ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES of PROCEEDINGS at the ANNUAL MEETING of the COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 18 May 2011.

Members of the Council:

* J.G. Sheldon (Mayor)
* Mrs. J.R. Turner (Deputy Mayor)

D.J. Archer * M. Axton * M.J. Bennison
* J. Browne * J.V.C. Butcher * J.C. Cartwright
* B.J.F. Cheyne * R.E. Cole * Mrs. E. Cooper
* N.C. Cooper * Ms. B.A. Cowin * Mrs. C.J. Cross
* F. Dabell * G.P. Dearlove * Mrs. S.J. Dennis
S. Desborough * S. Dodsworth * I. Donaldson
* I.T. Donaldson * K. Egan * V.G. Eldridge
* Mrs. C. Elmer * C.J. Elmer * B. Fairbank
* Mrs. J. Fuller * Mrs. C. Gibbins * R.J. Gray
* T.J.C. Grey * P.M. Harman * S. Hawkins
* G. Herbert * A.J. Hopkins * Mrs. K. Hughes
* Mrs. S.R. Kapadia * A.C. Kelly * A.H. Kopitko
* Rachael I. Lake * Mrs. R.J.M. Lyon * M. Macleod
* T.J.C. Grey * Mrs. D.M. Mitchell * Mrs. R. Mitchell
* M. Mills * T.G. Oliver * J. O'Reilly
* Mrs. M. Odone * Mrs. K. Randolph * Mrs. L. Robertson
* T. Popham * Mrs. E.E. Saunders * S.J. Selleck
* C.R. Sadler * Mrs. M.C. Sheldon * Mrs. T. Shipley
* Mrs. L. Sharp * S.J. Waugh * S.J.E. Wells
* J.A. Vickers *
* B. White

* denotes attendance

The meeting opened with prayers led by the Reverend Steve Brunn,
St. Mary’s Church, Oatlands.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

2. **RETIRING MAYOR’S REMARKS**

The retiring Mayor, B.J.F. Cheyne, began by welcoming the following newly elected Members: Councillors C.J. Elmer, R.J. Gray, G. Herbert and Mrs. E.E. Saunders. Thanks were extended to those Members who had retired, for the effective representation of their Wards and contribution to the Council and the Borough during their terms of office. The Mayor also extended thanks on behalf of the Council to former Councillor M.A. Courtney for his work and contribution to the Borough.
It had been a tremendous honour to represent the Borough as Mayor over the last 12 months. Memorable moments were numerous, and the Mayor paid particular tribute to the many community groups and individual volunteers that gave up their time to support the young and more vulnerable members of the community.

Other highlights had included the Royal Artillery Parade in February, when servicemen and women had marched through the High Street in Esher to Sandown Park. It had also been a privilege to attend the launch of the 2010-2011 Poppy Appeal for Surrey. The County had excelled over the last few years in the amount of money collected to help servicemen and women. The Mayor highlighted the superb efforts made in Walton, where the total collected had increased seven-fold over the last year, and with the Walton Army Cadet Corps coming second overall in the County for the amount that they had collected.

The Mayor and Mayoress had also visited a great number of schools in the Borough, together with homes for the elderly and disabled. They had also been pleased to visit three residents who had each celebrated 100th birthdays.

The Mayor’s chosen charity had been Parkinson’s UK, with all proceeds that were raised being spent within the Borough. During the year, numerous events had been held and the Mayor thanked the many people and organisations that had helped with fundraising activities. Whilst the final amount raised would not be known for a little while as donations were still coming in, the ambition was to provide improved facilities in the Borough for those suffering from the condition, together with their carers.

The Mayor thanked those people that had helped to make his year memorable and successful. In particular he thanked the Mayoress, Mrs. Houda Cheyne; Deputy Mayor, Councillor John Sheldon; and Deputy Mayoress, Councillor Mrs. Mary Sheldon, for all their support and kindness throughout the year. Mrs. Lisa Scroby, the Mayor’s Secretary; Ms. Beverley Greenstein, Head of Executive and Member Services; and Mrs. Tina Culleton from the Executive and Member Services Division were also thanked for their help and support. The Mayor also expressed his thanks to Reverend Steve Brunn, St. Mary’s Church, Oatlands for his support during the year.

