

## MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

24 April 2019 at 7.30pm

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Mrs D V Clarke) in the chair.

Members of the Council present      Councillors A Alderson, D E Anderson-Bassey, J R Ashmore, J Broadhead, I A Chaudhri, Mrs D V Clarke, M D Cressey, D A Cotty, S Dennett, R J Edis, J R Furey, Mrs E Gill, Mrs L M Gillham, Mrs J Gracey, T Gracey, Mrs M T Harnden, Miss M N Heath, Mrs G M Kingerley, D J Knight, M T Kusneraitis, Mrs Y P Lay, M Maddox, M Nuti, D W Parr, N Rubidge, Ms A Shepperdson, Ms C Simmons, P Snow, P S Sohi, Miss J K Sohi, P J Taylor, A P Tollett, Mrs G Warner, and M Willingale.

Members of the Council absent:      Councillors Ms F Dent, N King, S Lewis, S Mackay, N Prescott, P J Waddell and N Wase-Rogers.

### 602    FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Deputy Mayor read out the Fire Precautions.

### 603    MINUTE SILENCE

A Minute silence was held in memory of the victims of the recent terrorist attack in Sri Lanka.

### MINUTES

604    The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7 March 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### 605    MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

As this was the last Council meeting before the Borough Election on 2 May, the Mayor on behalf of the Council bade farewell to the following Councillors who had resigned or would not be seeking re-election:

Councillors Ashmore, Ms Dent, Mrs Kingerley, former Councillor Mrs Manduca, Ms Simmons, Taylor and Tollett.

The Mayor paid tribute to their commitment and service to the community and Council, and wished them well for the future.

The Deputy Leader and other Members endorsed the Mayor's tribute.

### 606    APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Ms Dent, King, Lewis, Mackay, Prescott and Waddell.

### 607    CONSTITUTION REVIEW 2019

The Council considered a recommendation from Corporate Management Committee held on 28 March, 2019.

**RESOLVED that –**

- i) the changes to the Council's Constitution be approved;**
- ii) the revised Constitution be effective from 15 May 2019; and**
- iii) the Corporate Head of Law and Governance be authorised to settle the final form of the Constitution for adoption in accordance with the above decisions, and the Corporate Head of Law and Governance be authorised to incorporate any delegations to Officers subsequently authorised by Committee(s) after 28 March 2019 and prior to printing, and make any minor editing changes necessary to correct errors or omissions discussed after 15 May 2019.**

608 REGENERATION INITIATIVE

The Council considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 28 March 2019.

**RESOLVED that –**

**an HRA supplementary revenue estimate in the sum of £270,000 for 2019/20 be approved to secure the appropriate further specialist work to complete detailed scheme proposals for the regeneration initiative for the Housing Committee to review and approve ahead of a formal planning application.**

609 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADULTS IN RUNNYMEDE POLICY

The Committee considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 16 April, 2019.

**RESOLVED that -**

**the Safeguarding Policy and Procedure: Safeguarding Children and Adults In Runnymede, as reported, be adopted, subject to the safeguarding leads being listed at the beginning of the policy as well as at Appendix 'III' to the policy.**

610 HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD (TENANCY MANAGEMENT) SERVICES RESTRUCTURE

By resolution of the Council, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraphs 1-4 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

The Council considered a recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 28 March 2019

**RESOLVED that –**

**an HRA supplementary revenue estimate in the sum reported for 2019/20 be approved for the staffing alterations.**

611 COUNCIL FIT FOR THE FUTURE – RESTRUCTURING RUNNYMEDE BOROUGH COUNCIL – CONSULTATION RESULTS

By resolution of the Council, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the

grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraphs 1 -4 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

The Council considered a recommendation from Corporate Management Committee held on 16 April 2019.

A small number of Members of the Council voiced concerns about the impact of the restructuring on the Planning Business Centre. However, a majority of Members of the Council supported the restructuring proposals, taking the view that they would lead to more direct involvement and transparency between Members and Officers which would be promoted through the new Member Working Group structure, greater concentration on key objectives and more capacity to deliver in due course, and increased accountability.

**RESOLVED that –**

- i) the results of consultation with staff and UNISON be noted;**
- ii) the budget savings in a full year and the future savings of at least £100,000 which will result from a full review of the structure of Commercial Services be noted;**
- iii) the structure shown in Exempt Appendix ‘1’ as reported and as set out in the report ‘A Council Fit for the Future – Restructuring Runnymede Borough Council’ as presented to the Corporate Management Committee on 28 February 2019, be confirmed;**
- iv) the redundancy implications as set out in paragraph 5 of the report ‘A Council Fit for the Future – Restructuring Runnymede Borough Council- Consultation Results’ as presented to the Corporate Management Committee on 16 April 2019 be noted and the Chief Executive be authorised to finalise agreements with staff who are redundant or potentially redundant as a result of these restructuring proposals; and**
- v) following the Borough Election and Annual Council meeting:**
  - a) the Chief Executive be authorised, in accordance with the wishes of Political Group Leaders, to agree Chairmanships and memberships of the following Member Working Groups:**
    - Finance and Corporate Policy
    - Property and Regeneration
    - Human Resources
    - Digital Transformation
    - Performance and Communications
    - Constitution and Legislation
    - External Relations and Infrastructure
    - Community Development
    - Local Plan and Infrastructure
    - Housing
    - Environment
  - b) the Chief Executive be authorised to agree the Objectives and Terms of Reference for the above-mentioned Member Working Groups with the respective Chairmen of the Groups, when appointed**