

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL
AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY, 18TH MAY, 2006 AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT:-

Councillor Kettle (Mayor)
Councillor Woodall (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors Adams, Ahmed, Ali, Mrs. Ameson, Mrs. Aston, Attwood, Banks, Blood, Body, Ms. Boleyn, Bradney, Burston, Burt, Caunt, Mrs. Collins, Cotterill, Mrs. Coulter, Mrs. Cowell, Ms. Craigie, Crumpton, G.H. Davies, J. R. Davies, M. Davis, Donegan, Mrs. Dunn, Evans, Mrs. Faulkner, Finch, Ms. Foster, Fraser-Macnamara, Harley, Ms. Harris, Hill, Islam, Jackson, James, Johnston, Jones, Mrs. Jordan, Knowles, Lowe, Male, Mrs. Martin, Miller, Mottram, Ms. Nicholls, Nottingham, Ms. Partridge, Mrs. Pearce, Rahman, Mrs. Ridley, Rogers, Ryder, Mrs. Shakespeare, Simms, Southall, Sparks, Stanley, Taylor, Tomkinson, A Turner, Mrs. H Turner, K Turner, Tyler, Mrs Walker, Waltho, Mrs. Wilson and Wright; together with the Chief Executive and other Officers.

1 **VIDEO RECORDING**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 24.5, the Council gave its consent to a video recording of this meeting being made.

2 **PRAYERS**

The Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Tony Attwood, led the Council in prayer.

3 **ELECTION OF MAYOR**

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

That Councillor John Woodall be elected Mayor of the Borough for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.

Councillor Woodall then made and subscribed to the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Chair.

4 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

That Councillor David Stanley be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.

5 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 6.14 p.m. in order to enable the re-robing of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and the retiring Mayor.

The meeting re-convened at 6.26 p.m.

Councillor David Stanley then made and subscribed to the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Deputy Mayor.

6 ADDRESS BY THE MAYOR

The new Mayor addressed the Council, expressing his thanks to the Council and others on his election. In so doing he, along with other members, paid tribute to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress.

7 TRIBUTES TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND MAYORESS/
PRESENTATION OF BADGES

Following tributes to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor Ian Kettle and Mrs. Joan Kettle, respectively, the Mayor presented them with past Mayor's and past Mayoress' badges.

Councillor Kettle then addressed the Council, thanking the retiring Mayoress, Members, officers and others for the support that had enabled him to carry out his duties effectively during the year.

8 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10th April, 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) The Mayoress

The Mayor announced that the Mayoress for the 2006/07 Municipal Year would be Mrs. Audrey Woodall.

(b) The Mayor's Chaplain

The Mayor announced that the Mayor's Chaplain for the 2006/07 Municipal Year would be Canon John Everest.

(c) The Mayor's Charity

The Mayor announced that the Mayor's Charities to be supported in the 2006/07 Municipal Year would be Cancer Support (The White House, Dudley) and the Orchard Partnership at Lye.

(d) The Mayoress at Home

The Mayor announced that the Mayoress at Home would take place on 13th and 14th July, 2006 at Brierley Hill Civic Hall.

(e) Civic Service

The Mayor announced that the Civic Service would be held on Sunday, 25th June, 2006 at Halesowen Parish Church.

(f) Civic Carol Service

The Mayor announced that he hoped that the Civic Carol Service would be held in Halesowen on a date to be arranged. Details would be confirmed at a later date.

(g) Welcome to New Councillors

The Mayor welcomed the following members, elected to the Council on 4th May, 2006:-

Councillors Ahmed, Ms Boleyn, Hill, Lowe, Nottingham, Mrs Walker and Waltho.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs Millward and C Wilson.

11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M. Davis declared a personal interest in all business relating to social services as a service user.

No further declarations of a personal or prejudicial interest, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, were received in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting.

12 ELECTION OF THE LEADER FOR 2006/07 MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Martin and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Caunt be elected Leader of the Council for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.

