

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council  
Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at 6.00pm  
at Dudley College of Technology, The Broadway, Dudley**

**Present:**

S Greenaway (Mayor)  
Councillor A Goddard (Deputy Mayor)  
Councillors S Ali, A Aston, M Aston, P Atkins, C Barnett, C Bayton, D Bevan, I Bevan, H Bills, D Borley, S Bothul, P Bradley, R Buttery, B Challenor, S Clark, J Clinton, R Clinton, R Collins, D Corfield, J Cowell, T Creed, T Crumpton, A Davies, K Denning, P Dobb, P Drake, M Dudley, C Eccles, J Elliott, M Evans, J Foster, M Hanif, D Harley, P Harley, A Hopwood, M Howard, A Hughes, L Johnson, S Keasey, I Kettle, E Lawrence, P Lee, A Lees, K Lewis, W Little, P Lowe, J Martin, P Miller, S Mughal, N Neale, A Qayyum, K Razzaq, S Ridney, M Rogers, T Russon, P Sahota, D Stanley, C Sullivan, W Sullivan, A Taylor, E Taylor, L Taylor-Childs, A Tromans, M Webb, K Westwood, M Westwood and Q Zada together with the Chief Executive and other Officers

**1 Election of Mayor**

The Mayor invited nominations for election to the office of Mayor of the Borough for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Councillor A Goddard was nominated by Councillor P Harley. The nomination was seconded by Councillor P Bradley.

**Resolved**

That Councillor A Goddard be elected Mayor of the Borough for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

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

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2     **Election of Deputy Mayor**

The Mayor invited nominations for election to the office of Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Councillor P Lee was nominated by Councillor P Harley. The nomination was seconded by Councillor P Bradley.

**Resolved**

That Councillor P Lee be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

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3     **Acceptance of Office of Deputy Mayor**

Following an adjournment for robing to take place, Councillor P Lee made and subscribed to the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Deputy Mayor.

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4     **Address by the Mayor**

The Mayor addressed the Council expressing thanks upon her election.

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5     **Tributes to the Retiring Mayor and Mayor's Consort and Presentation of Badges**

Tributes were paid to the retiring Mayor and Mayor's Consort, followed by the presentation of badges.

S Greenaway addressed the Council and expressed thanks for all the support that had enabled her to carry out her duties as Mayor.

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6     **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors K Casey, S Henley and S Phipps.

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7 **Minutes**

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 be approved as correct records and signed.

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8 **Mayor's Announcements**

(a) **Councillor Richard Body**

The Mayor referred in sympathetic terms to the death of Councillor Richard Body. The Council observed a minute of silence as a mark of respect. Councillors P Harley, Q Zada and T Crumpton paid tributes to the memory of Richard Body. Full tributes would be paid at the next meeting of the Council.

(b) **Mayor's Consort**

The Mayor's Consort for the 2023/24 Municipal Year was Councillor J Clinton.

(c) **Deputy Mayoress**

The Deputy Mayoress for the 2023/24 Municipal Year was Mrs G Lee.

(d) **Mayor's Chaplain**

The Mayor's Chaplain for the 2023/24 Municipal Year was Reverend M Hemus.

(e) **Mayor's Charities**

The Mayor's Charities to be supported in the 2023/24 Municipal Year were:

Community First Responders  
Mary Stevens Hospice  
UpsnDowns  
Prostate Cancer UK

(f) “At Home” Event

To be held on a date to be arranged.

(g) Armed Forces Day

To be held on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2023.

(h) Civic Sunday

To be held on a date to be arranged.

(i) Black Country Musicom Festival

To be held on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.

(j) Mayor’s Charity Cricket Match

To be held on a date to be arranged at the Memorial Ground,  
Amblecote, Stourbridge.

(k) Newly Elected Members of the Council

The Mayor welcomed the following Members who had been elected  
to the Council at the municipal elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2023:

Councillor K Denning  
Councillor M Dudley  
Councillor W Little  
Councillor A Qayyum  
Councillor C Sullivan  
Councillor A Tromans  
Councillor M Webb  
Councillor K Westwood

(l) Former Councillors

The Mayor paid tribute to the service given by former Councillors R Ahmed, S Greenaway and A Millward who were not re-elected at the municipal elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2023.

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9 **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.

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10 **Leader of the Council**

A report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was submitted.

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor P Bradley and

**Resolved**

That the report be received and noted.

