

SOUTH BUCKS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting – 14 December 1999

Present: Mr Worrall (Chairman), Dr. Kennedy (Vice-Chairman),

Mr Adams, Mrs Barton, Mr Bowater, Mrs Burry, Mr Cole, Mr Cooper, Mr Dolan, Mr Dunlop, Mr Egleton, Mrs Fea, Mr Greer, Mr Henry, Prof. Hogarth, Dr. Hollis, Mr Houdret, Mr Jones, Mrs Kverndal, Mr Lidgate, Mrs Mallinder, Mrs Mallowan, Mr McKenzie, Mr Penfold, Mr Reed, Mr Rigby, Mr Royston, Dr. Scott, Mr Sheasby, Mrs Smith, Mr Somers, Mrs Temple, Mr Whitehouse, Mr Winterbourne, and Mrs Woolveridge.

Apologies for absence: Mr Bridger, Mr Nasr, Mrs Simmonds, and Mr Smith.

37. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported this was the first meeting of the Council since the death of Mr Bob Baile on 19 October 1999. The Council stood in silent tribute to Mr Baile who had represented Beaconsfield as a District Councillor between 1976 and 1991, serving as Chairman of the Council from 1982 to 1984.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Royston to the meeting after a period of illness and expressed the best wishes of the Council to Mr Nasr who had been taken into hospital recently.

The Chairman reported on a number of events and functions attended and referred in particular to the staff Christmas Reception and to the Beaconsfield Festival of Lights on 8 December 1999.

38 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19 October 1999 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

39 POLICY COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Policy Committee, Mr Egleton, presented the Part I report of the meeting held on 30 November 1999 and gave a resume of the work of the Committee. In particular, reference was made to the minutes on the KPMG Management Letter, Taking Forward the Community Plan, the LGA Hearing on Regionalism, and Local Area Committees.

With reference to the Changing Member Role (minute 73) an amendment was moved by Mrs Mallinder seconded by Mr Henry, to the effect that a Communications Panel be established with complete cross party representation including the Liberal Democrats. After discussion, the amendment was put to the vote and was lost. With reference to the second recommendation under this minute, the Council accepted an amendment from the Chairman that the new Committee should be entitled the Finance Sub-Committee (not Finance Select Committee) in order to clarify its status. With reference to progress on the communications strategy, it was confirmed that a report on this would be presented to the next Policy Committee meeting.

With reference to the Office Move Project Sub-Committee (minute 82), some clarification was

sought on the costs of the publicity carried out in conjunction with the Community Plan consultation and it was noted that overall costs were the subject of a report to the Policy Committee Executive Sub-Committee. In connection with the pilot projects on satellite facilities, it was acknowledged that this would proceed irrespective of any decision relating to the office move. A further meeting of the Sub-Committee would be convened once a report on the results of the consultation had been prepared following conclusion of the consultation period.

With reference to the report of the Computer Panel (minute 81), it was noted that in approving the PC replacement programme, and the Policy Committee had approved the upgrade of the PC specification to the current industry standard, which at present was a Pentium III 500 Mhz.

With reference to Maidenhead Rowing Club – Trustees Liability (minute 85) it was noted that any costs to the Council in the further variation of this lease would not be passed on to Maidenhead Rowing Club.

RESOLVED that the report, subject to amendment as referred to above, be received and adopted.

40. COMMUNITY AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Community and Leisure Committee, Mr McKenzie, presented the report of the meeting on 2 November 1999 and gave a resume of the work of the Committee. In particular reference was made to the minutes on Additional Leisure Resources; the Pond at Lent Green Lane, Burnham; the regaining of member representation on the Slough Area Community Police Consultative Group; and the Colne Valley Park Funding and Projects.

With reference to minute 78 (Consultative Body Decisions - Mast at Farnham Park Golf Course) a typographical error was corrected by deletion of the word "give" from the first line of the minute.

RESOLVED that, subject to the addition of the name of Dr Kennedy to the list of apologies for absence and the correction referred to, the report be received and adopted.

41. ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Environment and Housing Committee, Mrs Mallowan, presented Part I of the report of the meeting held on 9 November 1999 and gave a resume of the work of the work of the Committee. In particular, reference was made to reports which had been considered on Biodiversity; the National Air Quality Strategy Stage 2 Review; Butlers Court, Wattleton Road, Beaconsfield; Farnham Common House, Beaconsfield Road, Farnham Common; The Handyman Project, and the proposed Housing Needs Survey.

With reference to Waste Management in Buckinghamshire (minute 68), comment was made about the abbreviated form of the second part of the resolution. However, this was an endorsement of a page or more of detailed items that had been agreed by the Bucks Waste Forum.

RESOLVED that the report be received and adopted.

(Note: Mrs Mallowan and Mrs Woolveridge declared non-pecuniary interests in minute 64)

(Farnham Common House, Farnham Common Road, Beaconsfield) as Council representatives on the Board of Beacon Housing Association).

42. PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee, Mr Dolan, presented the Part I reports of the meetings held on 20 October and 17 October 1999 and gave a resume of the work of the Committee. In particular, reference was made to the Dropmore Estate – Planning Brief, the Chilterns Building Design Guidance, the advice on Members' Interests as Parish Councillors, and the Draft Regional Planning Guidance – Report of the Panel on the Examination in Public.

RESOLVED that subject to a correction to the numbering minute 105, the reports be received and adopted.

43. NOTICE OF MOTION

Notice having been given under Standing Order 13, it was moved by Mrs Mallinder and seconded by Mr Henry that:-

"The Council resolves to mark the Millennium by creating a Millennium Wood on land within the District, thus at the same time improving the environment, providing increased recreational opportunity for residents and fulfilling one of the policy proposals in its draft Community Plan, and to that end

a) requests the officers to investigate and report on suitable sites, funding requirements and partnership opportunities and

b) to include this as a Growth Item in the budget process for the coming year"

The motion, after being moved and seconded, was referred without discussion to the Community and Leisure Committee for consideration and report.

44. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Act:-

(1) Policy Committee (Part II) – 30 November 1999 - as set out in minute 94;

(2) Environment and Housing Committee (Part II) – 9 November 1999 – as set out in minute 77;

(3) Planning and Transportation Committee (Part II) – 20 October and 17 November 1999 – as set out in minutes 117 and 136.

48. TERMINATION OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 6.05 p.m.