

Council

19 May 2011

Agenda Item 2

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Mayoral Report 2010-11		
Date of Meeting:	19 May 2011		
Report of:	Strategic Director: Resources		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Pat Dines	Tel: 29-1223
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Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**MAYOR – COUNCILLOR GEOFF WELLS****1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

Performance monitoring of the mayoralty continues. The process has shown that during the mayoral year 2010/2011, of the hundreds of engagements carried out:

- 90% supported the Council's priorities
- 88% involved community groups/associations and promoting the City
- 4% were associated with different religious groups
- 2% related to Health
- 7% related to internal visits and supporting Council projects/initiatives
- 3% involved Youth organisations
- 17% were education related
- 2% involved school visits to the Parlour
- 5.5% were sport/leisure related
- 7% were culture/the arts related
- 16% were related to charities
- 9% were statutory or traditional events (including citizenship ceremonies)

23 centenarians were visited and 16 Citizenship Services were attended by the Mayor.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 The Mayor's Parlour was used on 150 occasions (including 2 weddings) and during his year of office, amongst others, the Mayor (or his representative) has:

- Met with HRH The Duke of Kent on the occasion of his visit to St. Dunstan's
- Celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Brighton & Hove Progressive Synagogue with members of the clergy and congregation
- Attended a 'Children & War' Exhibition
- Sunk a 'Time Capsule' at the Brighton Sealife Centre
- Attended the Chattri Annual Commemoration Service
- Supported many charity events, including fundraisers for the Haiti Disaster, the new Macmillan Cancer Care Unit and the Japanese Earthquake
- Hosted the Annual Veterans' Reception as part of the Armed Forces Day celebrations and later attended more celebrations at the Sussex County Cricket Ground
- Supported many events relating to Council initiatives, including Refugee Week and the launch of the new Encyclopaedia of Brighton at the Jubilee Library
- Visited Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice
- Attended the Lord Lieutenant's Awards ceremony to recognise the service of men and women reservists and young cadets
- Celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Somerset Day Centre
- Attended Brighton & Hove Bus & Coach Company's 75th Anniversary celebrations
- Presented the trophies for the Beach Soccer World Cup Event
- Welcomed many conferences to the city
- Unveiled a Blue Plaque in commemoration of the 'Wagner' Family, who built St. Martin's and St. Bartholomew's Churches in Brighton
- Unveiled a Blue Plaque to commemorate 1 Challoners Cottages in Rottingdean and the Copper Family, who collected and sang professionally local folk songs
- Unveiled a Blue Plaque commemorating 'Phizz' Hablot-Browne, illustrator of many of the books of Charles Dickens
- Attended International Feast Week at Carlton Hill Primary School
- Attended a Thai Festival at Hove Town Hall
- Attended numerous LGBT community events, including the spectacular Pride Parade in August
- Celebrated the Chinese New Year
- Met with students from all over the world
- Joined in the celebrations for the Centenary of the Girl Guide Movement
- Visited Dieppe to lay wreaths on behalf of the city at various war cemeteries

- Met with the Brighton Malayalee Community and their visitors from Kerala, India, and celebrated with them their Festival of Onam
- Celebrated the centenary year of Car No. 9 at the Volks Railway
- Attended the launch of the 'Teenage Cancer Trust'
- Attended the launch of the new Atmospheric Pullman Wall Mural at the Toy & Model Museum in Brighton
- Took part in the Duke of York Cinema's centenary celebrations
- Attended the Kuji Funza Fest – a celebration of the achievements of Brighton & Hove youth volunteers, during their visit to Africa, as part of the IT Skills 4 Rural Kenya project
- Met with the Mayor of Luton
- Met with the authors of a new book celebrating the 100 year history of Brighton Scouting
- Unveiled a portrait of Freeman of the City, Henry Allingham, currently hung in the entrance of Brighton Town Hall
- Toured Southern Water's Ovingdean Tunnel
- Attended a preview of the Brighton & Hove Olympic Story
- Joined in the celebrations for the 60th Anniversary of Hove Park Railway
- Attended the City's first ever outdoor Passion Play performed on Easter Sunday
- Attended a Sussex Disability Cricket Day at the County Cricket Ground in Hove
- Attended the 75th anniversary of the Brighton & Hove District Bowls League
- Accompanied police officers from John Street Police Station on 'Operation Marble' – a late night economy policing project.

