

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 THURSDAY, the ELEVENTH day of JANUARY 2007 at 6.00PM.

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

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Gill) (P);

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

Also in attendance: Honorary Alderman O'Neill.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs Champion, Dickson, Hook and Ward and Honorary Alderman Foster.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

(A) THE NEWS PETITION 'HANDS OFF OUR BASE' CAMPAIGN

The Mayor referred to the petition The News were supporting, addressed to the Secretary of State for Defence, on the 'Hands Off Our Base' Campaign. The campaign was directed at supporting the Naval Dockyard and the Mayor was happy to support it. She requested that blank copies of the petition be made available in the Town Hall's Reception area for the public to sign, and also on the Borough Council's website.

(B) UPDATE ON ISSUES AFFECTING THE ROYAL HOSPITAL HASLAR

The Mayor advised that Councillor Edgar wished to update Council on a number of issues affecting the Royal Hospital Haslar.

Councillor Edgar initially referred to the Haslar Task Force's involvement, through the Chairman of the Task Force, with an event in London on Tuesday, 16 January 2007. The event was organised by the Parliamentary All Party Local Hospitals Group and would involve the coming together of a number of representatives of threatened A & E Hospitals in the country in Westminster Hall, London. Haslar did not fit into this category but because of its uniqueness some members of the Task Force would be in attendance at the event on a fact finding and lobbying basis. The Task Force representatives would be articulating Haslar's special circumstances as a civilian and defence medical services hospital.

Councillor Edgar referred to the Defence Medical Services' official withdrawal from the Haslar site on 31 March 2007. At this time the MOD would withdraw funding for the Royal Hospital Haslar site therefore the Secretary of State for Defence had given permission to the Portsmouth Hospital's NHS Trust to take over certain facilities at the hospital until 2009. Unfortunately no agreement between the local NHS and the MOD had yet been signed to confirm that the Secretary of State's permission would be implemented. This was a worrying state of affairs for employees who worked on the site and also for growing numbers of patients seeking hospital treatment of the type currently available at Haslar.

Councillor Edgar advised that the Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit (Portsmouth) Honorary Freedom Ceremony and Parade to mark their withdrawal from the Haslar site on 28 March 2007 was at an advanced stage. He and the Mayor had met on Tuesday with representatives of Defence Medical Services and a good partnership to deliver the event was in place. He would go back to the Council's Sub-Board with the detail of the ceremonial withdrawal of the military services at its next meeting.

In conclusion Councillor Edgar referred to the proposed future use of the War Memorial Hospital. He outlined for information the figures he had received from the Hampshire Primary Care Trust (South East) for the enlarged facilities proposed for this site. The projected costs for the redevelopment of the Gosport War Memorial Hospital site were £5.9m. The projected additional activity per annum at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital from 2009 was as follows:

Accident Treatment Centre Out-patients Endoscopy

20,000 attendances 9,000 attendances 900 procedures Diagnostics Ultrasound 16,724 films 3,099 tests

This would give a minimum total of 49,723 pedestrian all vehicle movements on the Gosport War Memorial Hospital site. Temporary planning permission had been granted to Hampshire PCT for the use of Redclyffe Annexe in The Avenue as a temporary doctors' surgery relocated from the War Memorial site. This would lead to a possible 68,000 extra vehicle and pedestrian movements per annum in The Avenue. He anticipated this would have a considerable impact on the surrounding area.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Edgar for the above update.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD

RESOLVED: That Councillor Cully be appointed Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board for the remainder of the 2006/07 Municipal Year.

OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED: That the following Councillors be appointed to the Outside Bodies detailed below and that where no nomination has been made such requested representation be recorded as 'Vacant'.

- (i) South East Employers Councillor Wright
- (ii) South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) Vacant
- (iii) Strategic Planning Joint Advisory Panel Vacant
- (iv) Gosport/Fareham Joint Building Control Panel Councillor Davis
- (v) Project Integra Management Board Councillor Train

(NOTE: Because of this appointment Councillor Train would have to resign his appointment to the Project Integra Policy Review and Scrutiny Committee)

- (vi) South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) Sub Regional Steering Group Vacant
- (vii) Local Government Association Councillor Cully
- (viii) Local Government Association
 Association of Hants and IOW Local Authorities
 Councillors Cully and Smith
- (ix) Local Government Association
 Association of Hants and IOW Local Authorities Improvement
 Board
 Vacant
- (x) Local Government Association
 Fourth Option Special Interest Group (SIG)
 Councillor Redrup
- (xi) Local Government Association
 (a) Urban Commission
 Councillor Cully and Vacancy
 - (b) Rural Commission
 Two vacancies

The Council rose at 6.15pm