

SOUTH BUCKS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council - 21 April 2015

- Present: Councillors Mr Anthony, Mr Bagge, Mr Busby, Mr Chhokar, Mr Clark, Mrs Cranmer, Dr A Dhillon, Mr D Dhillon, Mr Egleton, Mr Griffin, Miss Hazell, Mr Hollis, Mrs Holloway, Mr Jones, Mr Kelly, Mr Lidgate, Mrs Lowen-Cooper, Dr Matthews, Mr Naylor, Mr Pepler, Dr. Pope, Mr Reed, Mrs Royston, Mr Sandy, Mrs Simmonds, Mr D Smith, Mrs Sullivan, Mr Walters MBE and Mrs Woolveridge
- Apologies: Councillors Mr Bradford, Mr Brown, Mr Harding, Mr Hardy, Mrs Plant and Mr Samson

57. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported on recent functions and events he had attended on behalf of the Council which included:

- **Tuesday 24 February 2015** – South Bucks and Chiltern Schools Indoor Rowing Championships – Maidenhead Rowing Club – annual event – part of South Bucks Olympic Legacy Programme 1000 young people took part across South Bucks District and Chiltern District.
- **Friday 27 February 2015** – SBDC Chairman's Reception at Stoke Park – played host to 'the great and the good' across the District and further afield. This event was attended by Lord Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Dominic Grieve QC MP amongst others and was an enjoyable showcase event.
- **Sunday 28 February 2015** – Farnham Branch Royal British Legion's Annual Dinner at Stoke Park. A speech was made about the local work of RBL and the role of Sikhs during the two World Wars.
- **Friday 6 March 2015** – Chiltern District Council Chairman's Reception at Council Offices in Amersham.
- **Thursday 26 March 2015** – Wycombe District Council Chairman's Reception at Wycombe Abbey School.
- **Saturday 28 March 2015** – Captain's Day at the South Buckinghamshire Golf Club. This was a fundraising event with a competition and raffle. The proceeds were split between Help for Heroes and Chairman's Community Fund. This raised about £500. It was an excellent initiative by General Manager. The Chairman would encourage Councillors to be on lookout for similar opportunities to raise funds for Chairman's Community Fund

58. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 February 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Referring to Minute 40 (Minute 33 – Budget and Council Tax Report 2015/16) the Leader was pleased to inform members that following a review of business rates collection and accounting arrangements there would be a significant one off surplus that would be available in the 2015/16 financial year, and the prospect of higher than forecast business rates income

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in future years. This would be of assistance to helping the Council manage future financial pressures.

59. **FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETINGS**

The Council was advised of a vacant seat in Beaconsfield West District Ward following Matt Denyer's failure to attend meetings over the last six months. The seat would be filled at the District Elections in May 2015.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

60. **REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION - SCHEME OF OFFICER DELEGATION**

The Council considered a report providing an update on the work to revise the Council's Constitution and in particular the Scheme of Officer Delegation and advising of the need to make further revisions to reflect recently issued legislation. The Council noted the intention to submit a further report to the July meeting.

After supporting the proposal in the report to authorise the Head of Paid Service to deal with urgent decisions between the elections and the Annual Council meeting, the Council

RESOLVED

1. That a revised Scheme of Officer Delegations be brought to Full Council on 21 July 2015 for approval, together with revisions to the Constitution to incorporate amendments enacted by the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations 2015 and Mandatory Standing Orders Regulations 2015
2. That where a matter requires an urgent decision (whether relating to an executive or non-executive function) during the period between the date of retirement of councillors following the District Council elections and the next Annual Meeting of the Council, the Head of Paid Service be authorised to make the decision and authorise any relevant action, after consultation with the Chairman of the Council or in his/her absence the Vice- Chairman.

61. **QUESTIONS**

No questions had been received under Council Procedure Rule 10.

62. **CABINET MEETING**

The Leader, Mr Busby, presented the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 31 March 2015.

The relevant Portfolio Holder introduced each minute of the Cabinet respectively.

RESOLVED that the minutes be received and the recommendation in Minute 52 – Local Lettings Policy - be adopted.

63. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 11 February and 11 March 2015 were presented.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

64. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 23 March 2015 were presented.

Referring to minute 29 – Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust - Mrs Woolveridge said that the presentation by the Chairman of the Trust had been very informative and wished to thank the Chairman of the Committee for inviting non-members of the Committee to attend and ask questions.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

65. **LICENSING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held 18 March 2015 were presented.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

66. **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 12 March 2015 were presented.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

67. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 13 April 2015 were presented.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

68. **JOINT APPOINTMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Appointments and Implementation Committee held on 15 April 2015 were received.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

69. **MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The following reports from members were received.

Mrs Cranmer - Padstones

Dr Matthews - Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee held on 25 November 2014, 10 February 2015 and 24 March.

Mr Pepler - Meeting of the Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust held on 26 November 2015

Mrs Woolveridge - Meeting of Chiltern Clinical Commissioning Group held on 12 February 2015

Mrs Woolveridge - Meeting of L&Q Shires Neighbourhood Committee

70. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Vote of Thanks

Mr Chhokar wished to thank members for the support they had given him during his two years as Chairman. He also wished to thank those members who would be retiring at the

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District Elections for all their work. Particular thanks were paid to Mr Busby for his leadership and stewardship of the Council's resources during a very difficult period for local government. Mr Busby thanked members and particularly officers for their support during his eight years as Leader of the Council.

Mr Reed paid tribute to the way Mr Chhokar had carried out his duties as Chairman particularly the way he had managed meetings of the Council.

The meeting terminated at 6.40 pm