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11 **Appointment and Membership of the Cabinet and Committees for 2023/24 and Related Matters**

A report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor P Harley, seconded by Councillor P Bradley and

**Resolved**

- (1) That the information contained in the list circulated by the Leader concerning the appointment of the Deputy Leader and Members of the Cabinet for the 2023/24 municipal year, as set out below, be noted together with the designations of Cabinet Members:

- (a) That Councillor P Bradley be appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.
- (b) That the Leader of the Council and nine other Members comprise the Cabinet for the 2023/24 Municipal Year and that the names of the Members to serve for the year be as follows:-  
  
Councillors P Atkins, I Bevan, P Bradley, R Buttery, S Clark, D Corfield, P Harley, N Neale, R Clinton and L Taylor-Childs.
- (c) That all Members of the Shadow Cabinet be invited to attend meetings of the Cabinet to speak but not vote.
- (d) That the assignment of Portfolios to the Cabinet Members and the names of the corresponding Opposition (Labour) Group Spokespersons be as set out below:-

Leader and Cabinet Members

| <u>Councillor</u> | <u>Portfolio</u>                                  |
|-------------------|---|
| P Harley          | Leader of the Council (Policy)                    |
| P Bradley         | Deputy Leader (Communities and Economic Delivery) |
| N Neale           | Adult Social Care                                 |
| R Buttery         | Children's Services and Education                 |
| R Clinton         | Climate Change                                    |
| P Atkins          | Corporate Strategy                                |
| S Clark           | Finance, Legal and Human Resources                |
| D Corfield        | Highways and Environmental Services               |
| L Taylor-Childs   | Housing and Safer Communities                     |
| I Bevan           | Public Health                                     |

Opposition Group Spokespersons (Shadow Cabinet)

| <u>Councillor</u> | <u>Portfolio</u>  |
|-------------------|---|
| Q Zada            | Opposition Group Leader (Policy)                                |
| J Foster          | Opposition Group Deputy Leader (Human Resources, EDI and Legal) |
| S Ali             | Finance and Digital   |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| P Lowe   | Health and Wellbeing                           |
| S Ridney | Children's Services, Young People and Families |
| C Bayton | Climate Change and Environment                 |
| A Aston  | Housing, Communities and Leisure               |
| K Casey  | Highways and Street Scene                      |
| J Cowell | Commercialisation, Procurement and Audit       |
| P Sahota | Regeneration, Skills and Employment            |

- (2) That the structure of Committees for 2023/24 be approved on the basis set out in the report and the lists circulated at the meeting.
- (3) That the terms of reference and functions of Committees, as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution, be approved subject to any consequential amendments arising from decisions made at this meeting.
- (4) That, with the exceptions referred to in the report, the composition and Membership of Committees for the 2023/24 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 shown on the lists circulated at the meeting:

|  | <u>Total</u> | <u>Conservative</u> | <u>Labour</u> | <u>Independent</u> |
|--|--------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Overview and Scrutiny Committee                                      | 11           | 7                   | 4             |                    |
| Adult Social Care Select Committee                                   | 11           | 7                   | 4             |                    |
| Children's Services Select Committee<br>(Excluding Co-opted Members) | 11           | 7                   | 4             |                    |
| Climate Change Select Committee                                      | 11           | 7                   | 4             |                    |
| Corporate and Economic Strategy Select Committee                     | 11           | 7                   | 4             |                    |

|  |    |   |   |   |
|--|----|---|---|---|
| Highways and Environmental Services Select Committee                       | 11 | 7 | 4 |   |
| Housing and Safer Communities Select Committee                             | 11 | 7 | 4 |   |
| Public Health Select Committee<br>(Excluding Co-opted Member)              | 11 | 7 | 4 |   |
| Appointments Committee   | 9  | 5 | 4 |   |
| Audit and Standards Committee  | 9  | 6 | 3 |   |
| Children's Corporate Parenting Board                                       | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Planning Committee   | 9  | 6 | 3 |   |
| Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee<br>(Excluding Co-opted Members) | 6  | 4 | 2 |   |
| Licensing and Safety Committee   | 12 | 7 | 5 |   |
| Taxis Committee  | 9  | 6 | 3 |   |

- (5) That the appointment of Members to Committees for the 2023/24 municipal year be on the basis of the nominations made by political groups as follows:-