13 ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY LEADER FOR 2006/07 MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Martin and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Fraser-Macnamara be elected Deputy Leader of the Council for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.

14 APPOINTMENT OF THE CABINET FOR 2006/07 MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the number of Members appointed to the Cabinet for the 2006/07 Municipal Year and the names of the Members to serve for that year, be approved as follows:-

Councillors Adams, Caunt, Evans, Fraser-Macnamara, Jones, Mrs. Martin, Miller, Mrs. Millward, Mrs. Shakespeare and Mrs Walker.

- (2) That the names of the Labour and Liberal Democrat Group nominees to attend meetings of the Cabinet, to speak but not to vote, be received as follows:-

Labour Group

Councillors Ali, Crumpton, G.H. Davies, Ms. Foster, Ms. Partridge, Mrs Ridley and Sparks.

Liberal Democrat Group

Councillor Tyler.

- (3) That the assignment of Cabinet Portfolios and the names of the corresponding Group spokespersons be received, as follows:-

<u>Portfolios</u>	<u>Leader and Cabinet Members</u>	<u>Labour Group Spokes- person</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Group Spokesperson</u> Councillors
	Councillors	Councillors	
Policy	Caunt	Sparks	Tyler
Adult and Community Services	Miller	Mrs. Ridley	Mrs. Collins
Children's Services	Mrs. Walker	Ms. Partridge	Ms. Boleyn
Economic Regeneration	Jones	Ms. Foster	Tyler
Environment	Mrs. Shakespeare	Lowe	Ms. Craigie
Finance	Mrs. Millward	Ali	Burt
Housing	Evans	Waltho	Ms Craigie
Leisure and Culture	Fraser-Macnamara	Crumpton	Tyler
Personnel, Legal and Property	Mrs. Martin	G H Davies	Tyler
Transportation	Adams	Tomkinson	Tyler

RESOLVED

- (1) That the revised structure of Select Committees for 2006/07 be approved together with the memberships and terms of reference set out in the Appendix to the report.
- (2) That the proposals relating to dealing with the potential for duplication between Select Committees and responsibility for corporate issues, as set out in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report, be endorsed.
- (3) That the terms of reference and onward delegation of functions of the other Committees referred to in the report, and as set out in the Council's Constitution, be reaffirmed for the 2006/07 municipal year.
- (4) That, except for the Standards Committee and Area Committees, the composition and membership of Committees for the 2006/07 municipal year be determined in accordance with the political balance requirements of Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989, as set out below:-

COMMITTEE

NUMBER OF SEATS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Conserv- ative</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat</u>
Select Committee on Children's Services *	11	6	4	1
Select Committee on Community Safety and Community Services	11	6	4	1
Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care	11	6	4	1
Select Committee on the Environment	11	6	4	1
Select Committee on Regeneration, Culture and the Environment	11	6	4	1
Appointments	9	6	3	0
Audit	9	5	3	1
Development Control	9	5	3	1

Disciplinary/Dismissal/ Grading Appeals	9	6	3	0
Licensing and Safety	15	8	6	1
Taxis	9	5	3	1
Tree Preservation Orders	9	5	4	0
Standards**	6	2	2	2

* Excluding Non-Elected Members

** Excluding the two Independent Members

Membership Of Committees

Select Committee on Children's Services

<u>Conservative (6)</u>	<u>Labour (4)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat (1)</u>
Councillors	Councillors	Councillor
Mrs. Dunn Nottingham Mrs. Pearce Rogers A. Turner C. Wilson	Ahmed Mrs. Coulter Johnston Ms. Partridge	Ms. Boleyn

Together with the following non-elected members:-

Voting Members

Parent Governor Representatives

Secondary Schools – Mr. S. R. Smith.

