

<p>EASTBOURNE BOROUGH COUNCIL</p> <p><b>MEETING OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>held on 28 November 2001</p> <p>PRESENT:-</p> <p>Councillor D G STEVENS (Mayor) in the Chair</p>		
<p>Councillors BELSEY, Mrs BERRY, BOWKER, Mrs CHARLTON, DESCHAMPS, ELKIN, Mrs GOODALL, HARRIS, Mrs HEALY, HIGGINS, LACEY OBE, LEGGETT, MARSDEN, MARSH, Mrs MURRAY, NEEHAM, PARSONS, SKILTON MBE, Mrs SMITH (Deputy Mayor), STANBURY, STANLEY, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, TUNWELL, WILLIAMS, and Miss WOODALL.</p>		
	<p><b>57. MINUTES.</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2001 were presented and the Mayor was authorised to sign them as a correct record.</p>	
	<p><b>58. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.</b></p>	
	<p>1.</p>	<p>Three Honorary Aldermen were instituted at a Special Full Council Meeting on 7 November 2001, namely Dr Grace Fletcher, Leslie Mason and Bob Kirtley.</p>
	<p>2.</p>	<p>His Grace the Duke of Gloucester, visiting the Chaseley Home for the disabled on Tuesday 27 November 2001, was met by the Lord Lieutenant and the Mayor at Eastbourne Railway Station.</p>

3.	The Mayor has attended Services at King's Church (Education Sunday), East Sussex Prayer Breakfast (Lewes), The Salvation Army Citadel (RNLi), Lewes Crown Court Service at St Anne's, Lewes, and on Trafalgar Day at Christ's Church. He also attended, with Full Council, the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial and Ruth-less Memorial. The Deputy Mayor attended the service at the Second World War Memorial Homes.	
4.	Conferences attended were Rotary Internationals 1130 and 1120 and that of the National Housing and Planning.	
5.	Award ceremonies attended by the Mayor were those of the Annual NHS, the YMCA Training Certificates, the Eastbourne College Schools Swimming Gala, Tourism Awards at the Grand Hotel and the Millennium Volunteers.	
6.	The Mayor greeted the former Prime Minister of Lithuania in the Mayor's Parlour and a group of Americans over for the Ruth-less reunion.	
7.	The Mayor's Charity benefited to the extent of £2,000 at an auction of prizes at Eastbourne College.	
8.	Amongst a number of other organisations, the Mayor supported the Sea Cadets, Tic Tac, Patched/CRI, Condover House and the Parkinson Disease Society at their various fundraising events.	

9.	The Mayor addressed the new intake of International students of Brighton University, visited the Grand Hotel to acknowledge their receipt of the Johansens Most Excellent Coastal Hotel Award 2002 and the TGWU building to view its facilities. He also opened two new shops; Hammicks Books and Papa John's Pizza take away.	
10.	In total the Mayor, accompanied by the Mayoress, has attended five shows and concerts staged by local orchestras and dramatic societies.	
11.	The Mayor was most impressed as a guest of the Mayor of Hastings by its National Town Criers competition and their Bonfire Society's Procession, Beach Bonfire and Firework Display.	
12.	The Mayor spent all day at an event staged at The Lansdowne Hotel by Eastbourne Technical College while the students competed in a marketing exercise.	
13.	The Mayor and Mayoress, as guests of the Eastbourne branch of the RNLI, visited their Headquarters and were taken out to the Royal Sovereign Light Tower.	
14.	The Mayor's Christmas Party will be held on Friday 21 December 2001 in the Mayor's Parlour between 12.30 pm and 2.00 pm.	
15.	The Mayor's Charity Banquet and Entertainment (in aid of People Matter) will be held at the Winter Garden on Saturday 19 January 2002.	

