

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

4.30PM - 12 JULY 2007

BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Mrs Theobald (Mayor); Councillors Alford, Allen, Barnett, Bennett, Mrs Brown, Carden, Caulfield, Mrs Cobb, Davey, Davis, Mrs Drake, Duncan, Elgood, Fallon-Khan, Fryer, Hamilton, Harmer-Strange, Hawkes, Hyde, Janio, Kemble, Kennedy, Lainchbury, Lepper, Marsh, McCaffery, Meadows, Mears, Mitchell, Morgan, Mrs A Norman, K Norman, Older, Oxley, Peltzer Dunn, Pidgeon, Randall, Roy, Rufus, Simpson, Mrs Simson, Smart, Smith, Steedman, Taylor, G Theobald, Turton, Wakefield-Jarrett, Watkins, Wells, West, Wighton and Young.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1.1 There were none.

2. TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 249 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

2.1 The Mayor explained that Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 required the Council to hold a Special Meeting to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Council. She also reported that it was intended that the appointment of the former Members as Honorary Aldermen would be proposed by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Oxley. The proposals would be put en bloc to the vote.

2.2 Councillor Mitchell proposed the following;

"That the honour and title of Honorary Alderman of the city of Brighton & Hove be bestowed on 8 of our long serving colleagues in recognition of their dedication and hard work on behalf of Brighton and Hove and in the case of 5 of our colleagues, the county of East Sussex.

Between them they have notched up an amazing 184 years public service, serving on a truly wide ranging variety of local, regional, national and European organisations where I know that they have proved effective ambassadors for this city and their contributions at all levels have in no small measure helped to make this city the wonderful and unique place that it is.

Several of these colleagues have held senior positions on this council and others, bringing with those positions all of the accompanying pressures and difficult choices needing to be made.

In addition, all colleagues have effectively represented their wards, often bringing local problems and issues before council and committee meetings while working alongside local residents to sort things out and improve life in their neighbourhoods.

Their wealth of experience, their dedication and humour is missed, although, in saying that, I have to remark on how wonderfully refreshed and relaxed they all look!

Madam Mayor, we would simply like to thank our colleagues for their huge contribution to the life of this city and wish them the very best of good fortune for their future."

2.3 Councillor Oxley stated that he was very happy to formally second the proposal and as the current Leader of the Council, wished on behalf of the council to thank each of the former colleagues for their commitment to the council and service to the city of Brighton & Hove.

2.4 "That the honour and title of Honorary Alderman of the City of Brighton and Hove be bestowed:

On "Kenneth (Ken) Bodfish in grateful recognition of his exceptional contribution to Queen's Park Ward, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council;"

On "Joyce Edmond-Smith in grateful recognition of her exceptional contribution to Hanover and Elm Grove Ward, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council;"

On "Brian Fitch in grateful recognition of his exceptional contribution to Elm Grove, Hollingbury and Hangleton & Knoll Wards, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council;"

On "Tehmtan Framroze in grateful recognition of his exceptional

contribution to Hollingbury and Stanmer Ward, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council;"

On "Jack Hazelgrove in grateful recognition of his exceptional contribution to Moulsecoomb and Bevendean Ward, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council;"

On "Sue John in grateful recognition of her exceptional contribution to South Portslade Ward, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council;"

On "Francis Tonks in grateful recognition of his exceptional contribution to Moulsecoomb and Bevendean Ward, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council;"

On "Don Turner in grateful recognition of his exceptional contribution to North Portslade Ward, the city, and in gratitude for eminent and distinguished service as a Member of the Council."

2.5 The motion was carried unanimously.

3. CONFERRAL OF ALDERMEN

3.1 The Mayor then invited Ken Bodfish, Brian Fitch, Tehmtan Framroze, Jack Hazelgrove, Sue John, Francis Tonks and Don Turner in turn to receive their inscribed resolution and address the council. She noted that Joyce Edmond-Smith had been unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments and had sent her sincere apologies. She stated that her inscribed resolution would be presented to her separately.

3.2 Alderman Bodfish thanked the council for the honour which he was very pleased to accept. He had enjoyed his time as a Councillor and Leader of both the Labour Group and the Council and wished to record his thanks to those officers who had supported him in his various roles.

3.3 Alderman Fitch thanked the council for the honour and stated that he had enjoyed his public life which had inevitably had ups and downs during his 34 years service. He was especially thankful for being able to represent the city within the International Association of Peace Messenger Cities for 20 years. He also asked that his thanks to those staff who support Councillors be recorded and especially his debt of gratitude to those who had supported him directly.

- 3.4 Alderman Framroze stated that he had found it an odd experience to be given a visitor's pass for the present meeting and noted it was something he would have to get used to. He had served as a Councillor for Brighton & Hove, Brighton and East Sussex for 21 years and had enjoyed that time tremendously. He believed that Councillors had an important role to fulfil to ensure that democracy at a local level remained and to represent all the citizens of the city. He hoped that the current influx of new Councillors would continue to strive to represent the people of Brighton & Hove and encourage others to stand. He was very honoured to have been granted this title and thanked the council for their unanimous support.
- 3.5 Alderman Hazelgrove thanked the council for the honour and noted that his first public appointment had been as a milk monitor at Middle Street School. He was now a Member of the Older People's Council and as such would endeavour to keep a watchful eye on the work of the council and to challenge policies wherever appropriate.
- 3.6 Alderman John stated that she had found it to be an honour to serve the residents of Portslade South during the last 12 years and wished to thank both former colleagues for that ward, Councillor Hamilton and Ivor Caplin. She had worked with some excellent officers and to have been involved in the inception of Brighton & Hove Council and later to gain city status would be highlights that would stay with her. She therefore wished to thank the council for the honour and officers for their support and friendship.
- 3.7 Alderman Tonks stated that he had represented Moulsecoomb and Bevendean for 22 years and wished to thank his wife for her support and fellow colleagues from all political domains and officers who had enabled him to undertake his role as an elected representative. He was deeply honoured to have been considered and granted the title of Alderman and thanked the council for confirming the honour.
- 3.8 Alderman Turner thanked the council for bestowing such an honour. He had served as a Councillor for 22 years and hoped that he had been able to take matters forward and contribute to the delivery of high quality services. He stated that it was important to recognise the value of working together across all parties to ensure the people of the city benefited and wished to thank Councillor Geoffrey Theobald for his work in respect of Licensing at LACORS and to those Councillors involved in the scrutiny of the grants system, which had led to a fairer and more transparent method of awarding grants. He thanked his family for their support throughout his time as a Councillor and both former colleagues and officers who had supported him on the council.
- 3.9 The Mayor thanked each of the Aldermen for attending and offered her congratulations on their success and hoped to see them at future

engagements.

4. CLOSE OF MEETING

4.1 The Mayor then closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 5.00pm.

Signed

Mayor

Dated this

day of

2007