

**Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting of Spelthorne Borough Council
held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-
upon-Thames on Thursday 21 May 2015 at 7.30pm**

Present:

Councillors:

R.O. Barratt	A.E. Friday	A. Neale
I.J. Beardsmore	N.J. Gething	D. Patel
S.J. Burkmar	A. Griffiths	J.M. Pinkerton OBE
R. Chandler	A.C. Harman	O. Rybinski
C.A. Davis	I.T.E Harvey	D. Saliagopoulos
S.M. Doran	N. Islam	R.W. Sider BEM
S.A. Dunn	J. G. Kavanagh	R.A. Smith-Ainsley
Q.R. Edgington	V.J. Leighton	B.B. Spoor
K. Flurry	S. Lohmann	H.A. Thomson
P.C. Forbes-Forsyth	M.J. Madams	R.L. Watts
M.P.C. Francis	A.J. Mitchell	H.R. Williams
C.M. Frazer	S. C. Mooney	

Also in attendance: Miss Sue Faulkner, Vice-Chairman of the Members' Code of Conduct Committee

Mrs Suzy P. Webb, the Mayor, in the Chair

112/15 Election of the Mayor

The retiring Mayor, Mrs Suzy P. Webb, welcomed all members and guests to the Annual Meeting of the Council. She thanked the officers of the Council and in particular the Chief Executive, Roberto Tambini and the Mayor's secretary Mrs Gillian Vince, for their hard work and support during her time as Mayor.

Mrs Suzy P. Webb reported on her year as Mayoress and the many enjoyable events she had attended. She wished the new Mayor and Mayoress happiness and success in the coming year. Finally she presented bouquets of flowers to her secretary Mrs Gillian Vince, and her Consort, Miss Amelia Webb as a small token of appreciation.

It was moved by Councillor V.J. Leighton and seconded by Councillor C.M. Frazer and

Resolved that Councillor Mark Francis be appointed Mayor for the Municipal Year 2015-2016.

A short adjournment took place to hand over the robes and badge of Office to the new Mayor during which a recording of Tubular Bells by Mike Oldfield was played.

Councillor Mark Francis made the declaration of acceptance of office as Mayor of the Borough of Spelthorne and took the Chair. He thanked his proposer and seconder and the Council for supporting him in his election as Mayor. He presented Mrs Suzy P. Webb with the past Mayor's badge and a scrapbook commemorating her time in office.

The Mayor's Consort Miss Amelia Webb presented the Mayoress' badge to the new Mayoress, Mrs Catherine Francis, and she in turn presented Miss Amelia Webb with two past Mayors' Consort badges, one for her and one for her sister Miss Claudia Webb who was unable to be present at this event.

The Mayor paid tribute to Mrs Suzy P. Webb for her excellent service as Mayor.

The Mayor announced that he had appointed a Chaplain for his Mayoral Year, Reverend Michael Burley of St. Peter's Church, Staines-upon-Thames.

The Mayor's Charity Fund would be supporting Samaritans', The Well and the Fordbridge Centre.

113/15 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors M. M. Attewell, T.J. Evans, A.T. Jones and J.A. Sexton and Mr. Murray Litvak, Chairman-elect of the Members' Code of Conduct Committee.

114/15 Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 April 2015 were confirmed as a correct record.

115/15 Election of the Deputy Mayor

It was moved by Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley and seconded by Councillor I.T. Harvey and

Resolved that Councillor A.E. Friday be appointed Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2015-2016. Councillor Alfred Friday made the declaration of acceptance of office as Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Spelthorne.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Alfred Friday on his election and invested him with the Badge of Office of Deputy Mayor.

The Mayoress, Mrs Catherine Francis presented the Deputy Mayoress' Badge to the Deputy Mayoress, Mrs Kaye Friday.

Councillor Alfred Friday briefly addressed the Council, thanking his proposer and seconder for their support. He said this was a great honour and he and Kaye looked forward to providing support to the Mayor, in his Mayoral year.

116/15 Disclosures of Interest

There were none.

117/15 Announcements from the Mayor

The Mayor announced the following forthcoming events, to which all were invited:

- The Civic Church Service on Sunday 21 June at 2pm at St. Peter's Church, Laleham Road, Staines-upon-Thames.
- The Armed Forces Day on Monday 22 June, starting at 10.20 outside the Council Offices, Knowle Green.
- Staines-upon-Thames day on Sunday 28 June.

118/15 Election of Council Leader

It was moved by Councillor R.W. Sider BEM and seconded by Councillor J.M. Pinkerton OBE and

Resolved that Councillor R.L. Watts be elected Leader of the Council for a four year term expiring at the Annual Council meeting in May 2019.

119/15 Announcements from the Leader

Councillor R.L Watts thanked his proposer and seconder and then made the following remarks.

I would like to welcome you all to the ACM following the recent elections and look forward to working with you over the next four years.

With my current Cabinet colleagues, whose portfolios may change slightly, I look forward to continuing to run the Council with a clear mission to deliver quality, best value for money services that matter most to our residents.

Our priorities are clearly indicated in the corporate plan that is on the Council's web page and our shared priorities are recognised in our manifesto leaflet which you will all no doubt remember.

Our Borough's economic record is outstanding with record low unemployment and a business-friendly reputation. Only the Conservatives can protect our strong local economy, provide jobs, opportunities, security and stability.

But it's not just about the economy. It's also about the environment and communities we live in. That's why we are working hard to preserve front-line services for families, the young, the elderly and vulnerable. That's why we acted on your concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour. That's why we fought to protect our local environment. That's why we back local communities. That's why your priorities are our priorities.