Primary Schools – Mr. G. Dudley (period of office expired on 25th May, 2006)

Special Schools – vacancy

Church Representatives

Worcester Diocesan Board of Education – Revd. A. Wickens

Archdiocese of Birmingham - Mr. A. M. P. Hatton

Non-Voting members

Teacher Representatives

Primary Education - Ms. M. Verdegam

Secondary/Special Education – Mr. M. Lynch

Free Churches

Mr. S. Taylor

Persons with experience of and interest in education in the Borough

Mrs. G. Simms
Ms. K. Bradley

Select Committee on Community Safety and Community Services

<u>Conservative (6)</u>	<u>Labour (4)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat (1)</u>
Councillors	Councillors	Councillor
Blood Burstons Mrs. Dunn Harley C. Wilson Wright	Cotterill Finch Mrs. Jordan Male	Mrs. Collins

Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care

<u>Conservative (6)</u>	<u>Labour (4)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat (1)</u>
Councillors	Councillors	Councillor
Mrs. Cowell Mrs. Faulkner Harley Ms. Nicholls Simms K. Turner	Mrs. Aston Islam Mrs. Ridney Waltho	Burt

Select Committee on the Environment

<u>Conservative (6)</u>	<u>Labour (4)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat (1)</u>
Councillors	Councillors	Councillor
Mrs. Cowell Harley James Kettle Stanley Mrs H. Turner	Body Finch Lowe Tomkinson	Ms. Craigie

Select Committee on Regeneration, Culture and Adult Education

<u>Conservative (6)</u>	<u>Labour (4)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat (1)</u>
Councillors	Councillors	Councillor
Hill Jackson Knowles Southall K. Turner C. Wilson	Crumpton J. R. Davies Ms. Harris Rahman	Tyler

Appointments Committee

<u>Conservative (6)</u>	<u>Labour (3)</u>
Councillors	Councillors
Adams Caunt Fraser-Macnamara Mrs. Martin Mrs. Millward Mrs. Walker	Ali G H Davies Sparks

Audit Committee

<u>Conservative (5)</u>	<u>Labour (3)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat (1)</u>
Councillors	Councillors	Councillors
Attwood Burstons Kettle Ms. Nicholls Taylor	Ali J. R. Davies Mrs. Jordan	Tyler

Development Control Committee

<u>Conservative (5)</u>	<u>Labour (3)</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat (1)</u>
Councillors	Councillors	Councillor
Banks Donegan Southall Mrs H Turner Wright	G H Davies Mottram Mrs M Wilson	Mrs Collins

Disciplinary/Dismissal/Grading Appeals Committee

Conservative (6)

Labour (3)

Councillors

Councillors

Attwood
Banks
Jackson
Knowles
Nottingham
Taylor

Mrs. Aston
G. H. Davies
Mrs. M. Wilson

Licensing and Safety Committee

Conservative (8)

Labour (6)

Liberal Democrat (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillors

Mrs. Ameson
Blood
Donegan
Mrs. Dunn
Rogers
Ryder
Taylor
Woodall

Mrs. Aston
Bradney
Mrs. Coulter
Finch
Mottram
Tomkinson

Ms. Craigie

Taxis Committee

Conservative (5)

Labour (3)

Liberal Democrat (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

Mrs. Ameson
Mrs. Faulkner
Hill
Mrs. Pearce
A. Turner

Cotterill
Male
Tomkinson

Mrs. Collins

Tree Preservation Orders Committee

Conservative (5)

Labour (4)

Liberal Democrat (0)

Councillors

Councillors

Donegan
James
Ms. Nicholls
Simms
Stanley

Mrs. Aston
Bradney
Johnston
Mottram

- (5) That with regard to the Select Committee on Children's Services, the position in relation to non-elected members as described in paragraphs 13 and 14 of the report and as contained in resolution (4) above be endorsed.
- (6) That the members of the Licensing and Safety Committee continue to undertake the statutory Committee functions in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003, as referred to in paragraph 15 of the report.
- (7) That the Council confirm that the proportionality requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 shall not apply to Sub-Committees established by the Licensing and Safety Committee in 2006/07.
- (8) That the composition and membership of the Standards Committee for the 2006/07 municipal year be as set out below:-