	<p><b>59. NOTIFICATION OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.</b> Apologies for absence were reported from Councillors Mrs Pooley, Potter and Roberts. The Council extended its condolences to Councillor Mrs Pooley whose mother had died recently.</p>	
	<p><b>60. NOMINATED AUTHORISED OFFICERS – REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000.</b> Councillor Tunwell reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Standards Committee on 30 October 2001.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the amendment at paragraph 3.16 of the Council’s Scheme of Delegation, as recommended by the Standards Committee, be approved.</p>	
	<p><b>61. MEMBERS’ ALLOWANCES.</b> Councillor Tunwell reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Standards Committee on 30 October 2001.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (Nem Con) That the amended recommendations of the Standards Committee in respect of the establishment and future operation of an Independent Remuneration Panel for Members’ Allowances be approved.</p> <p>(NOTE: The amendments to the recommendations of the Standards Committee were required as a consequence of the revised terms of reference referred to in item 62 below).</p>	
	<p><b>62. STANDARDS COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENTS, PROCEDURES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE.</b> Councillor Tunwell reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Standards Committee on 30 October 2001.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (Nem Con) (1) That the recommendations of the Standards Committee in relation to revised terms of reference and membership, and the recruitment of an independent member, be approved.</p> <p>(2) That the proposed future arrangements for the discharge of functions no longer to be the formal responsibility of the Standards Committee, as set out in appendix 2 to the report, be approved, and the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to amend the Council’s Constitution and Delegation Scheme accordingly.</p>	

<p><b>63.</b></p>	<p><b>BEST VALUE REVIEW OF HOUSING MANAGEMENT (PART ONE: HOUSING STOCK OPTIONS).</b> Councillor Mrs Murray reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Cabinet on 31 October 2001.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (By 15 votes to 10) (1) That the Cabinet's recommendations in respect of the future steps and further work to be undertaken for a Large Scale Voluntary Transfer of the Council's Housing Stock be approved.</p> <p>(2) That the revised wording proposed by the Cabinet in respect of Councillor Potter's proposal, as set out in the Cabinet resolution, be approved.</p> <p><b>(NOTE:</b> Councillor Higgins declared a non-pecuniary interest and did not speak or vote on this matter).</p>	
<p><b>64.</b></p>	<p><b>BEST VALUE REVIEW OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.</b> Councillor Taylor reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Cabinet on 31 October 2001.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (By 16 votes to 9) That the recommendations of the Cabinet be approved.</p>	<p>Councillor</p>
<p><b>65.</b></p>	<p><b>REPORT FROM THE BEST VALUE INSPECTION SERVICE ON THE REVIEW OF MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERY SERVICES.</b> Councillor Mrs Goodall reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Cabinet on 31 October 2001.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (Nem Con) That the Best Value Inspection Service Report be noted and the Action Plan endorsed.</p>	
<p><b>66.</b></p>	<p><b>HERITAGE AND MUSEUMS STRATEGY.</b> Councillor Mrs Goodall reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Cabinet on 31 October 2001.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (Nem Con) That the revised Heritage and Museum Strategy be adopted.</p>	<p>Mrs Goodall</p>

	<p><b>67. NEW WARDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE – POLLING DISTRICT AND POLLING PLACE PROPOSALS.</b> Councillor Tunwell reported on this matter which had been referred to Council under Standing Order 8 by the Standards Committee on 19 November 2001. In so doing, Councillor Tunwell commended Mr David Robinson, the Council’s Member Services Manager for his work on this matter.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (By 14 votes to 1) That the recommendations of the Standards Committee in relation to the proposed new polling districts and provisional polling places for the nine new wards, as set out in the appendix to the report, and the consequent delegation arrangements for their implementation, be approved.</p> <p>(NOTE: An amendment by Councillor Stanley that the additional use of All Soul’s Church Hall, Wellesley Road and the Bridgemere Centre Hall, as polling stations for the Devonshire and St. Anthony’s Wards, respectively be included in the proposals, was negated by 14 votes to 10).</p>	
	<p><b>68. COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS – AMENDMENTS REQUIRED IN RESPONSE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (STANDING ORDERS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2001.</b> The Monitoring Officer submitted a report on the need to modify Council Standing Order 43 in respect of disciplinary action against statutory officers. This was in response to new legislation which required a prescribed modification to be in place by 28 November 2001. Council was advised that further reports on modifying Standing Orders in response to the new legislation would be required in due course.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (1) That the Council’s existing Standing Orders 43.1 to 43.4 be deleted and replaced with the following:-</p>	
43	<p><b>Disciplinary action in respect of Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer.</b></p>	
43.1	<p>In paragraph 43.2, “chief finance officer”, “council manager”, “disciplinary action”, “head of the authority’s paid service” and “monitoring officer”, have the same meanings as in regulation 2 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 and “designated independent person” has the same meaning as in regulation 7 of those regulations.</p>	

