

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

**Minutes of the proceedings of the Council
at the annual meeting held on Thursday, 5th June, 2014
at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, the Council House, Dudley**

Present:

Councillor A Finch (Mayor)
Councillor M Aston (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors A Ahmed, K Ahmed, S Ali, A Aston, N Barlow, 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, B Etheridge, S Etheridge, K Finch, J Foster, A Goddard, N Gregory, C Hale, M Hanif, P Harley, R Harris, D Hemingsley, S Henley, T Herbert, Z Islam, R James, L Jones, I Kettle, P Lowe, I Marrey, J Martin, P Martin, P Miller, M Mottram, N Neale, G Partridge, C Perks, D Perks, M Roberts, H Rogers, D Russell, R Scott-Dow, K Shakespeare, G Simms, D Sparks, A Taylor, E Taylor, S Turner, D Tyler, D Vickers, S Waltho, M Wood and Q Zada together with the Chief Executive and other Officers.

1 Recording of Meeting

In accordance with Council Procedure Rules, the Council gave its consent to a recording of this meeting being made and for photographs to be taken.

2 Prayers

The Mayor's Chaplain led the Council in prayer.

3 Election of Mayor

It was moved by Councillor D Sparks, seconded by Councillor D Caunt and

Resolved

That Councillor Margaret Aston be elected Mayor of the Borough for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

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

NB: In seconding the above motion, Councillor D Caunt also took the opportunity to congratulate Councillor D Sparks on his nomination as the Chair of the Local Government Association.

4 **Election of Deputy Mayor**

It was moved by Councillor D Sparks, seconded by Councillor P Lowe and

Resolved

That Councillor Stephen James Waltho be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

5 **Acceptance of Office of Deputy Mayor**

Following a brief adjournment to enable re-robing to take place, Councillor S Waltho 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 her thanks to Members and others on her election. In so doing she, along with other Members, paid tribute to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress.

7 **Tributes to the Retiring Mayor and Mayoress and Presentation of Badges**

Following tributes to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor A Finch and Mrs H Finch), the Mayor presented them with badges.

Councillor A Finch addressed the Council, expressing thanks for all the support that had enabled him to carry out his duties during the year, including the support of the Mayoress.

8 **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th April, 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Mayor's Announcements

(a) **Mayor's Consort**

The Mayor's Consort for the 2014/15 Municipal Year would be Councillor A Aston.

(b) **Deputy Mayoress**

The Deputy Mayoress for the 2014/15 Municipal Year would be Ms Jayne Magin.

(c) **The Mayor's Chaplain**

The Mayor's Chaplain for the 2014/15 Municipal Year would be Reverend Canon Judith Oliver.

(d) **The Mayor's Charities**

The Mayor's Charities to be supported in the 2014/15 Municipal Year would be:-

- Action Heart; and
- Guide Dogs

(e) **"At Home" Event**

The "At Home" event would take place on 17th July, 2014.

(f) **Civic Sunday**

Civic Sunday would be held on 22nd June, 2014 at St. Francis C of E Church, Dudley.

(g) **Armed Forces Day**

Armed Forces Day would be held at Himley Hall on 29th June, 2014.

(h) **Charity Cricket Match**

The Charity Cricket Match between Councillors and Officers would be held on 20th June, 2014 at Stourbridge Cricket Club.

(i) Newly Elected Members of the Council

The Mayor welcomed Councillors N Barlow, P Bradley, P Brothwood, I Cooper, S Etheridge, B Etheridge, A Goddard, N Gregory, S Henley, N Neale, D Perks, R Scott-Dow, E Taylor and M Wood who had been elected to the Council at the municipal elections on 22nd May, 2014.

The Mayor also paid tribute to the former Members who had not been re-elected, namely D Ameson, L Boleyn, J Hill, J Jones, S Ridney, B Sykes, T Westwood, T Wood and T Wright.

10 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors S Arshad, M Attwood, C Elcock, M Evans, K Jordan, H Turner, K Turner and M Wilson.

11 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interests, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, were received in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting.

12 Appointment and Membership of the Cabinet, Committees and Community Forums for 2014/15 and Related Matters

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor D Sparks, seconded by Councillor P Lowe and

Resolved

- (1) That the information contained in the report of the Leader on the appointment of the Deputy Leader and Members of the Cabinet for the 2014/15 Municipal Year, as contained in the list circulated at the meeting and as set out below, be noted, together with the designations of Cabinet Members:-
- (a) That Councillor P Lowe be appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.
- (b) That the Leader of the Council and nine other members comprise the Cabinet for the 2014/15 Municipal Year and that the names of the Members to serve for the year be as follows:-

Councillors K Ahmed, H Bills, D Branwood, T Crumpton, J Foster, R Harris, P Lowe, G Partridge, D Sparks and S Turner.

