

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL
AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 16TH MAY, 2013
AT 6.00 PM AT THE COUNCIL HOUSE, DUDLEY

PRESENT: -

Councillor Mottram (Mayor)
Councillor A Finch (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors A Ahmed, K Ahmed, Ali, Arshad, A Aston, M Aston, Attwood,
Mrs Billingham, Bills, Blood, Body, Boleyn, Branwood, Casey, Caunt, Cowell,
Crompton, Davies, Duckworth, Elcock, K Finch, Foster, Hale, Hanif, Harley, Harris,
Hemingsley, Herbert, Hill, Islam, James, J Jones, L Jones, Jordan, Kettle, Lowe,
Marrey, J Martin, Miller, Ms Nicholls, Partridge, Perks, Ridney, Roberts, Russell,
Mrs Shakespeare, Mrs Simms, Sparks, Sykes, Taylor, Mrs H Turner, K Turner,
S Turner, Tyler, Mrs Walker, Waltho, Mrs Westwood, C Wilson, M Wilson, Wood,
Woodall, Wright and Zada, together with the Chief Executive and other Officers.

1 RECORDING OF MEETING

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 24.5, 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 Sparks, seconded by Councillor Lowe and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Joseph Alan Finch be elected Mayor of the Borough for
the 2013/14 Municipal Year.

Councillor Finch 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 Sparks, seconded by Councillor Lowe and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Margaret Aston be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the 2013/14 Municipal Year.

5 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Following a brief adjournment to enable re-robing to take place, Councillor M Aston 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 Members 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 AND PRESENTATION OF BADGES

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

Councillor Mottram 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 15th April, 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed.

9 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Mayoress

The Mayoress for the 2013/14 Municipal Year would be Mrs Heather Finch.

(b) Deputy Mayor's Consort

The Deputy Mayor's Consort for the 2013/14 Municipal Year would be Councillor Adam Aston.

(c) The Mayor's Chaplain

The Mayor's Chaplain for the 2013/14 Municipal Year would be Reverend Canon Judith Oliver.

(d) The Mayor's Charities

The Mayor's Charities to be supported in the 2013/14 Municipal Year would be:-

- Cancer Support, The White House, Dudley
- Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

(e) Mayoress "At Home" Event

The Mayoress "At Home" event would take place on 4th July, 2013 at Dudley Town Hall.

(f) Armed Forces Day

Armed Forces Day would be held at Himley Hall on 30th June, 2013.

(g) Civic Sunday

Civic Sunday would be held on 23rd June, 2013 at St. Francis C of E Church, Dudley.

(h) Charity Cricket Match

The Charity Cricket Match between Councillors and Officers would be held on 28th June, 2013 at Stourbridge Cricket Club.

A sponsored fancy dress cricket match would also take place on 23rd July, 2013 in aid of the Geoff Hill Charitable Trust.

(i) Mayor's Attendant – Charity Challenge

The Mayor's attendant, Mike Crannage, would be undertaking a Charity Challenge during the year in aid of the Mayor's Charity. Details would be made available in due course.

(j) Volunteering Champion Event

The annual Volunteering Champion Event for Dudley Borough would be held on 17th May, 2013.

(k) Lister Road Depot Golf Society – Annual Charity Event

A charity event would be held at Bewdley Pines Golf Club on 24th May, 2013 in support of the Mayor's Charity Fund.

10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs Ameson, Burston, Cotterill, Evans, Mrs P Martin, Mrs Rogers and Vickers.

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 2013/14 AND RELATED MATTERS

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Sparks, seconded by Councillor 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 2013/14 Municipal Year, as contained in the list circulated at the meeting and as set out below, be noted and that the Chief Executive be authorised to determine organisational arrangements for the Libraries, Archives and Adult Learning Division:-

(a) That Councillor Lowe be appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council for the 2013/14 Municipal Year.

- (b) That the Leader of the Council and nine other members comprise the Cabinet for the 2013/14 Municipal Year and that the names of the Members to serve for the year be as follows:-

Councillors K Ahmed, Branwood, Crumpton, Foster, Lowe, Partridge, Sparks, S Turner, Waltho and Wood.

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

Councillors Harley, James, Mrs Simms, K Turner, Vickers and Wright.

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

<u>Leader and Cabinet Members</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
<u>Councillor</u>	
Sparks (Leader of the Council)	Policy
Lowe (Deputy Leader of the Council)	Finance
Branwood	Adult and Community Services
Crumpton	Children's Services and Lifelong Learning
Wood	Environment and Culture
S Turner	Health and Wellbeing
Waltho	Housing and Community Safety
Partridge	Human Resources, Legal and Property
Foster	Regeneration
K Ahmed	Transport

<u>Opposition Group Spokespersons</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
Harley (Opposition Group Leader)	Policy
Vickers (Opposition Group Deputy Leader)	Adult and Community Services
Mrs Simms	Children's Services and Lifelong Learning
Burston	Environment and Culture
Wright	Finance
Miller	Health and Wellbeing
James	Housing and Community Safety
Evans	Human Resources, Legal and Property
K Turner	Regeneration
J Jones	Transport

- (2) That the structure of Committees for 2013/14 be approved on the basis set out in the report now submitted, Appendix 1 to the report and the lists circulated at the meeting.
- (3) That the recommendations set out in the report now submitted, concerning the review of the Council's scrutiny arrangements, be endorsed.
- (4) 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 2013/14 Municipal Year subject to the adoption of the new terms of reference arising from the review of Scrutiny Committees, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report and the revised terms of reference of the Appeals Committee, as referred to in the report now submitted.
- (5) That, with the exceptions referred to in the report now submitted, the composition and membership of Committees for the 2013/14 Municipal Year be determined in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as set out below:-

