ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES of PROCEEDINGS at the MEETING of the COUNCIL held on
Wednesday 2 April 2014

Members of the Council:
* M.J. Bennison (Mayor)
* B. Fairbank (Deputy Mayor)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES

In the interests of accuracy, it was noted that, on page 317, Mrs. C. Elmer’s declaration of interest should read ‘Home Support Elmbridge’.

Following a request from Mrs. R.J.M. Lyon, it was agreed that the additional information that had been provided to Members by way of an e-mail dated 19 March, in respect of the supplementary questions at the meeting relating to flooding (as appended), be added to the formal record of proceedings.

RESOLVED that, subject to the above, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 26 February 2014, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.
3. **MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Since the last Council meeting the weather had improved considerably and the Mayor was pleased that residents had not suffered more flooding. The Hardship Fund, set up last month, had been useful for businesses and residents, and the first tranche of applications was being processed.

The Mayor took the opportunity to acknowledge and extend thanks & appreciation on behalf of the Council to those Borough Councillors that would be retiring at the forthcoming Borough Council Elections, by way of confirmations received from Group Leaders, namely Councillors F. Dabell; I.T. Donaldson, K. Egan; Mrs. K. Hughes and Mrs. M. Odone.

Subsequent to the meeting, it was also confirmed that the following Members would be retiring at the forthcoming Borough Council elections, namely Councillors M. Mills and Mrs S. Dennis.

March had been a very busy period for engagements and the Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress for their continuing support.

The main event, held on 15 March 2014 had been the Mayor’s Black and White Charity Ball at Sandown Park. It was a huge success and a thoroughly entertaining evening raising funds for the Mayor’s chosen Charity, Riding for the Disabled – Leatherhead and Horsley & Bookham Groups. The Mayor took the opportunity to thank his Secretary, Mrs. D. Gill and the Head of Executive & Member Services, Ms. B. Greenstein, for all their hard work and support in arranging the event.

The Mayor’s Golf Day had recently taken place on a beautiful sunny day which enabled the players to enjoy their golf at Burhill Golf Club, followed by a superb lunch and prize giving. The Mayor thanked Councillor Glenn Dearlove for his hard work putting the day together which helped to raise £1,200 for Riding for the Disabled.

The requests for Mayoral visits both in and around the Borough, remained high and the Mayor had attended a number of awards ceremonies in recognition of those who had done well over the last year. They included an “apprentice” competition, cadet awards, youth awards and young enterprise finals. Beaver Scouts also received awards whilst visiting the Council Chamber and learning how the Council works.

The Mayor and Mayoress had also attended the opening of the Barnes Wallis Stratosphere Chamber Exhibition at Brooklands Museum where they met Barnes Wallis’s daughter, Mary Stopes Roe.

Furthermore, an unusual engagement was having lunch at Brixton Prison in a restaurant called The Clink which had been recently opened.

The Mayor had also attended the first ‘Fly The Flag for the Commonwealth’ ceremony where a message from HRH The Queen had been read along with the Commonwealth Affirmation. Over 500 flags across the country were raised simultaneously and it was anticipated that this would become an annual event.
As this was the last ordinary meeting of the Council in the Mayoral role, the Mayor extended his thanks to fellow Councillors for their support and encouragement over the last year.

4. **LEADER’S QUESTION TIME**

It was noted that there were no questions submitted on this occasion.

5. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014**

The Council considered the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-2014. The Annual Report reviewed key activities and achievements and highlighted areas to be taken forward in the new Municipal Year.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, A.J. Hopkins, presented the Annual Report. Matters considered by the Committee, its Standing Panel, Working Groups and Task & Finish Groups during 2013/14 had included working with partner agencies to address issues of local concern, including engagement with Thames Water in respect of the provision of its services within the Borough; Surrey County Council and its highways plans in the Borough; and South West Trains & Network Rail regarding transportation matters within the Borough. Furthermore, the Committee had engaged in active scrutiny of developments within the individual portfolio holder remits for each Cabinet Member, which had enabled both past performance and future challenges to be considered.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank fellow Members and officers for their hard work and contribution to the Committee and in particular thanked Ms. K. Mills, Policy Manager, Mrs. N. Anderson, Head of Policy and Partnerships and Mr. M. Clarke, Committee & Member Services Officer, for their help and support during the year.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-2014, be received.

6. **URGENCY DECISIONS**

Members noted that there had been no executive or non-executive decisions taken as a matter of urgency since the last meeting of the Council.

7. **REPORTS OF CABINET / COMMITTEES / SUB-COMMITTEE ETC.**

RESOLVED that, subject to the amendments noted below, the reports of the Cabinet and the following Committees at the meetings held on the dates shown, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved:

- **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 20 February 2014
- **INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DEISION MAKING** 26 February 2014
- **INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DEISION MAKING** 27 February 2014
In respect of the clustering of betting shops in high streets and the effect that this had on the vitality of those areas, the Licensing Committee Chairman, I. Donaldson advised that he had requested that officers prepare a report to be submitted to both the Licensing and the Planning Committees assessing what the Council was able to do to strengthen its controls but also to support the LGA’s action to seek a change in the law so that local authorities secured the necessary powers to exercise controls around these issues. C.R. Sadler requested that thanks be extended to Licensing Officers for their advice provided to Members in this regard.

In the interests of accuracy, it was noted that Mayfield Road was in Hersham, not Walton on Thames.

Arising from consideration of this item, Mrs. S.R. Kapadia requested that officers advise local businesses near the Long Ditton Car Park of the availability of season ticket permits in the nearby Southbank Car Park.

In the interests of accuracy, it was noted that in paragraph 2, ‘Mrs. R.J.M. Lyon’ should read ‘Mrs. K. Randolph’.

The meeting commenced at 7.45 p.m. and concluded at 8.29 p.m.

M.J. BENNISON
Mayor

Committee and Member Services Officer
Ms. B. Greenstein - Head of Executive and Member Services
Mrs. M. Hayes - Committee and Member Services Manager
These Minutes should be referred to in conjunction with the Minutes of the subsequent Meeting of the COUNCIL as they may be subject to amendment prior to adoption.

**Other Officers in attendance**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>R. Moran</td>
<td>Chief Executive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. S. Selvanathan</td>
<td>Strategic Director and Deputy Chief Executive</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. Lee</td>
<td>Strategic Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Harrison</td>
<td>Head of Legal Services</td>
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APPENDIX

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED WITH THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2014

It was agreed that the following information be added to the record of proceedings of the Council Meeting held on 26 February 2014, in respect of Minute Number 4 – Leader’s Question Time:

Supplementary Information provided to Members following the Council Meeting on 26 February 2014

Response to J.V.C. Butcher’s supplementary question.

The Government has established a number of funding pots to which people and businesses affected the floods can apply. These are set out on the Government’s website at:

In relation to homes there is a “Repair and Renew” Grant available of up to £5000 to fund repairs over and above what would normally be covered by insurance.

Response to Mrs. R.J.M. Lyon’s supplementary question.

Officers have commissioned a new Strategic Flood Risk Assessment which will inform the preparation of a new Flooding SPD that will provide greater detail on the application of existing flooding policies in the Core Strategy. This SPD will include guidance on extensions and basements in flood zones.