

26 October 2006

***Subject to Approval***  
**A MEETING OF THE CIVIC AND COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS SUB-BOARD**

**WAS HELD ON 26 OCTOBER 2006**

The Mayor (ex-officio) (P); Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (ex-officio) (P); Councillors Allen (P), Carr (P), Carter (P), Cully (P), Edgar (P), Dickson (P), Farr (P) and Gill

It was reported that, in accordance with standing orders, Councillor Mrs Salter had been nominated to attend this meeting in place of Councillor Gill.

The Chairman announced that Mr Kevin O'Toole of Gosport and Fareham Rugby Football Club had died earlier in the day. Members acknowledged Mr O'Toole's contributions to twinning and to sport in general, which were very much appreciated. In order to express their sympathy regarding his death, all attendees at the meeting stood in silent tribute for one minute.

**15. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor Gill, Paul Vella, Graham Sampson and John Purdy.

**16. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Board held on 11 July 2006 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

**PART II**

**17. EUROPEAN FUNDING FOR 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF GOSPORT/ROYAN TWINNING**

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Services Manager, which provided an update on the possibility of European funding for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gosport/Royan Twinning exchange.

Members were advised that the European Union was currently in the process of launching the 'Citizens of Europe' 2007 – 2013 programme. This initiative had been set up and was due to start on 1 January 2007 and included a potential funding stream which may contribute towards the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary twinning arrangements with Royan.

Currently officers were awaiting the release of firm details and proposal applications. Once these were received a further report would be made to the Sub-Board.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Financial Services Manager be noted.

**18. FALKLANDS CONFLICT: 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION SERVICE AND MARCH PAST (3 JUNE 2007)**

The Sub-Board received an update from Mr Derek Cole, Chief Executive of the Falklands Veterans Foundation on the above.

Mr Cole informed the Sub-Board that:

- The event in Gosport would be taking place over 2/3 June 2007 and had the support of both HMS Collingwood and HMS Sultan
- There would be a number of events taking place over this weekend as this was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Southampton and Portsmouth would be looking to be involved. A mini 'Navy Days' event would be taking place in Portsmouth
- Lady Thatcher's office had been approached with regard to her attendance at the Commemorative Service
- The Royal Marine Band had been approached for the Commemorative Service and the March Past
- Events would be taking place in London and Pangbourne College over the period 14 – 17 June 2006. The Lord Mayor's reception would take place on 15 June and the main service and parade would be on 17 June
- The main launch of the Falklands 25 website would be on 13 November 2006. Interest could be registered on the site. Mr Cole indicated that he would ask the Navy to include Gosport on the site. The South Atlantic Veterans would also be included on the website
- The London event would have a limited number of visitors whereas the Gosport event would be a family event

The Chairman advised that the Gosport event would also include the Falklands Veterans Foundation exercising its right to the Freedom of the Borough on the day and suggested that use could be made of the Timespace area and the promenade.

Officers were asked whether the Prime Minister's Office had been notified of the revised date for Gosport's events. It was confirmed that a letter had been sent.

Mr Cole informed the Sub-Board that the march along the High Street would be followed by the salute and then dismissal at Walpole Park. Busses would be available for onward transportation to participants' cars at Bay House School from where they would go to HMS Sultan for refreshments. It was also possible that St George's Field could be used for car parking.

The Chairman advised that the Mayor at the time would, in all probability, wish to hold a reception at the Town Hall. The Council would provide the programme and basic organisation. It was understood that the Submarine Museum had shown interest and Explosion! may also wish to be involved in this Commemoration.

Mr Cole advised the Sub-Board that he had been in touch with the police who were satisfied with what had so far been arranged or suggested. He would also be making efforts to obtain the services of a celebrity for the concert at the Polo Fields.

Mr Cole was thanked for attending the meeting and updating the Sub-Board.

RESOLVED: That Mr Cole's update on the Anniversary Commemoration events be noted.

## **19. WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE 2007**

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Services Manager regarding provisional arrangements for a World War II Commemorative Service, incorporating Veterans Day, scheduled for 24 June 2007.

Members were advised that at the meeting of the Board on 26 July 2006 a discussion had taken place on the outcome of the WWII Commemorative Service which had been held on 4 June 2006. It had been acknowledged that the event had been a success and was much appreciated by those in attendance. However there were some practical problems which had been discussed and a plan of action agreed which would enable the 2007 event to run more smoothly.

As part of the discussion the issue had been raised as to whether there would be some benefit in incorporating Veterans Day into the WWII Commemorative Service for future years.

The Sub-Board agreed the provisional arrangements set out in the Corporate Services Manager's report, including the incorporation of Veterans Day.

RESOLVED: That the provisional arrangements for the World War II Commemorative Service, including the incorporation of Veterans Day, on 24 June 2007 be approved.

## **20. ROYAL HOSPITAL HASLAR: FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH**

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Services Manager, which set out proposals for the extension of the Freedom Rights granted to the Royal Hospital Haslar on 11 March 1998 to include the Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit (Portsmouth).

RESOLVED: That the Policy and Organisation Board be requested to:

- a) refer the extension of the Freedom Rights granted to the Royal Hospital Haslar to include the Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit (Portsmouth) to an Extraordinary Council meeting to be held at 5.30 p.m. on 29 November 2006; and
- b) approve a ceremony being held on 28 March 2007 in the Timespace in order to

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hand over the scroll of honour to the Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit (Portsmouth) and be followed by a parade along the High Street.

**21. HMS SULTAN HONORARY FREEDOM PARADE: 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Services Manager, which sought approval of the arrangements for the HMS Sultan Honorary Freedom Parade to commemorate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The date of the event was scheduled for 20 December 2006.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to a request by HMS Sultan to exercise the Freedom Rights granted to the Marine Engineering Branch of the Royal Navy to celebrate their fifty years of being located in Gosport on 20 December 2006.

**22. WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL**

By reason of special circumstances, the Chairman determined that this item be considered at this meeting notwithstanding the fact that the item had not been available for public inspection in accordance with the provisions of Section 100B (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1985. The special circumstances for considering this item at this time were that Mr Hart had written to the Chairman regarding this matter requesting also to address Members of the Sub-Board. The Sub-Board accordingly agreed to Mr Hart addressing them.

RESOLVED: That no further action be taken regarding a World War II Memorial.

The meeting commenced at 6.00 p.m. and concluded at 7.15 p.m.

**CHAIRMAN**