



Subject to Approval  
**Borough of Gosport**

**AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of the **COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF GOSPORT** was held in the Council Chamber at the **TOWN HALL, GOSPORT** on **WEDNESDAY**, the **TWENTY NINTH** day of **NOVEMBER 2006** at **5.30PM**.

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs Cully) (P);(in the Chair)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Gill);

Councillors Allen, Ms Ballard (P), Burgess, Carr (P), Carter (P), Mrs Champion (P),Champion (P), Chegwyn, Clinton (P), Cully (P), Davis (P), Dickson (P), Edgar (P), Farr (P), Foster (P), Foster-Reed, Hicks (P), Hook (P), Jacobs (P), Kimber (P), Langdon (P), Mrs Mudie (P), Philpott (P), Redrup (P), Rigg (P), Mrs Salter, Smith (P), Taylor (P), Train (P), Ward (P), Mrs Wright (P) and Wright (P).

Also in attendance: Honorary Aldermen Mrs Bailey, Foster and O'Neill.

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**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Burgess and Gill.

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**ELECTION OF HONORARY FREEMAN**

**It was unanimously RESOLVED:**

**That, in accordance with Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Rights, Titles, Privileges, Honours and Distinctions granted by**

**the Borough to the Royal Hospital Haslar be reaffirmed and extended to include the Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit (Portsmouth) in recognition of the strong links with Defence Medical Services that still exist, which permits the Royal Hospital Haslar and Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit (Portsmouth) to march through the streets of the Borough on all ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating and colours flying.**

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### **UPDATE ON ROYAL HOSPITAL HASLAR SITE**

By reason of special circumstances, the Mayor 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 100 B (4) (a) of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

The special circumstances for consideration of this item at this time were related to the need to inform members of the latest position regarding the future use of the Royal Hospital Haslar site.

Councillor Edgar advised councillors that he would shortly be meeting with the Hampshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) on site with a view to decanting some facilities temporarily from the War Memorial hospital site to Haslar. He would take this opportunity to acquaint PCT representatives of the Council's views regarding the future use of the site. He referred to an exercise in January 2000 on 'Changes to health services for residents of Gosport and Fareham' and the production of a consultation document by the Portsmouth and SE Hants Health Authority. An associated A5 summary booklet had been produced with a Haslar Task Force Response Form on the back page for the public to sign and return to the Town Hall. A total of 12,000 people had signed up to the policies in a consultation document which supported the future use of the Haslar site for health services. This document at the time had the joint support of the MOD and the Portsmouth and SE Hants Health Authority but subsequently was ignored by the Fareham and Gosport PCT.

Councillor Edgar had met with the new Hampshire PCT Chief Executive to discuss the future of the Haslar site. He also referred to the discussion at he last Haslar Task Force meeting when it had been agreed to consult the public once again on how things had changed in the last six years, highlighting the MOD withdrawal of funding for the site and the availability of the site for the NHS up to 2009. This would give an opportunity to set out clearly the proposed policies for the future use of the Haslar site. There would be a return form for the public to sign up to and due weight would be given to the hospital's survival over the last 10 years.

Councillor Edgar and the Consultant on the Haslar Task Force would be drafting this document with the help of the Council's Press and Public Relations Officer who would collate the information previously used to support the retention of the Haslar site. The draft document would initially be

circulated to the Council's three Group Leaders for comment and their support in the light of anticipated growth in house building in the SE Plan and the increase in the elderly population. Haslar was an ideal site for future health and community uses with excellent facilities for Defence Medical Services to utilise for rehabilitation.

Councillor Edgar was looking for Member support for this latest consultation document which the three Group Leaders would be invited to consider and comment upon. He was hoping to have the document produced by January 2007 for a public launch. He invited each of the three Groups to have a representative at such a launch. He felt this would be the appropriate month to launch the document as Defence Medical Services would be officially withdrawing from the Haslar site at the end of March 2007 and this would give 2/3 months to collate the replies to the document.

**The Council rose at 5.38pm**