

# Romsey Town Council

Town Hall  
1, Market Place  
Romsey  
SO51 8YZ

## FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007 in the Court Room, Town Hall, Romsey

**In the Chair: Councillor M.G. Cooper**

### Attendance:

P Councillor D. Baverstock	P Councillor J. Gethin
P Councillor K. Dunleavy	P Councillor D. Johnson
P Councillor M. Bramley	P Councillor S. Lamb
P Councillor J. Burgess	P Councillor C. Lewis
P Councillor C. Collier	P Councillor M. Curtis
P Councillor J. Ray	

**Clerk:** Mrs. Judith Giles

**Public in Attendance:** 2

### 1. PRAYERS

The Reverend Tim Harling led prayers. There followed a minute's silence to reflect on the lives of Alan Marsh and Roger Shaw.

### 2. APOLOGIES

None

### 3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Personal: None

Pecuniary: None

### 4. RESIGNATIONS

Resignations from the Council have been received from Cllr. I. Bell dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 2007 and Cllr. R. Shaw dated 27<sup>th</sup> October 2007.

### 5. MINUTES

#### Confirmation

(a) The minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2007 were duly confirmed and signed.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Curtis**

**SECONDED by Cllr J. Ray**

**CARRIED**

#### Matters Arising

Cllr. M. Curtis asked if Cllr. M. Cooper had contacted Hampshire Highways for clarification of the lane labelling at the Ashfield roundabout. Cllr. M. Cooper said he was awaiting a reply and would let Cllr Curtis know the officer response.

Item 13. Cllr. M. Cooper stated that Test Valley Borough Council has agreed a Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) which is the method used to help police and local authorities tackle alcohol related crime and disorder more effectively. It covered the 13 built up Wards in Test Valley ie all of Romsey. This is currently under public consultation and should be enacted by late Spring 2008.

## **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7.38 P.M.**

### **(b) ROMSEY PLASTIC BAG FREE ZONE PRESENTATION**

A presentation was made highlighting the advantages of Romsey becoming a Plastic Bag Free Zone. Council supported the principle of becoming a plastic bag free town. The Town Mayor and Town Clerk agreed to investigate further. A report will be given at the next Full Council Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

### **(c) Questions from members of the public to the County Councillor and Borough Councillors present at the meeting.**

There were no questions.

### **(d) Questions from members of the public to Town Councillors**

A member of the public furnished Council with a copy of the Romsey Male Voice Choir Charter Concert CD. The Town Clerk recorded her thanks.

A member of the public made a presentation with regards to Romsey Town Council's application for Quality Status. The Town Clerk and a number of Councillors responded. The Chairman pointed out that Quality Status was on this Agenda (Item No. 14) when Council would decide how it would like to proceed.

## **THE MEETING WAS RECONVENED 8.15P.M.**

### **6. Questions from Town Councillors to members of Senior Councils present at the meeting**

Cllr. C. Collier asked Cllr. M. Cooper if there was any chance more funds be forthcoming from Hampshire County Council with regards to the visit of her Majesty the Queen and HRH Prince Phillip. Cllr. M. Cooper said he would approach Cllr. K. Thornber, Leader HCC, however he felt that it was unlikely, as a £5,000 grant had already been received from HCC and £5,000 to be donated from Cllr. M. Cooper's HCC Grant Fund.

Cllr. M. Bramley queried the lack of police presence in Romsey and asked where the Community Support Officers were? He stated he was very concerned when reporting recent anti-social behaviour in the town, there were no police officers available in the area and was told they would have to come from Andover. Cllr. M. Cooper said he will write to the Chief Constable and it was agreed to invite Inspector Wakefield - Romsey Police, to a future Council meeting so Council can put forward its concerns.

Cllr. D. Johnson said the road between the Post Office and The Horsefair on Church Street was in poor repair. Cllr. M. Cooper said a "Programme of Upgrading for Market Towns" existed and he would email Kevin Fuller – Senior Highways Officer, HCC with regards the road surface between the Post Office and The Horsefair.

### **7. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Councillor M. Curtis proposed that the Full Council accepts the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2007, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2007, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007(draft)

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Curtis**

**SECONDED by Cllr. K. Dunleavey**

**CARRIED**

### **8. TOWN COMMITTEE**

The Town Committee meeting scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007 did not take place as the Committee was inquorate.

**9. BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Councillor K. Dunleavy proposed that the Full Council accepts the minutes of the Building Committee meetings held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007 and 8<sup>th</sup> November 2007 (draft)

**PROPOSED by Cllr. K. Dunleavy**

**SECONDED by Cllr. J. Ray**

Cllr. D. Baverstock asked for an update with regards the loop system in the Court Room. The Town Clerk confirmed that improvements to the hygiene of the earphones were being put in place and when funds permit the system will be upgraded.