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

- (6) That the appointment of Members to Committees for the 2013/14 municipal year be approved as set out below:-

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Labour (7)

Conservative (4)

Councillors

Councillors

A Ahmed
Boleyn
Hale
Islam
Marrey
Ridney
Tyler

Blood
Caunt
James
Kettle

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

Labour (7)

Conservative (4)

Councillors

Councillors

A Ahmed
Ali
Boleyn
Marrey
Mottram
Russell
Sykes

Blood
Caunt
Mrs Westwood
Wright

Adult, Community and Housing Services Scrutiny Committee

Labour (7)

Conservative (4)

Councillors

Councillors

Body
Davies
Herbert
Islam
J Martin
Mottram
M Wilson

Evans
James
Miller
Vickers

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Labour (7)

Conservative (4)

Councillors

Councillors

Arshad
Bills
Boleyn
Casey
Islam
Marrey
Perks

Hill
Vickers
Mrs Simms
Mrs Walker

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
2. Secondary/Special Education – Mr M Lynch/Mr C Bruton

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 (5)

Councillors

Councillors

Cotterill
Harris
Hemingsley
Jordan
Ridney
Roberts

Billingham
Kettle
Ms Nicholls
Mrs Rogers
Mrs Walker

Urban Environment Scrutiny Committee

Labour (6)

Conservative (4)

Green (1)

Councillors

Councillors

Councillor

Ali
Hale
Hanif
Jordan
Sykes
Tyler

Burston
Harley
J Jones
K Turner

Duckworth

Appeals Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (4)

Councillors

Councillors

A Aston
Bills
Hale
Marrey
J Martin

Elcock
Evans
Ms Nicholls
Mrs H Turner

Appointments Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (4)

Councillors

Councillors

Foster
Lowe
Partridge
Ridney
Sparks

Attwood
Evans
Harley
Vickers

Audit and Standards Committee

Labour (5)

Conservative (4)

Councillors

Councillors

Arshad
Cowell
Harris
Russell
Tyler

Hill
Mrs P Martin
Taylor
C Wilson

Development Control Committee

Labour (6)

Conservative (3)

Councillors

Councillors

A Ahmed
Casey
J Martin
Perks
Roberts
Zada

Mrs Westwood
C Wilson
Wright

Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee

Labour (4)

Conservative (2)

Councillors

Councillors

One Ward Councillor from each of the following wards:

Cradley & Wollescote –
Partridge

Norton – Mrs Rogers

Lye & Stourbridge North – Hanif

Pedmore & Stourbridge East –
C Wilson

Quarry Bank & Dudley Wood –
Cowell

Wollaston & Stourbridge Town –
Sykes

Licensing and Safety Committee

Labour (7)

Conservative (5)

Councillors

Councillors

M Aston
Bills
Cowell
K Finch
Perks
Roberts
Russell

Mrs Ameson
Blood
James
Taylor
Woodall

Taxis Committee

Labour (6)

Conservative (3)

Councillors

Councillors

A Ahmed
A Aston
M Aston
Body
Cowell
Hemingsley

Mrs Ameson
Taylor
K Turner

- (7) 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.
- (8) That the 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.
- (9) That the Licensing and Safety Committee be appointed in 2013/14 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.
- (10) 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.
- (11) That the Council endorse the 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.
- (12) That the arrangements for substitutes on Committees, as set out in Council Procedure Rules 5.2 to 5.4, be reaffirmed for the 2013/14 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 2013/14 Municipal Year, in accordance with the instructions of the Political Groups.
- (14) That Community Forums be established on the basis outlined in the report now submitted and that a full review of the operation of the Community Forums be undertaken during the course of the 2013/14 municipal year as previously agreed by the Council.
- (15) That the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the following Committees be appointed for 2013/14:-

	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Vice Chair</u>
	Councillor	Councillor
Corporate Performance Management, Efficiency and Effectiveness Scrutiny Committee	Blood	A Ahmed

Adult, Community and Housing Services Scrutiny Committee	Islam	James
Children's Services Scrutiny Committee	Marrey	Boleyn
Health Scrutiny Committee	Ridney	Kettle
Urban Environment Scrutiny Committee	Tyler	Hale
Appeals Committee	J Martin	Hale
Appointments Committee	Sparks	Lowe
Audit and Standards Committee	Cowell	Arshad
Development Control Committee	Zada	Casey
Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee	Cowell	Hanif
Licensing and Safety Committee	Bills	Russell
Taxis Committee	Body	A Aston

- (16) That the voting arrangements in respect of the Dudley Health and Wellbeing Board remain the same as previously adopted under the successful 'shadow' arrangements.
- (17) That the Council endorse the establishment of an Independent Review Panel concerning the Members' Allowances Scheme, as referred to in the report now submitted, and that the Panel submit its recommendations to the Council.
- (18) 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 Sparks, seconded by Councillor Lowe and

RESOLVED

- (1) 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.
- (2) That, subject to the decisions taken at this meeting, the Constitution and Scheme of Delegation be reaffirmed for the 2013/14 municipal year.
- (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 2013/14

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted.

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

RESOLVED

That the programme of ordinary meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Community Forums for the 2013/14 municipal year, as set out in the report now submitted, be approved.

15 APPOINTMENTS/NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Sparks, seconded by Councillor 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”
West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority and “Prime Member”
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
Dudley Community Partnership
North Priory Project Board
Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership
PSP Dudley Limited Liability Partnership – Projects Board and Steering Board.

- (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