

ST EDMUNDSBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MAYORAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Notes of a meeting held on Monday 17 March 2008 at 5.00 pm
in the Conference Room, Borough Offices, Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds**

PRESENT: Councillor P S Farmer (Chairman),
Councillors Aitkens, Mrs Bone, Hale and Price

BY INVITATION: Councillor Cockle, Mayor Elect

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ereira-Guyer and Griffiths.

2. Annual Meeting of the Council and Mayor Making: 15 May 2008

The following tasks were allocated to the following Councillors as indicated:-

- (1) Election of Mayor
 - (a) To move: Councillor Lockwood; and
 - (b) To second: Councillor Ray.
- (2) Vote of thanks to the Retiring Mayor and Consort and election of Deputy Mayor
 - (a) To move: Councillor Spicer; and
 - (b) To second: Councillor Mrs Gower.
- (3) Vote of thanks to the Retiring Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress
 - (a) To move: Councillor Farmer; and
 - (b) To second: Councillor Rout.

The following statements/decisions were made:-

- (1) Mayor's Communications
 - (a) Appointment of Mayor's Chaplain
 - (b) Civic Service.

Further consultations to be undertaken with Councillor Cockle and arrangements made through the Mayor's Secretary.

- (2) Procedural Business
 - (a) Procedural business to be held in the Athenaeum following a refreshment break of approximately one hour.

(3) Commentary

The Committee was impressed with the commentary provided in 2007, therefore, Robert Gough of the Angel Hotel to be asked again to provide a commentary during the proceedings. No other suggestions were made.

(4) Floral Decorations in the Athenaeum

The Committee was delighted with the floral decorations provided in 2007, therefore, Rosemary Roe to be approached again to provide floral decorations in the Athenaeum.

(Councillor Aitkens arrived during the consideration of this item.)

3. 2008 Civic Dinner to the Outgoing Mayor and Consort

(Councillors Cockle and Farmer declared personal interests as Members of Bury St Edmunds Town Council and remained in the meeting for the consideration of the item regarding the Proposed VIP Guest List.)

The Committee was informed that contrary to the information published in the accompanying papers, the seating arrangements in respect of the Civic Dinner had been agreed with the Outgoing Mayor, Councillor Mrs Charlesworth, that Round Tables would be provided.

The following decisions were made:-

- (1) Ticket Price: this was likely to be slightly increased to £26.00, depending on a confirmed cost price quotation received from the appointed caterer.
- (2) Toasts:
 - (a) the guests to be proposed by Councillor Stevens; and
 - (b) although to be confirmed, response by the Dean of St Edmundsbury.
- (3) Vote of Thanks: the Newest or Youngest Councillor. Item to be confirmed. A discussion was held in respect of whether the newest Councillor should be approached following the by-election in Haverhill on 20 March 2008. However, it was considered that the next youngest Councillor to Councillor Rout, who had previously undertaken the role in 2007, should be approached.
- (4) Music:
 - (a) although to be confirmed, music to be provided by King Edward VI Upper School Music Department; and
 - (b) the Outgoing Mayor had asked if Father Peter, the Chaplain of Barrow, could sing (operatic style) between the serving of courses. The Committee agreed to this request.
- (5) Caterer:

West Suffolk College had been approached and had initially agreed.

(6) Flower Arrangements:

Rosemary Roe and a member of Stowmarket Flower Arranging Club to be approached.

(7) PA: John Roe

A detailed discussion was held regarding the proposed non-paying VIP Guest List. The Committee considered that invitations should possibly be extended to other members of the community such as from businesses and charitable organisations, particularly those that had established links to the Outgoing Mayor. It was also considered whether invitations should be re-issued to alternative parties if any original invitees had responded stating they were unable to attend.

The Committee considered that it was not possible to approve the VIP Guest List at the present time, and therefore, delegated authority should be given to the Chairman, in consultation with the Outgoing Mayor, the Mayor Elect, the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor's Secretary to consider the list in further detail and make any amendments, as appropriate.

RESOLVED:-

That, the Chairman be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Outgoing Mayor, the Mayor Elect, the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor's Secretary to approve the final non-paying VIP Guest List following further consideration of the list and amendments made, as appropriate.

4. Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that there was not a need for a further meeting.

The meeting concluded at 5.39 pm.