**10.i) FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Councillor M. Cooper proposed that the Full Council accepts the minutes of the Finance Committee meetings held on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007 (draft)

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. C. Lewis**

**CARRIED**

**10.ii) Finance Committee Membership**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/36**

It was **RESOLVED** to propose Cllr. J. Burgess as a member of the Finance Committee. A further review will be made in the future.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. C. Lewis**

**CARRIED**

**11.i) STAFFING COMMITTEE**

Councillor C. Collier proposed that the Full Council accepts the minutes of the Staffing Committee meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007 (draft)

**11.ii) RESOLUTION NO. 07/37**

**Staff Salary Increases 2008/9**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept recommendation in accordance with Standing Order 38 that staff salaries be increased in accordance with National Pay Scales and relevant incremental increases where applicable

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. M. Curtis**

**CARRIED**

**12. DRAFT BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/38**

It was **RESOLVED** to defer Romsey Town Council's 2008-9 budget setting in order to clarify the legislation relating to the Test Valley Borough Council loan.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. S. Lamb**

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/39**

It was **RESOLVED** to hold an informal meeting on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00p.m. followed by an Extraordinary Council Meeting at 7.30p.m. Town Clerk to send further details in due course.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. J. Gethin**

**CARRIED**

**13. RESOLUTION NO. 07/40**

It was **RESOLVED** to express sincere thanks to Christine Cole, Test Valley Borough Council for the donation of the two historic town centre maps of Romsey to the Town Hall.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. J. Ray**

**CARRIED**

**14. QUALITY STATUS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/41**

It was **RESOLVED** that Romsey Town Council does not wish to withdraw its application for Quality Status and to request the Accreditation Panel reconvene to finally decide upon the application on receipt of the Audit Accounts 2006/7.

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/42**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk respond to the matters in the Accreditation Panel letter in the most robust terms.

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/43**

It was **RESOLVED** that Council wholeheartedly congratulates the Town Clerk on the work done to produce the Quality Status file and on the excellent quality of its content. Further thanks are extended to the Town Council staff for their outstanding commitment before and after the Royal Visit and for their support of the Town Clerk in her work to achieve Quality Status for Romsey Town Council

**RECORDED VOTE : In FAVOUR of the above resolutions:- Cllr. M. Curtis, Cllr. S. Lamb, Cllr. D. Baverstock, Cllr. M. Bramley, Cllr. C. Collier, Cllr. M.G. Cooper, Cllr. F. Gethin, Cllr. D. Johnson, Cllr. J. Ray, Cllr. C. Lewis, Cllr. K. Dunleavey, Cllr. J. Burgess. AGAINST: None. ABSTENTIONS: None. The resolutions CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**15. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/44**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Public Participation Guidelines outlined, subject to amendment of item 3 and item 7.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. D. Johnson**

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07/45**

It was **RESOLVED to DEFER** the adoption of Standing Order 69ii) to the next Full Council meeting 15th January 2008. The final draft will be circulated to all Councillors for their perusal before the next Full Council meeting.

**PROPOSED by Cllr. M. Cooper**

**SECONDED by Cllr. M. Curtis**

**CARRIED**

**16. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Mayor said:-**

Congratulations to the Romsey Branch of the Royal British Legion, Mr Bob Sankey, Parade organiser and the Romsey Town Council staff for an excellently organised and smooth running Remembrance Sunday Ceremony and Service on 11th November.

A Thanksgiving Service for the life of long serving Town Councillor and past Mayor, Roger Shaw will be held on Thursday 29th November at 12.30p.m. in Romsey Abbey and afterwards at Romsey Town Hall.

The Chamber of Commerce is organising the Christmas Lights switch on for 6 pm on Saturday 24th November with the actual switch on scheduled for 6.30.

The Town Mayor and the Town Clerk are attending Test Valley Borough Council's Civic Service on the occasion of Her Majesty the Queen's and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh's Diamond wedding Anniversary on Sunday 25th November in Stockbridge. On behalf of Romsey Town Council and the people of Romsey congratulations were conveyed to the Royal Couple.

Romsey's Late Night Shopping will be on Friday 7th December.

**17. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS**

Cllr. J. Burgess - STVTS Annual General Meeting

Cllr. J. Gethin and Cllr. M. Cooper – King John's House Annual General Meeting

**18. CORRESPONDENCE**

Bus Route – Fishlake Meadows/Greatbridge Road. Town Clerk to liaise with Cllr. D. Baverstock with regards bus stop in this area.

Council expressed their thanks to Cllr. M. Bramley in his excellent initiative for the replacement of the chairs in the Council Chamber

Meeting closed at 9.43p.m.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at 7.30p.m. in the Court Room