A vote of thanks was proposed by J. O’Reilly, seconded by C.R. Sadler and supported by B. Fairbank, and unanimously

RESOLVED that the Council places on record its sincere appreciation to B.J.F. Cheyne and Mrs. Houda Cheyne, the Mayor and Mayoress, for the very able way they had enhanced the Mayoralty during their year in office.

3. **ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2011/12**

It was proposed by J. O’Reilly, seconded by Mrs. R. Mitchell and

RESOLVED that J.G. Sheldon be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2011/12.

(J.G. Sheldon thereupon signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.)

- 2 -
4. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was adjourned for a few minutes to enable the newly-elected Mayor to don the robe and Chain of Office.

5. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor thanked J. O’Reilly and Mrs. R. Mitchell for proposing him, and all Members of the Council for the honour bestowed to him in electing him as the Borough’s Mayor.

The Mayor announced that Reverend Martin Fletcher of St. Peter’s Church, Hersham, was to act as his Chaplain for the year.

The Mayor also announced that the main beneficiary of his Charity Appeal would be the Sam Beare Weybridge Hospice. It was a cherished institution regarded as a place of compassion with its mission of enabling those with terminal illness to end their days in tranquillity. Furthermore, a proportion of the funds raised during his Mayoral year would be donated to the Mayor’s Trust Fund and also Assisting Communities in Elmbridge.

The Mayor, expressed his thanks to The Ship Hotel in Weybridge, who had kindly agreed to host his Charity Launch on Wednesday 25 May 2011 at 11 a.m. This would enable invited guests to see for themselves what was hoped to be achieved.

With regard to forthcoming events, the Mayor confirmed that the Civic Service would be held on Sunday 19 June 2011 at 2.30 p.m. at St. Peter’s Parish Church, Hersham.

The annual Bowls Match would take place on Thursday 14 July 2011, courtesy of Walton Bowls Club.

Unusually, the annual Cricket Match, to be hosted by Hersham Cricket Club at the Coronation Recreation Ground, was to be played the day after the Bowls Match, on Friday 15 July 2011.

The annual Race Night would take place at Sandown Park on 4 August 2011 and the Mayoress would be hosting the annual Ladies Luncheon at the Woodlands Park Hotel on 26 September 2011.

The Mayor’s annual Carol Concert would take place on 11 December 2011 at 2.30 p.m. at St. Peter’s Parish Church, Hersham.

Details of other forthcoming events throughout the year would be circulated to all Members in due course.

6. RETIRING MAYOR

The Mayor presented the retiring Mayor and Mayoress with badges as a permanent reminder of the Council’s appreciation of their work during the past year.
7. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2011/12

It was proposed by F. Dabell, seconded by A.J. Hopkins and

RESOLVED that Mrs. J.R. Turner be appointed Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2011/12.

(Mrs. J.R. Turner thereupon signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for her appointment.)

8. RESULTS OF BOROUGH ELECTION

RESOLVED that the results of the recent Borough Election as set out in the report, be noted.

9. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by S. Dodsworth, seconded by T.G. Oliver and

RESOLVED that J. O'Reilly be appointed Leader of the Council.

10. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Leader of the Council, J. O'Reilly advised Members that S. Dodsworth had been appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council.

RESOLVED that the above appointment be noted.

11. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET OF THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED that it be noted that, in addition to the Leader of the Council, J. O'Reilly, the following Members had been appointed to the Cabinet:

J. Browne, Mrs. C.J. Cross, Ms. B.A. Cowin, G.P. Dearlove, S. Dodsworth, Mrs. C. Elmer, Mrs. J. Fuller, Mrs. D.M. Mitchell and T.G. Oliver.

12. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES ETC., FOR 2011/12

Members considered a report by the Head of Executive and Member Services in respect of the allocation of Members to seats on Committees etc., for 2011/12, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

J. O’Reilly proposed that for the 2011/12 Municipal Year, the Council constitute a 7-seat option for Sub-Committees, the Audit and Standards Committee and the Member Employee Advisory Group.
Accordingly, it was

RESOLVED that

(a) for the purposes of Regulations made under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, it be noted that Members of the Council had formed themselves into political groups with the numbers of Members as shown in the report; and that under those Regulations, the sizes of the Groups be used as the basis for determining Group entitlements to seats on Committees etc.;

(b) the entitlements of seats for each political group on the Committees etc., as set out in the report be confirmed;

(c) for the reasons set out in the report, a 16 seat Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a 13 seat Licensing Committee (in order to comply with the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003) be established;

(d) that, for the reasons set out in the report, the Sub-Committees, Audit and Standards Committee and Member Employee Advisory Group, be established on the basis of 7 seats;

(e) the entitlements of seats for each political group on the Area Planning Sub-Committees be confirmed and East, North and West Area Planning Sub-Committees each comprising 10 seats be appointed;

(f) an Appointments Sub-Committee of 7 Members be established for 2011/12 for the purposes of appointments/nominations to a wide range of outside organisations, as appropriate;

(g) the following resolution (previously made at its Annual Meeting in May, 1994) be noted:

"Subject to the Council’s Constitution and within the overall allocations of seats to political groups on Committees, Sub-Committees or other internal bodies as may be agreed from time to time by the Council, written notification to the Chief Executive by a Group Leader or Deputy Group Leader of the appointment on any such body of a Member of his or her Group, or of the substitution of a Member for another Member of the same Group, shall be regarded as sufficient authority for that appointment or substitution to be made and the appointment or substitution shall be deemed to have been made by the Council.”; and

(h) based on resolutions (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) above, the lists, which were circulated for information indicating the names of Members chosen by their respective Groups to serve on the Committees etc., be noted.

13. **APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

In moving the report of the Appointments Sub-Committee meeting, the Leader of the Council, J. O’Reilly confirmed, in the interests of accuracy, that the meeting had taken
place on the 11 May, not 12 May as indicated. Furthermore, subsequent to the meeting of the Appointments Sub-Committee, the Council had been advised by the Surrey Local Government Association (SLGA) of the ability to nominate to a further vacancy, which had arisen as a result of a Member at another authority not retaining their seat at the Election. The vacancy was on the ‘Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust’, which provided health and social care services for people with mental health illness, drug and alcohol addictions and learning disabilities.

The Council would be entitled to submit a nomination to the SLGA, who would then determine whether a nomination from this Council, or from another authority, was successful. In this regard, he proposed the nomination of the Portfolio Holder for Social Affairs.

The Leader also confirmed the following changes to his Group’s nominations to the Surrey County Council Local Committee: R.J. Gray and Mrs. D.M. Mitchell to replace G.P. Dearlove and D.J. Archer respectively.

RESOLVED that

(a) subject to the above amendments, the report and recommendation of the meeting of the Appointments Sub-Committee held on 11 May 2011, be agreed; and

(b) the Portfolio Holder for Social Affairs be nominated to the Surrey Local Government Association’s ‘Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust’, for the Municipal Year 2011/12.


The Council received a return of Members’ attendances at meetings of the Council and its Committees for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

---

The meeting commenced at 7.45 p.m., adjourned at 8.15 p.m., reconvened at 8.23 p.m. and concluded at 8.48 p.m.

J.G. SHELDON
Mayor

Committee Officer

Mrs. M. Hayes - Committee and Member Services Manager

Other Officers in attendance

R. Moran - Chief Executive
D.R. Wiltshire - Strategic Director - Services
Ms. B. Greenstein - Head of Executive and Member Services
A. Harrison - Head of Legal Services
Mrs. L. Scroby - Mayor’s Secretary