## **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

### Councillors (Conservative)

J Clinton  
P Dobb  
S Keasey  
I Kettle  
E Lawrence  
M Rogers  
D Stanley

### Councillors (Labour)

S Ali  
H Bills  
J Foster  
A Hughes

## **Adult Social Care Select Committee**

### Councillors (Conservative)

S Bothul  
R Collins  
A Davies  
A Hopwood  
L Johnson  
M Rogers  
C Sullivan

### Councillors (Labour)

T Crumpton  
M Hanif  
P Lowe  
A Qayyum

## **Children's Services Select Committee**

### Councillors (Conservative)

D Bevan  
R Collins  
P Lee  
K Lewis  
D Stanley  
C Sullivan  
M Webb

### Councillors (Labour)

C Bayton  
M Howard  
A Hughes  
S Ridney

Together with provision for the appointment of statutory, non-elected, co-opted members with voting rights in matters concerning education:

#### Parent Governor Representatives

1. Secondary Schools – vacancy
2. Primary Schools – vacancy
3. Special Schools – C Collins

#### Church Representatives

4. Worcester Diocesan Board of Education – T Reid
5. Archdiocese of Birmingham – R May

#### **Climate Change Select Committee**

##### Councillors (Conservative)

P Dobb  
M Dudley  
J Elliott  
S Henley  
S Keasey  
M Rogers  
T Russon

##### Councillors (Labour)

C Barnett  
C Bayton  
C Eccles  
A Tromans

#### **Corporate and Economic Strategy Select Committee**

##### Councillors (Conservative)

A Davies  
J Elliott  
S Henley  
A Hopwood  
E Lawrence  
T Russon  
D Stanley

##### Councillors (Labour)

A Aston  
C Eccles  
P Sahota  
K Westwood

## **Highways and Environmental Services Select Committee**

Councillors  
(Conservative)

D Borley  
P Dobb  
I Kettle  
E Lawrence  
A Lees  
P Miller  
W Sullivan

Councillors  
(Labour)

K Casey  
K Denning  
J Martin  
S Mughal

## **Housing and Safer Communities Select Committee**

Councillors  
(Conservative)

D Bevan  
S Bothul  
T Creed  
A Davies  
K Lewis  
I Kettle  
M Webb

Councillors  
(Labour)

A Aston  
J Cowell  
P Drake  
J Martin

## **Public Health Select Committee**

Councillors  
(Conservative)

J Clinton  
R Collins  
M Dudley  
M Evans  
D Harley  
L Johnson  
W Little

Councillors  
(Labour)

M Hanif  
P Lowe  
E Taylor  
K Westwood

One non-elected co-opted member without voting rights:-

Healthwatch Dudley – Chief Officer (J Griffiths)

## **Appointments Committee**

Councillors  
(Conservative)

P Bradley  
R Buttery  
D Corfield  
P Harley  
L Taylor-Childs

Councillors  
(Labour)

J Foster  
Q Zada  
Labour Group nomination  
Labour Group nomination

## **Audit and Standards Committee**

Councillors  
(Conservative)

D Borley  
T Creed  
M Evans  
S Keasey  
A Lees  
W Little

Councillors  
(Labour)

S Ali  
J Cowell  
J Foster

## **Children's Corporate Parenting Board**

Councillors  
(Conservative)

P Bradley  
R Buttery  
L Johnson  
P Lee  
K Lewis  
D Stanley

Councillors  
(Labour)

C Bayton  
H Bills  
M Howard  
S Ridney  
E Taylor

Councillor  
(Independent)

M Westwood

## **Planning Committee**

### Councillors (Conservative)

S Bothul  
B Challenor  
D Harley  
P Miller  
K Razzaq  
W Sullivan

### Councillors (Labour)

H Bills  
P Drake  
E Taylor

## **Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee**

One ward Councillor from each of the following wards:

Cradley and Wollescote  
T Crumpton

Norton  
S Clark

Lye and Stourbridge North  
D Borley

Pedmore and Stourbridge  
East  
I Kettle

Quarry Bank and Dudley  
Wood  
J Cowell

Wollaston and Stourbridge  
Town  
A Hopwood

Together with 3 non-elected co-opted members without voting rights:-

Friends of Stevens Park, Quarry Bank – D Sparks  
Friends of Wollescote Park – J Jones  
Friends of Mary Stevens Park – H Rogers

