

**ORDINARY COUNCIL**  
**12TH DECEMBER 2007**

**PRESENT:** Crs Kenny (Mayor), B Aspinell, M Aspinell, Baker, Braid, Mrs Brehaut, Ms Chilvers, Mrs Coe, Elphick, Faragher, Ms Golding, Hardy, Harrison, Mrs Henwood, Mrs Holmes, Mrs Hones, Hossack, Kendall, Lee, Le-Surf, Lewis, Lloyd, MacLellan, Mrs McGinley, Minns, Mrs. Monnickendam, Miss Monnickendam, Parker, Mrs Pound, Quirk, Mrs Sheehan, Sleep, Sparling, Straw and Tee.

**APOLOGIES:** Cr Payne

- 353. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The Mayor on behalf of the Council led a tribute to the late former Council Member, James ('Jimmy') Reddell who had died on 16.11.07 aged 97. Mr Reddell had been a ward Councillor from 1958 to 1984 and was made a Freeman of the Borough in 1999 in recognition of his services to the community of Brentwood.

All present stood in silent remembrance of the late Mr Reddell.

- 354. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:** The Mayor:

1. On 17<sup>th</sup> October had been proud to make the presentations at the Essex Achievement Awards at Stockbrook Manor and had admired the fortitude of those receiving awards and their families.
2. Enjoyed the spectacular firework display at the Brentwood Centre on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
3. On 6<sup>th</sup> November had attended the Town Twinning Reception for students from Roth at St Martins School.
4. Had been very impressed with the display of work at Brentwood Art Society's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Exhibition which had taken place at Brentwood Library on the 9<sup>th</sup> November.
5. On 10<sup>th</sup> November had opened the new shops and office development at the former Cooper's Building at Wilson's Corner and congratulated the developers - Shea Properties - on the excellent refurbishment they had carried out.
6. Later the same day had attended a further firework display at Woodlands School and a dinner dance in aid of the Knights of Columbia charity.
7. On 11<sup>th</sup> November had attended two Remembrance Day services: the Civic ceremony and parade in Brentwood and later the Jewish Remembrance Day service at the Romford and District Synagogue. He congratulated Mr Stevens for his efficient organisation of the Brentwood

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event and recommended that Members visit the museum at the Synagogue.

8. Enjoyed joining in the celebrations for the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Sybil Haines, a resident of Queenswood House on 12<sup>th</sup> November.
9. On 17<sup>th</sup> November had attended the Catholic Children's Society Volunteers Award presentations and in the evening had enjoyed the Hutton and Shenfield Choral Society's performance of 'A Sea Symphony' at the Brentwood Centre.
10. Officially opened the new extension at Little Warley and Childerditch Village Hall, home of the Ladybird Kindergarten, and had enjoyed meeting the children.
11. On 24<sup>th</sup> November had opened bazaars at Brentwood Cathedral and at the Marillac and in the evening attended the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Brentwood Rotary Club.
12. Helped to judge the Best Christmas Window Display competition for retailers on the 29<sup>th</sup> November in and around Brentwood High Street and had been impressed with the originality of the entries. Later in the evening he had attended the Catholic Children's Society Concert in which 400 children took part.
13. On 1<sup>st</sup> December took pleasure in switching on the Christmas lights in Shenfield and Brentwood High Street and congratulated those who had organised the High Street event which had been enjoyed by many families.
14. Attended the Young Expressions production in Ingatestone on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December.
15. On 4<sup>th</sup> December had attended the funeral of Jimmy Reddell with other Members and later in the day had made the presentations for the Best Christmas Window Display competition then attended the Youth Bank presentation evening.
16. Joined families remembering their loved ones in the moving Little Haven Children's Hospice 'Light Up a Life' service at St Thomas' Church on 6<sup>th</sup> December.
17. On 7<sup>th</sup> December had spent an enjoyable evening at the Ingatestone Victorian Extravaganza where many High Street retailers had dressed in Victorian costume.

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18. Attended the St Francis Hospice 'Light Up a Life' service at St Thomas' Church where families paid tribute to loved ones who had passed away.
19. Offered his congratulations to staff and pupils of Sawyers Hall College who had improved their performance so dramatically that Ofsted considered that the school was no longer in need of 'special measures'.
20. Reminded Members that the Civic Carol Service was to take place on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30 pm at Brentwood Cathedral.
21. Brought to Members' attention the 'Brentwood's Got Talent' competition, currently being advertised on Phoenix Radio.
22. Reminded Members that the Mayor's Charity Supper in 2008 was to take place at Joy Fook on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

The Mayor had great pleasure in presenting to Mr Victor Coppin the prize of shopping vouchers which he had won for suggesting the chosen name for the renaming of the Duchess of Kent Building.

The building was to be named 'The Nightingale Centre' after Sir Geoffrey Nightingale who was the Physician Superintendent of Warley Hospital between 1946 and 1969.

A plaque detailing the works of Sir Geoffrey Nightingale would be unveiled at the Centre in the New Year and Members were encouraged to attend the ceremony.

- 355. POST OFFICE AREA PLAN: PROPOSED CLOSURE OF WARLEY HILL POST OFFICE:** This item was considered to be urgent business pursuant to Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) in order that the matter could be considered without further delay.

The Council were informed that the MP, Mr Eric Pickles, had advised that following discussions with Post Office Ltd the Post Office in Warley Hill would not be closed. This was following strong opposition to the closure from the MP, Mr Pickles, the Borough Council, and a 1400-signature petition.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that the positive result be noted and acknowledgement be made of the major contribution of the MP, Mr Pickles in achieving this outcome.

\*[DCE-Stroulger]\*

- 356. MINUTES - 10.10.07:** RESOLVED to approve as a true and accurate record the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on the 10.10.07. The Mayor signed the Minutes.

