in its place.
- (b) That Planning approval be sought as necessary under the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007 No 783).

45. Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14

1. REFURBISHMENT OF LASCELLES PARK TENNIS COURTS

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Dale-Gough,

“This Council resolves to:-

- Formulate plans and set aside funds to refurbish the tennis courts in Lascelles Park and bring all four of them up to a full functioning and safe standard. This work should be completed before next summer’s tennis season.
- The cost should be met out of existing parks and leisure budgets.
- To make these courts fit for purpose and available on the same first-come first-served basis, free of charge basis as at present, to meet the demand of park users including private individuals, organised groups like Boys Brigade, Brownies and Scouts, and nearby schools”.

It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Parmar,
Seconded by Councillor S Chaudhry,

That the motion be amended as follows:-

“This Council resolves to:-

- Continue investing in the borough’s parks consistent with the council’s progress to date; Formulate plans and timetable works (to fit in with the commitments the council has already made to refurbishing Baylis and Upton Court Park) and set aside funds to refurbish the tennis courts in Lascelles Park and bring all four of them up to a fully functioning and safe standard. ~~This work should be completed before next summer’s tennis season.~~
- Explore means of external funding as a priority as The cost should cannot be met out of existing parks and leisure budgets.
- To explore options available to make these courts fit for purpose and available to a maximum number of people in an economically sustainable way ~~on the same first-come first-served basis, free of charge basis as at present,~~ to meet the demand of park users including private individuals, organised groups like Boys Brigade, Brownies and Scouts, and nearby schools”.

The amendment was put and carried by 25 votes to 1 vote with 10 abstentions.

The substantive motion was put and carried by 24 votes to 8 votes with 3 abstentions.

Resolved- This Council resolves to:-

- Continue investing in the borough’s parks consistent with the council’s progress to date; formulate plans and timetable works (to fit in with the commitments the council has already made to refurbishing Baylis and Upton Court Park) to

Council - 29.11.11

refurbish the tennis courts in Lascelles Park and bring all four of them up to a fully functioning and safe standard.

- Explore means of external funding as a priority as the cost cannot be met out of existing parks and leisure budgets.
- Explore options available to make these courts fit for purpose and available to a maximum number of people in an economically sustainable way to meet the demand of park users including private individuals, organised groups like Boys Brigade, Brownies and Scouts, and nearby schools.

WAR MEMORIALS

It was moved by Councillor Plimmer,
Seconded by Councillor Stokes,

“This Council resolves to:

- 1) Urgently commission a survey of the town centre war memorial located at the rear of St Mary’s Church to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore it to its former glory.
- 2) Commission any work that needs doing to the town centre war memorial as soon as possible and without delay.
- 3) Urgently commission a survey of other war memorials in order to ascertain:
 - a) How many war memorials exist in the borough
 - b) And to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore them to their former glory.
- 4) Commission any work that needs doing to these war memorials as soon as possible and without delay”.

It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Munawar,

“This Council resolves to:

- ~~1) Urgently commission a survey of the town centre war memorial located at the rear of St Mary’s Church to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore it to its former glory.~~
- ~~2) 1) Commission any work that needs doing to the town centre war memorial to maintain its current condition and safety, in addition to that which has already been carried out since April 2010 and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure. as soon as possible and without delay.~~
- ~~3) 2) Work with the Civic Society and Slough branch of the Royal British Legion to Urgently commission a survey of other war memorials in order to ascertain:~~
 - a) How many war memorials exist in the borough

Council - 29.11.11

b) And to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore them to their former glory.

4) 3) Commission any work that needs doing to these war memorials to maintain their current condition and safety, and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure, in time for the 100th Anniversary of the commencement of World War I, in 2014 as soon as possible and without delay".

5) 4) Endorse the proposal already supported by the Civic Society and The War Memorials Trust that a public subscription campaign be mounted to fund a new War Memorial to be located in a non-denominational location, which recognises the service-men and -women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in all wars up to the current time.

5) Support the establishment of a War Memorial 2014 Committee to investigate the cost, location, design, criteria for the inclusion of names of war dead and funding means of such a memorial as referred in (4).

Councillor Plimmer as mover of the original motion, with the agreement of his seconder, Councillor Coad, indicated that he was prepared to accept the proposed amendment which was agreed by the Council as the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put and carried unanimously.

Resolved- This Council resolves to:

- 1) Commission any work that needs doing to the town centre war memorial to maintain its current condition and safety, in addition to that which has already been carried out since April 2010 and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure.
- 2) Work with the Civic Society and Slough branch of the Royal British Legion to ascertain:
 - a) How many war memorials exist in the borough
 - b) And to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore them to their former glory.
- 3) Commission any work that needs doing to these war memorials to maintain their current condition and safety, and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure, in time for the 100th Anniversary of the commencement of World War I, in 2014.
- 4) Endorse the proposal already supported by the Civic Society and The War Memorials Trust that a public subscription campaign be mounted to fund a new War Memorial to be located in a non-denominational location, which recognises the service-men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in all wars up to the current time.
- 5) Support the establishment of a *War Memorial 2014 Committee* to investigate the cost, location, design, criteria for the inclusion of names of war dead and funding means of such a memorial as referred in (4).

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.37 pm)