## **Licensing and Safety Committee**

### Councillors (Conservative)

J Clinton  
T Creed  
M Evans  
A Goddard  
A Lees  
K Razzaq  
A Taylor

### Councillors (Labour)

J Cowell  
P Drake  
M Howard  
S Mughal  
E Taylor

## **Taxis Committee**

### Councillors (Conservative)

B Challenor  
D Harley  
A Hopwood  
W Little  
W Sullivan  
A Taylor

### Councillors (Labour)

M Aston  
K Denning  
J Martin

- (6) That the proposals for the appointment of co-opted representatives to serve on the relevant Committees and the arrangements for the filling of vacancies be approved.
- (7) That the Licensing and Safety Committee be appointed in 2023/24 to undertake the statutory Committee functions in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and that the Committee comprise 12 Members.
- (8) That the Council confirm that the proportionality requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 shall not apply to Licensing Sub-Committees established by the Licensing and Safety Committee or to any Sub-Committee established by the Audit and Standards Committee to hear complaints against Members under the Members' Code of Conduct.

- (9) That the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the following Committees be appointed for 2023/24:

| <u>Committee</u>                                     | <u>Chair</u> | <u>Vice-Chair</u> |
|--|--------------|-------------------|
|  | Councillor   | Councillor        |
| Overview and Scrutiny Committee                      | I Kettle     | S Keasey          |
| Adult Social Care Select Committee                   | M Rogers     | L Johnson         |
| Children's Services Select Committee                 | K Lewis      | D Bevan           |
| Climate Change Select Committee                      | P Dobb       | T Russon          |
| Corporate and Economic Strategy Select Committee     | D Stanley    | S Henley          |
| Highways and Environmental Services Select Committee | E Lawrence   | P Miller          |
| Housing and Safer Communities Select Committee       | A Davies     | S Bothul          |
| Public Health Select Committee                       | J Clinton    | R Collins         |
| Appointments Committee                               | P Harley     | P Bradley         |
| Audit and Standards Committee                        | A Lees       | D Borley          |
| Children's Corporate Parenting Board                 | R Buttery    | S Ridney          |
| Planning Committee                                   | D Harley     | W Sullivan        |
| Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee           | I Kettle     | T Crumpton        |

Licensing and Safety  
Committee

K Razzaq

A Taylor

Taxis Committee

A Hopwood

B Challenor

- (10) That the arrangements for substitutes on Committees, as set out in Council Procedure Rules, be reaffirmed for the 2023/24 municipal year.
- (11) That the Planning (Site Visits) Working Group be appointed for the 2023/24 Municipal Year to undertake visits to sites where the Committee has resolved that there should be a site visit and that the Working Group comprise all Members of the Planning Committee.
- (12) That Working Groups be appointed for the 2023/24 municipal year for Scrutiny/Select Committees, as appropriate, and that the membership of the Working Groups comprise all Members of the relevant Committees.
- (13) That the Dudley Health and Wellbeing Board be established in 2023/24 on the basis set out in the report.
- (14) That the 'Your Home, Your Forums' be re-established in 2023/24 on the basis previously approved by the Council.
- (15) That Revd Adam Hadley, Richard Phillips and William Read be appointed as Independent Persons for the period ending with the annual meeting of the Council in May, 2027.
- (16) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to take any necessary and consequential actions that are required to implement the proposals contained in the report and any other decisions taken at this meeting of the Council.

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## 12 **Constitution and Scheme of Delegation**

A report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was submitted.



It was moved by Councillor P Harley, seconded by Councillor P Bradley and

**Resolved**

- (1) That the Constitution and Scheme of Delegation be reaffirmed for the 2023/24 municipal year.
  - (2) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any necessary and consequential amendments to the Constitution arising from decisions made by the Council and to reflect any ongoing restructuring activity, changes in legislative requirements, statutory provisions or associated regulations or guidance.
  - (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.
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13 **Programme of Meetings for 2023/24**

A report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor P Harley, seconded by Councillor P Bradley and

**Resolved**

- (1) That the recommendation in the report and the programme of meetings for the 2023/24 municipal year, as circulated at the meeting, be approved.
  - (2) That the Lead for Law and Governance, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Opposition Group Leader and Committee Chairs, as appropriate, be authorised to make any necessary amendments to the programme of meetings during the municipal year.
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14 **Appointments/Nominations to Other Bodies**

A report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor P Harley, seconded by Councillor P Bradley and

**Resolved**

That the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer), following consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Opposition Group Leader, be authorised to make appointments/nominations to other bodies as required.

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15 **Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business for consideration at this meeting.

The meeting ended at 6.45 pm

MAYOR