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357. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS:** There was none.

358. **REPORTS OF PANELS, POLICY BOARD AND COMMITTEES:** The Council was invited to receive the reports of the meetings set out below. Approval of the Minutes and questions as to accuracy would be dealt with at the relevant Executive Panel, Policy Board and Committee Meeting.

(a) **Licensing/Appeals Committee held on 31.10.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.

(b) **Planning Development Control Committee on 7.11.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.

Under Minute 271 (Former Mountnessing Scrapyard Site Roman Road Mountnessing) and in response to a question, the Chairman of the Committee advised that the resubmitted planning application was expected imminently.

(c) **Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14.11.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.

(d) **Community Panel held on 21.11.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.

Under Minute 281 (Notice of Motion - Shenfield Common Bandstand) and in response to a question, the Chairman of the Panel advised that there was no updated information to be given at present.

Under Minute 288 (Elizabeth House/Cocorans Walkway - Response to Consultation), and in response to a question, the Council was advised that progress in the matter had been delayed due to the status of the footway remaining in question. Further information was awaited.

Under Minute 294 (Notice of Motion - Thrift Green Trotters Running Club), and in response to a question, it was confirmed that no evidence had been found with regard to a previously earmarked reserve in relation to an external charitable donation, but investigations would continue in light of any further information received.

(Cr Baker declared a personal interest in this matter under the Council's Code of Conduct by virtue of his wife being a member of the Thrift Green Trotters Club. Having made that declaration, Cr Baker left the Chamber, therefore taking no part in the discussion on this item).

(e) **Licensing/Appeals Sub-Committee on 27.11.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.

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- (f) **Licensing/Appeals Sub-Committee on 3.12.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.
- (g) **Environment Panel held on 4.12.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.
- (h) **Planning Development Control Committee on 5.12.07:** RESOLVED to receive and adopt.
359. **POLICY BOARD - 11.12.07:** There were no matters arising from that meeting.
360. **MEMORIALS OR PETITIONS:** There was none.
361. **QUESTIONS:** There was none.
362. **NOTICES OF MOTION:** Members were advised that the Motion from Cr Kendall in relation to Neighbourhood Watch had been withdrawn.

Cllr Le-Surf had given notice of the following:

“Brentwood Borough Council supports the social model of disability and will be addressing the need to provide modern, person-centred and inclusive, community based daytime, evening and housing opportunities for people with learning disabilities. Brentwood Borough Council will look at all options to deliver these opportunities in a way that is both cost effective and also allows service providers such as Occupational Therapy and Care Management teams to continue to provide their services from within the Borough.”

The Motion was MOVED and SECONDED and referred to Policy Board in accordance with Standing Order 6.5.

\*[DCE -Stroulger/Summers]\*

Cllr Hossack had given notice of the following:

“That this Council supports the excellent work of the legion in its full commitment to the remembrance of the sacrifices of our war heroes both past and present. Furthermore this Council proposes that each high school student within our Borough is issued with a poppy for the 2008 remembrance season with an explanatory note with respect to its meaning, significance and relevance to our present day freedoms”.

The Motion was MOVED and SECONDED and referred to Policy Board in accordance with Standing Order 6.5.

\*[DCE -Stroulger/Summers]\*

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Cllr Lewis had given notice of the following:

"That Brentwood Borough Council calls upon Essex County Council to urgently review its scheme of car parking charges in the country parks in Brentwood – and elsewhere in Essex – which were introduced in April 2007 and which penalise blue badge holders in particular.

Blue badge holders previously benefited from an exemption from such charges, but the April 2007 scheme only provides exemptions for those with tax exempt vehicles. This change was not well publicised and blue badge holders who have traditionally benefited from free parking are now at risk of attracting an excess charge of £60 (or £30 if paid within 14 days).

That the Council supports the efforts of the local MP Eric Pickles in lobbying the Government for the removal of the 65 year age limit for applying for vehicle tax exemptions “

Following a debate the Motion was **MOVED** and **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and it was therefore **RESOLVED**:

1. That Essex County Council is requested to review its scheme of car parking charges in the country parks throughout Essex particularly in relation to currently charging blue badge holders.
2. That the Council supports the local MP Mr Eric Pickles in urging the Government to remove the 65 year age limit for applying for vehicle tax exemptions.

\*[DCE -Stroulger/Summers]\*

Cllr Kendall had given notice of the following:

“The Liberal Democrat group call upon the Borough Council to undertake a full Borough wide public consultation in the Council’s Vision magazine or through such other mechanisms as appropriate when the final plans for the William Hunter Way development are submitted. This action will enable residents from across the Borough to have their say on the plans and ensure that Councillors are fully aware of their views before a final decision is made.”

The Motion was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** and a Member requested pursuant to Standing Order 15.1 that voting on the Motion be recorded.

Following a debate, the Members present voted as follows:

**FOR:** Crs B Aspinell, M Aspinell, Ms Chilvers, Elphick, Hardy, Kenny, Kendall, Le-Surf, Minns and Straw (10)

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AGAINST: Crs Baker, Braid, Mrs Brehaut, Mrs Coe, Ms Golding, Harrison, Mrs Henwood, Mrs Holmes, Mrs Hones, Hossack, Lee, Lewis, Lloyd, MacLellan, Mrs McGinley, Mrs Monnickendam, Miss Monnickendam, Parker, Mrs Pound, Quirk, Mrs Sheehan, Sleep, Sparling and Tee (24)

ABSTAIN: Nil

The MOTION was LOST.

**363. COUNCILLOR RUSSELL QUIRK:**

Members were advised that Cr Quirk had been married earlier in the day and offered their congratulations to him and to his bride.

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