	43.2	No disciplinary action in respect of the head of the authority's paid service (unless he is also a council manager of the authority), its monitoring officer or its chief finance officer, except action described in paragraph 43.3, may be taken by the authority, or by a committee, a sub-committee, a joint committee on which the authority is represented or any other person acting on behalf of the authority, other than in accordance with a recommendation in a report made by a designated independent person under regulation 7 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 (investigation of alleged misconduct).
	43.3	The action mentioned in paragraph 43.2 is suspension of the officer for the purpose of investigating the alleged misconduct occasioning the action; and any such suspension must be on full pay and terminate no later than the expiry of two months beginning with the day on which suspension takes effect.
	(2) That the Council regret that no action has been taken following representation made by the Council earlier this year concerning the requirements of the process with its consequential effect on the time and costs involved; and	
	(3) That further representations be made to the Secretary of State and Local Government Association to support the initiative of the Employers' Organisation to improve the process to avoid this disproportionate delay and costs.	
	<b>69. MINUTES OF COUNCIL BODIES AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.</b> The minutes of the following Council Bodies were submitted to this meeting:-	

	Planning and Licensing Committee	9 October 2001 and 6 November 2001
	Tenants Advisory Group	16 October 2001
	Cabinet	18 October 2001 and 31 October 2001
	Conservation Area Advisory Group	23 October 2001
	Scrutiny Committee	23 October 2001
	Eastbourne Area Committee	24 October 2001
	Standards Committee	30 October 2001 and 19 November 2001
	Best Value Management Committee	21 November 2001
	In accordance with Standing Order 11, Members raised the following items for discussion:-	
(a)	Tenants Advisory Group – Page 218, Minute 16 – Tenant Participation Update – Willingdon Trees – Raised by Councillor Higgins.	
(b)	Scrutiny Committee – Page 231, Minute 16 – Creation of a Service Plan Task Group – Raised by Councillor Stanbury.  <b>(NOTE:</b> Council was advised that the Conservative Group representatives on this Task Group would be Councillors Belsey, Mrs Smith and Stanbury).	



	(c)	<p>Scrutiny Committee – Page 231, Minute 18 – Eastbourne Crime Reduction Partnership – Raised by Councillors Parsons.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That resolution (2) of the Scrutiny Committee be referred to the Cabinet for consideration.</p>	
	(d)	<p>Area Committee – Page 237, Minute 12 – Admissions to Schools in the Eastbourne Area – Raised by Councillor Harris.</p> <p>(NOTE: Councillors Mrs Healy and Stanley declared non-pecuniary interests and did not participate in the debate on this matter).</p>	
	(e)	<p>Area Committee – Page 240, Minute 16(h) – Highway Schemes in Eastbourne – Street Lighting – Raised by Councillor Leggett. Assurance was given that information would be sought in respect of any progress towards a Service Level Agreement with SEEBOARD.</p>	
	(f)	<p>Area Committee – Page 240, Minute 16(i) – Highways Schemes in Eastbourne – Winter Maintenance – Raised by Councillor Leggett. Council was advised that a response was still awaited from the County Council in respect of Borough Council concerns about roads in Old Town being omitted from the scheme.</p>	
	(g)	<p>Standards Committee – Page 244, Minute 4 – Hospitality Spending – Raised by Councillor Mrs Healy.</p>	
	(h)	<p>Cabinet – Page 247, Minute 71 – Local Strategic Partnerships – Conference and Seminars – Raised by Councillor Mrs Healy.</p>	
	(i)	<p>Cabinet – Page 247, Minute 72 – Royal Hippodrome Theatre – Raised by Councillor Thompson.</p>	

	<p>Further to Standing Order 12.3(F) it was,</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That all the minutes of the above Council Bodies be accepted.</p>	
<p>The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.</p>		
		<p>D G STEVENS, Mayor Chairman</p>
<p>(pf\P:council\01.11.28\mins)</p>		