Our Conservative values relate to Community, Opportunity, Self-reliance, Accountability and Traditions. I intend to have at least two Leader's Task Groups to deal with Assets and Regeneration and the Sustainable future structure of the Council and I invite the opposition to participate. The format of the task groups will be announced shortly.

Like most of the UK public sector and particularly local government, this Council is facing a challenging financial future. We have had yet another £600,000 reduction in revenue support grant funding for 2015-16 (following on from a similar reduction for 2014-15).

We believe we face very serious funding cuts over the next few years and that we need to be preparing to become a self-funding council by 2020 at the latest. This is why we have put in place the Towards a Sustainable Future programme.

Local government is facing its most difficult period in living memory. The Towards a Sustainable Future programme is an ambitious but necessary programme covering a number of elements including:

- Maximising income from assets both in the form of capital receipts where appropriate which can be reinvested.
- Being prepared to make strategic asset acquisitions if they will deliver an appropriate investment return for the Council.
- Relocating the Council offices to a smaller more efficient location and freeing up Knowle Green to increase housing supply for the Borough and provide an ongoing rental income stream for the Council.
- Restructuring the Council's management structure to make efficiencies and create better service synergies.
- Redesigning services to deliver savings including new innovative delivery models.

In order to deliver the foregoing, it is necessary that appropriate upfront resources are provided.

I wish all councillors the very best for the following four years and trust you will have an enjoyable time. I would re-iterate my main message.

“Our Borough is a great place to live and work. Only a Conservative council can ensure its future is protected and that our communities are safe and secure”

120/15 Committees 2015 - 2016

Details of the Committees and their size were circulated in the agenda for the meeting. The political allocation of seats and the members to serve on them had been laid round at the meeting as **Appendices A and B** to all members of the Council. The Council also had regard to the information set out at Agenda item 9.

It was moved by Councillor R.L. Watts and seconded by Councillor P. Forbes-Forsyth and

Resolved to agree:

a) the appointment of the Committees shown at Agenda Item 9 (1), of the size indicated and with the terms of reference and functions set out in Part 3 (a) of the Council's Constitution.

b) the allocation of seats as shown on Appendix A (attached to these minutes).

c) the Members to serve on Committees as shown on Appendix B (attached to these minutes).

d) that Mr Murray Litvak and Miss Sue Faulkner be appointed as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively, of the Members' Code of Conduct Committee.

121/15 Appointment of Independent Persons

The Council considered the recommendation of the Members' Code of Conduct Committee from its meeting of 9 October 2014 on the re-appointment of three Independent Persons.

Resolved that Roger Pett, Tony Allenby and Vivienne Cameron be re-appointed as Independent Persons for Spelthorne Borough Council under the Localism Act 2011 and under a panel arrangement with Guildford BC, Mole Valley DC and Waverley BC for a term of four years.

122/15 Appointment by the Council to Outside Bodies

1. South West Middlesex Crematorium Board

It was moved by Councillor R.L. Watts and seconded by Councillor P.C. Forbes-Forsyth and

Resolved that Councillor Q.R. Edgington be appointed as the Council's representative on the South West Middlesex Crematorium Board.

It was moved by Councillor P.C. Forbes-Forsyth and seconded by Councillor J.M. Pinkerton OBE and

Resolved that Councillor R.L. Watts be appointed as the Council's deputy representative on the South West Middlesex Crematorium Board.

2. Surrey Police and Crime Panel

It was moved by Councillor R.L. Watts and seconded by Councillor P.C. Forbes-Forsyth and

Resolved that Councillor A.C. Mitchell be appointed as the Council's representative on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel.

Allocation of Committee seats 2015-16**Appendix A**

Committee	Total number of seats	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Labour
Audit	7	6	1	
Licensing	15	13	1	1
Planning	15	14	1	
Scrutiny	15	14	1	
MCC	8	7	1	
Staffing and Appeals	5	4		1
Total	65	58	5	2

Dated: **21 May 2015**

CABINET and COMMITTEES MEMBERSHIP for 2015-2016

Appendix B

AUDIT (7 seats)	LICENSING (15 seats)	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (15 seats)	PLANNING (15 seats)	MEMBERS' CODE of CONDUCT **[10 members](8 seats)	*STAFFING AND APPEALS (5 seats)
Dunn	Attewell	Attewell	Barratt	Attewell	
Harman	Barratt	Burkmar	Beardsmore	Friday	
Madams	Burkmar	Chandler	Burkmar	Griffiths	
Patel	Chandler	Flurry	Edgington	Kavanagh	
Saliagopoulos	Doran	Friday	Frazer	Lohmann	
Thomson	Dunn	Harvey	Griffiths	Mitchell	
Williams	Edgington	Jones	Islam	Sider	
	Flurry	Kavanagh	Jones	Spoor	<i>*[Meets as and when required]</i>
	Harman	Lohmann	Leighton		
	Harvey	Mooney	Neale	**2 members are non-councillors	
	Islam	Neale	Rybinski	M. Litvak (Chair)	
	Leighton	Patel	Sider	S. Faulkner (Vice-Chair)	
	Madams	Rybinski	Smith-Ainsley		
	Mooney	Spoor	Thomson		
	Sider	Williams	(Watts)		
Conservative 6 Lib Dem 1	Conservative 13 Liberal Democrat 1 Labour 1	Conservative 14 Liberal Democrat 1	Conservative 14 Liberal Democrat 1	Conservative 7 Liberal Democrat 1	Conservative 4 Labour 1