- (c) That the names of the Opposition Group Spokespersons to attend meetings of the Cabinet to speak, but not vote, be received as follows:-

Conservative Group: Councillors P Harley, R James, P Miller, G Simms, D Vickers and M Wood

UKIP Group: Councillors P Brothwood and K Turner

- (d) That the assignment of Portfolios to the Cabinet Members and the names of the corresponding Main Opposition (Conservative) Group Spokespersons be as set out below:-

<u>Leader and Cabinet Members</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
<u>Councillor</u>	
D Sparks (Leader of the Council)	Policy
P Lowe (Deputy Leader of the Council)	Without Portfolio
D Branwood	Adult and Community Services
T Crumpton	Children's Services and Lifelong Learning
H Bills	Environment and Culture
S Turner	Finance
G Partridge	Housing and Community Safety
R Harris	Human Resources, Legal, Property and Health
J Foster	Regeneration
K Ahmed	Transport

<u>Main Opposition Group Spokespersons</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
P Harley (Main Opposition Group Leader)	Policy
D Vickers (Main Opposition Group Deputy Leader)	Adult and Community Services
G Simms	Children's Services and Lifelong Learning
A Goddard	Environment and Culture
M Wood	Finance
N Neale	Health and Wellbeing
R James	Housing and Community Safety
N Barlow	Human Resources, Legal and Property
I Kettle	Regeneration
P Miller	Transport

- (2) That the structure of Committees for 2014/15 be approved on the basis set out in the report now submitted and the lists circulated at the meeting.
- (3) That the terms of reference and onward delegation of functions of the Committees referred to in the report, and as set out in the Council's Constitution, be re-affirmed for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.
- (4) That, with the exceptions referred to in the report now submitted, the composition and membership of Committees for the 2014/15 Municipal Year be determined in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as set out below:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>UKIP</u>	<u>Green</u>
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board	11	6	4	1	
Corporate Performance Management, Efficiency and Effectiveness Scrutiny Committee	11	6	4	1	
Adult, Community and Housing Services Scrutiny Committee	11	6	3	2	
Children's Services Scrutiny Committee (Excluding Co-opted Members)	11	6	3	2	
Health Scrutiny Committee (Excluding Co-opted Member)	11	6	3	2	
Urban Environment Scrutiny Committee	11	6	3	1	1
Appeals Committee	9	5	3	1	
Appointments Committee	9	5	3	1	
Audit and Standards Committee	9	5	3	1	
Development Control Committee	9	5	3	1	
Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee	6	4	2		
Licensing and Safety Committee	12	7	3	2	
Taxis Committee	9	5	3	1	

- (5) That the appointment of Members to Committees for the 2014/15 municipal year be approved as set out below:-

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

<u>Labour</u> (6)	<u>Conservative</u> (4)	<u>UKIP</u> (1)
<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillor</u>
I Cooper A Finch C Hale M Hanif M Mottram D Tyler	D Blood C Elcock R James L Jones	K Turner

**Corporate Performance Management,
Efficiency and Effectiveness Scrutiny Committee**

<u>Labour</u> (6)	<u>Conservative</u> (4)	<u>UKIP</u> (1)
<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillor</u>
C Baugh B Cotterill A Finch I Marrey M Mottram D Russell	D Blood D Caunt P Harley M Wood	S Henley

Adult, Community and Housing Services Scrutiny Committee

<u>Labour</u> (6)	<u>Conservative</u> (3)	<u>UKIP</u> (2)
<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillor</u>
R Body I Cooper M Hanif Z Islam J Martin D Tyler	A Goddard R James D Vickers	D Perks K Turner

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Labour (6)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (2)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

K Casey
I Cooper
Z Islam
I Marrey
M Mottram
C Perks

M Attwood
C Billingham
G Simms

P Bradley
R Scott-Dow

Together with the following non-elected members:-

Voting Members

Parent Governor Representatives

1. Secondary Schools – Vacancy
2. Primary Schools – Vacancy
3. Special Schools – Vacancy

Church Representatives

1. Worcester Diocesan Board of Education – Rev A Wickens
2. Archdiocese of Birmingham – Mrs M Ward

Non-Voting Members

Teacher Representatives

1. Primary Education – Mrs M Verdegem or Ms Sinden
2. Secondary/Special Education – Mr M Lynch or Mr Nesbitt

Free Churches

1. Mr S Taylor

Persons with experience of and interest in education in the Borough

1. Mr L Ridney
2. Mrs L Coulter

Health Scrutiny Committee

Labour (6)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (2)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

C Hale
M Hanif
D Hemingsley
K Jordan
M Roberts
E Taylor

N Barlow
C Elcock
K Shakespeare

P Brothwood
S Henley

Urban Environment Scrutiny Committee

Labour (6)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (1)

Green (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

S Ali
J Cowell
A Finch
C Hale
E Taylor
D Tyler

N Gregory
I Kettle
P Miller

R Scott-Dow

W Duckworth

Appeals Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

A Aston
C Hale
I Marrey
J Martin
D Tyler

M Evans
H Rogers
P Martin

D Perks

Appointments Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

J Foster
R Harris
P Lowe
D Sparks
S Turner

M Evans
P Harley
D Vickers

B Etheridge

Audit and Standards Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

A Aston
J Cowell
M Roberts
D Russell
D Tyler

M Attwood
M Evans
A Taylor

P Brothwood

Development Control Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

A Ahmed
K Casey
J Martin
C Perks
Q Zada

N Barlow
D Caunt
N Gregory

H Turner

Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee

Labour (4)