Standards Committee

(6 Elected Members plus 2 independent members)

Conservative (2)

Labour (2)

Liberal
Democrat (2)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillors

Mrs Dunn
Fraser-Macnamara

Male
Ms. Partridge

Ms. Craigie
Tyler

Independent Members - The Bishop of Dudley and Ms. L. Smith

- (9) That the terms of reference of the Standards Committee, as set out in the Council's Constitution, be reaffirmed for the 2006/07 municipal year.
- (10) That the arrangements for substitutes on Committees, as set out in Council Procedure Rules 5.2 to 5.4, be re-affirmed for the 2006/07 municipal year.
- (11) That Area Committees be appointed for the 2006/07 municipal year as set out below; that the Committees comprise the Ward Councillors for the areas referred to and that the functions and protocols of Area Committees, as set out in the Council's Constitution, be re-affirmed:-

Brierley Hill Area Committee - Brierley Hill, Brockmoor and Pensnett, Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley wards.

Central Dudley Area Committee - Castle and Priory, Netherton, Woodside and St. Andrew's, Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood, St. James's and St. Thomas's wards.

Halesowen Area Committee - Belle Vale, Cradley and Foxcote, Halesowen North, Halesowen South and Hayley Green and Cradley South wards.

North Dudley Area Committee - Coseley East, Gornal, Sedgley and Upper Gornal and Woodsetton wards.

Stourbridge Area Committee - Amblecote, Lye and Wollescote, Norton, Pedmore and Stourbridge East and Wollaston and Stourbridge Town wards.

- (12) That the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the following Committees be appointed for 2006/07:-

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Vice-Chairman</u>
	<u>Councillors</u>	
Select Committee on Children's Services	Nottingham	Ms. Boleyn
Select Committee on Community Safety and Community Services	Blood	Cotterill
Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care	Mrs. Ridney	Mrs. Faulkner
Select Committee on the Environment	Mrs. Cowell	Mrs. H Turner
Select Committee on Regeneration, Culture and Adult Education	K Turner	Crumpton
Appointments	Caunt	Fraser-Macnamara
Audit	Burston	Miss Nicholls
Development Control	Wright	Southall
Disciplinary/Dismissal/Grading Appeals	Banks	Knowles

Licensing and Safety	Ryder	Taylor
Taxis	Mrs. Ameson	A Turner
Tree Preservation Orders	James	Simms
Standards	Independent Chairman - The Bishop of Dudley	

16 SCHEME OF DELEGATION

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Constitution and Scheme of Delegation be reaffirmed for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.
 - (2) That the Director of Law and Property be authorised to make any necessary and consequential amendments to the Constitution arising from the decisions taken at this meeting.
 - (3) That the revised Access to Information Procedure Rules, as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution, be endorsed.
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17 ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES FOR 2006/07

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

That the programme of ordinary meetings of the Council and Committees for the 2006/07 Municipal Year, as now submitted, be approved.

18 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That, in view of the urgency involved in making appointments to the following outside bodies, the Director of Law and Property, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to make appointments to those bodies:

Local Government Association - General Assembly
West Midlands Local Government Association
- Association Council/ Regional Assembly
- Provincial Council
- Regional Planning Partnership
- Regional Housing Partnership

West Midlands Joint Committee (WMJC)
WMJC – Joint Planning and Transportation Sub-Committee
WMJC - Community Safety Sub-Committee
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and “Prime Member”
West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority and “Prime Member”
Dudley and West Midlands Zoological Society Limited - Executive Board
Dudley Community Partnership
Dudley School Organisation Committee

- (2) That in view of the timetabling of meetings of the Cabinet and Area Committees for the 2006/07 municipal year, the appointments to outside bodies which will usually be made by Area Committees be referred for determination direct by those Committees, rather than through the Cabinet.

The meeting ended at 7.03 pm.

MAYOR