

Dudley Metropolitan Borough

Minutes of the proceedings of the Council **at an Extraordinary Meeting held on Friday, 19th December, 2014** **at 5.00 pm at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley**

Present:

Councillor M Aston (Mayor)
Councillor S Waltho (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors K Ahmed, S Ali, C Baugh, C Billingham, H Bills, D Blood, R Body, P Bradley, D Branwood, P Brothwood, K Casey, D Caunt, I Cooper, B Cotterill, J Cowell, T Crumpton, W Duckworth, C Elcock, B Etheridge, S Etheridge, M Evans, A Finch, K Finch, J Foster, A Goddard, C Hale, M Hanif, P Harley, R Harris, D Hemingsley, S Henley, T Herbert, Z Islam, L Jones, P Lowe, J Martin, P Martin, P Miller, M Mottram, N Neale, G Partridge, C Perks, D Perks, H Rogers, D Russell, R Scott-Dow, K Shakespeare, G Simms, D Sparks, E Taylor, S Turner, D Tyler, D Vickers, M Wood and Q Zada together with the Chief Executive and other Officers.

Prayers

The Mayor's Chaplain led the Council in prayer.

Prior to the commencement of the formal business, the Council observed a period of silence in memory of the victims of a terrorist attack on a school in Peshawar, Pakistan on 16th December, 2014.

57 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors A Ahmed, S Arshad, A Aston, M Attwood, N Barlow, N Gregory, R James, K Jordan, I Kettle, I Marrey, M Roberts, A Taylor, H Turner, K Turner and M Wilson.

58 Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interests, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, were made in respect of the business to be transacted at this Extraordinary Meeting of the Council.

Mayor's Announcements**(a) Councillor David Sparks OBE**

The Mayor reported that at the meeting on 1st December, 2014, Councillor P Lowe had been elected as Leader of the Council. In line with delegated powers, under Part 3 of the Constitution, the Leader had appointed Councillor S Turner to the post of Deputy Leader with effect from 5th December, 2014. Councillor D Sparks had been appointed to the post of Cabinet Member without portfolio also with effect from 5th December, 2014.

The Mayor, along with other Members of the Council, paid tribute to the work and achievements of Councillor D Sparks during his period of office as Leader of the Council and as Leader of the Labour Group. In addition to his Cabinet and ward duties, Councillor D Sparks would continue his role as Chair of the Local Government Association.

(b) John Polychronakis – Chief Executive

The Mayor reported that this would be the last meeting of the full Council attended by John Polychronakis prior to his retirement from the post of Chief Executive in January, 2015. The Mayor, along with other Members of the Council, paid tribute to John's long and distinguished local government service and his significant contribution to civic life in Dudley. The Council expressed best wishes for a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Following tributes from individual Members, John Polychronakis addressed the Council and thanked Members for their comments.

60 Post of Strategic Director (People Services)

A report of the Chief Executive was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor P Lowe, seconded by Councillor S Turner and

Resolved

- (1) That, in accordance with the recommendations of the Appointments Committee and subject to the necessary pre-employment checks, Anthony Oakman, currently the Executive Director - People (Adult and Children Services), Stoke on Trent City Council, be appointed to the post of Strategic Director (People Services) on the terms, conditions, allowances and salary applicable to the post, with effect from a date to be agreed.
- (2) That, subject to his formal acceptance of the post, Anthony Oakman be appointed as the Officer responsible for the Council's statutory adult social care and children's services responsibilities with effect from the date his employment commences with Dudley MBC.

Urgent Business

There was no urgent business raised under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Mayor wished everyone a happy Christmas and a peaceful, prosperous new year.

The meeting ended at 5.47pm

MAYOR