Conservative (2)

Councillors

Councillors

One Ward Councillor from each of the following wards:

Cradley & Wollescote –
G Partridge

Norton – H Rogers

Lye & Stourbridge North –
M Hanif

Pedmore & Stourbridge East –
I Kettle

Quarry Bank & Dudley Wood –
J Cowell

Wollaston & Stourbridge Town –
I Marrey

Licensing and Safety Committee

Labour (7)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (2)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillors

J Cowell
K Finch
D Hemingsley
C Perks
M Roberts
D Russell
E Taylor

D Blood
R James
A Taylor

S Etheridge
H Turner

Taxis Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (3)

UKIP (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

A Ahmed
A Aston
R Body
J Cowell
J Martin

C Billingham
C Elcock
G Simms

P Bradley

- (6) That with regard to the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee, the proposals in relation to co-opted representatives and the arrangements for the filling of vacancies for co-opted Members, as set out in the report now submitted, be approved.
- (7) That the statutory co-opted representatives serving on the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee be appointed to serve on the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for the duration of any meetings that are necessary to determine any scrutiny 'call ins', insofar as they concern education issues only.
- (8) That the Licensing and Safety Committee be appointed in 2014/15 to undertake the statutory Committee functions in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003, as referred to in the report now submitted, and that the Committee comprise 12 Members.
- (9) 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 or to any Sub-Committee(s) established by the Audit and Standards Committee to hear complaints against Members under the Members' Code of Conduct.
- (10) That the Council endorse the continued establishment of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel, as a joint Committee of the seven West Midlands District Councils, on the basis set out in the report now submitted.
- (11) That the governance arrangements of the Integrated Transport Authority be noted; that the establishment of the Joint Committee to be known as Centro Members be approved on the basis set out in the report now submitted and that the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to take any necessary and consequential actions that may be required in connection with this matter.
- (12) That the arrangements for substitutes on Committees, as set out in Council Procedure Rules 5.2 to 5.4, be reaffirmed for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.
- (13) That the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to make any necessary changes to the appointments to Committees or Sub-Committees that might arise from time to time during the 2014/15 Municipal Year, in accordance with the instructions of the Political Groups.
- (14) That Community Forums continue to be established on the basis outlined in the report now submitted.
- (15) That the Dudley Health and Wellbeing Board be established in 2014/15, on the same basis as in the previous municipal year, as set out in the report now submitted.
- (16) That the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the following Committees be appointed for 2014/15:-

	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Vice Chair</u>
	Councillor	Councillor
Corporate Performance Management, Efficiency and Effectiveness Scrutiny Committee	D Blood	B Cotterill
Adult, Community and Housing Services Scrutiny Committee	M Hanif	R James
Children's Services Scrutiny Committee	M Mottram	I Cooper
Health Scrutiny Committee	C Hale	C Elcock
Urban Environment Scrutiny Committee	D Tyler	A Finch
Appeals Committee	J Martin	A Aston
Appointments Committee	D Sparks	P Lowe
Audit and Standards Committee	J Cowell	M Roberts
Development Control Committee	Q Zada	K Casey
Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee	J Cowell	M Hanif
Licensing and Safety Committee	D Russell	K Finch
Taxis Committee	R Body	A Ahmed

- (17) That the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to take all the necessary and consequential actions that are required to implement the proposals contained in the report now submitted.

13 **Constitution and Scheme of Delegation**

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor D Sparks, seconded by Councillor P Lowe and

Resolved

- (1) That the Constitution and Scheme of Delegation be reaffirmed for the 2014/15 municipal year.
 - (2) That the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to make any necessary and consequential amendments to the Constitution arising from the decisions made at this meeting and to reflect any ongoing changes in legislative requirements.
 - (3) That all references in the Constitution to statutory provisions be taken to include any subsequent legislation, Statutory Instruments, Regulations, Orders or Guidance issued under those statutory provisions.
-

14 **Ordinary Meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Community Forums for 2014/15**

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor D Sparks, seconded by Councillor P Lowe and

Resolved

That the programme of ordinary meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Community Forums for the 2014/15 municipal year, as now submitted and circulated at the meeting, be approved.

15 **Appointments/Nominations to Outside Bodies**

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor D Sparks, seconded by Councillor P Lowe and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to make appointments and nominations to the bodies referred to below in view of the urgency involved in making those appointments and nominations:-

Local Government Association
West Midlands Employers
West Midlands Joint Committee
Black Country Strategic Transport Board
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and “Prime Member”
Integrated Transport Authority and any associated appointments,
including
Centro Members
West Midlands Police and Crime Panel and substitute(s)
Birmingham Airport Holdings Ltd – Board of Directors
Dudley and West Midlands Zoological Society Limited – Executive
Board
North Priory Project Board
Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
PSP Dudley Limited Liability Partnership – Members Board
Black Country Executive Joint Committee
Black Country Living Museum Trust
Black Country Consortium Limited - Directors

- (2) That the appointment of Members to serve on various other outside bodies be reported to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

The meeting ended at 7.00 p.m.

MAYOR