3.2 The Mayor continued to encourage increased use of the Parlour. To this end, free use of the room is offered to local charities, community groups and Council departments for special events or occasions. This opportunity has been welcomed and taken up by/used to welcome:

- Girl Guides, Scouts and Cubs for badge and other award presentations
- The Fellowship Dialogue Society for a Turkish community seminar
- A group of Turkish Civic Officers and, later in the year, a group of Turkish District Governors
- VIP visitors from New Zealand
- A group of visiting teachers from New Delhi
- The Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex to perform the investiture of an MBE to local woman, Mrs. Eileen Harris
- CYPT for the Primary Schools Annual Poster Competition Awards
- VIP visitors from Multan College in Pakistan
- Democratic Services for a reception to show appreciation for the hard work of the Schools Appeals Panel
- A group of young people from Africa, as part of the 'Global Exchange' project

- The Legal Team, for a Childcare and Education meeting with Brighton & Hove Link
 - Age Concern – to thank local pro bono lawyers for their help and support
 - Visitors from South Africa on an ‘Active Citizens’ project to learn about our democratic process
 - A civic reception in honour of Cllr. Pat Drake who retired this year after more than 40 years in local government
- 3.3 The Mayor has attended many memorable events – particularly the visit of HRH The Duke of Kent.
- 3.4 He was also delighted to celebrate Armed Forces Day by hosting a Veterans’ Reception for 50 men and women from various service associations in the city. This was another wonderful, and emotional gathering much enjoyed and appreciated by all those present – and “Sussex by the Sea” remains the anthem of choice for this event. He later attended more Armed Forces Day events at the County Cricket Ground in Hove.
- 3.5 The Mayor is pleased to be able to report that over the mayoral year, 19 schools brought groups of pupils to the Parlour to learn about the role of the Mayor, the history of the mayoralty and regalia, and visit the Council Chamber, and it is hoped that numbers will rise until all of the city’s schools take advantage of the opportunity. School Head Teachers are circulated twice a year with details of this opportunity.
- 3.6 On 25th December, the Mayor and Mayoress were pleased to join the diners at Hove Methodist Church for Christmas Day Lunch, where a wonderful spread is provided for the lonely and needy of the city. This was preceded by attendance of the Chaplain’s Service at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, and a visit to some of the hospital’s wards. They were pleased to be able to meet many staff working through the holiday period as well as patients unable to go home.
- 3.7 All of the Remembrance Sunday events in 2010 were very well attended and many calls of appreciation from members of the public were received in the mayoral office as well as from the local Armed Forces and Regimental Associations.
- 3.8 The Mayor’s chosen charities this year have been: The Martlets Hospice, the Sussex Heart Charity, the Alzheimer’s Society (Brighton & Hove Branch) and Macmillan Cancer Support. The funds raised over the year are in the region of £25,000. The Mayor would like to express his grateful thanks to all the members of his Committee for all the hard work, energy and enthusiasm they have put into making this year’s fundraising so successful.
- 3.9 On 16th May last year the Civic Service took place at St. Nicholas’ Church, Dyke Road. Attendance was encouraging, and it is hoped that this trend will continue. This year, the Civic Service is at All Saints Church, Hove –

on Sunday 22nd May 2011 at 10.30 am, and the Mayor Elect, hopes for a good attendance.

- 3.10 Sadly, this year, we remember the passing of Councillor David Smart, ex-Councillor David Bennett, and Councillor Chris Ogden (Mayor of Peacehaven).
- 3.11 The Mayor has been very ably assisted throughout the year by Councillor Ann Norman, who has been an exemplary Deputy Mayor, and Councillors Garry Peltzer Dunn and Carol Theobald (Former Mayors) who have both helped throughout the year. Councillor Wells wishes to acknowledge their excellent support and thank them all for their much appreciated assistance.
- 3.12 The Mayor also wishes to especially thank his wife Sally, for her tremendous support throughout his mayoral term of office, as well as fellow councillors and friends who have all helped along the way.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Mayor has been consulted on the contents of the report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 07/05/11

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to admit to be honorary freemen of the City persons of distinction or persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered imminent services to the City. The award of the title of Honorary Freeman has to be done by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting at a meeting of the council specially convened for the purpose.

Lawyer Consulted: Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis

Date: 07/05/11

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are none arising directly from this report.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are none arising directly from this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are none arising directly from this report.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 There are none arising directly from this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 There are none arising directly from this report.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices: *None*

Background Documents *None*