



# Walsall Council

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Council of the Walsall Metropolitan Borough held on **Monday 23rd May, 2011, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House.

## Present

### Councillor A.G. Clarke (Mayor) in the Chair

#### Councillor G. Perry (Deputy Mayor)

“ A.J.A. Andrew  
“ R.E. Andrew  
“ T.G. Ansell  
“ D.A. Anson  
“ M. Arif  
“ I. Azam  
“ D.J. Barker  
“ J.M. Barton  
“ O.D. Bennett  
“ M.A. Bird  
“ P. Bott  
“ R. Burley  
“ R. Carpenter  
“ B. Cassidy  
“ K. Chambers  
“ J. R. Cook  
“ D. Coughlan  
“ S.P. Coughlan  
“ C.U. Creaney  
“ A. Ditta  
“ B.A. Douglas-Maul  
“ S.F. Fitzpatrick  
“ S. Fletcher-Hall  
“ M. D. Flower  
“ A.D. Harris  
“ L.A. Harrison  
“ E.F. Hughes  
“ K. Hussain

#### Councillor G. Illmann-Walker

“ D. James  
“ L.D. Jeavons  
“ M. Longhi  
“ S.W. Madeley  
“ Ms. R.A. Martin  
“ Mrs. B.V. McCracken  
“ M. Munir  
“ J. Murray  
“ M. Nazir  
“ T.S. Oliver  
“ A.J. Paul  
“ K. Phillips  
“ L.J. Rattigan  
“ I.C. Robertson  
“ J. Rochelle  
“ E.B. Russell  
“ H.S. Sarohi  
“ K. Sears  
“ Mrs. D.A. Shires  
“ I. Shires  
“ R.M. Thomas  
“ C.D.D. Towe  
“ D.J. Turner  
“ F.J. Westley  
“ G.E. Wilkes  
“ V.G. Woodruff  
“ A. Young  
“ Zahid Ali

1. **Apology**

An apology for non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Councillor Twedde .

2. **Welcome to new members**

The Mayor welcomed the newly elected members to the Council – Councillors Barker, Ditta, Fitzpatrick, Fletcher-Hall, Hussain, Illmann-Walker, James, Murray, Russell and Young.

3. **Election of Mayor**

It was **moved** by Councillor Longhi and seconded by Councillor Ansell:

That Councillor Garry Perry be elected Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2011/2012.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried and it was:

**Resolved**

That Councillor Garry Perry be elected Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2011/2012.

The Council adjourned to enable the Mayor to put on the robes and chain.

**Councillor G. Perry (Mayor) in the Chair**

The Mayor read and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Mayor thanked the Council for the honour conferred upon him.

4. **Appointment of Deputy Mayor**

It was **moved** by Councillor Nazir and seconded by Councillor Madeley:

That Councillor Graham Edward Wilkes be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2011/2012.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried and it was:

**Resolved**

That Councillor Graham Edward Wilkes be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2011/2012.

5. **Minutes**

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 18th April 2011, copies having been sent to each member of the Council, be approved as a correct record and signed, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Chambers as having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item relating to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

6. **Mayor's announcements**

(a) **Mayor's Chaplain**

The Mayor said that he had appointed the Rev. Preb. Carl Ramsey of St. Michael's and All Angels, Pelsall as his chaplain during his year of office.

(b) **Church services**

The Mayor announced that he would be attending the Mayor's Civic Service at St. Matthew's Parish Church on Sunday 26th June 2011 and also St. Michael's and All Angels Church, Pelsall on Sunday 3rd July 2011.

(c) **Charities**

The Mayor said that monies raised during his year of office would be donated to the following charities: The Swing, PROUD and Creating Chances.

7. **Presentation of badges to retiring Mayor and Mayoress**

The Mayor presented badges to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor G. Clarke and Mrs. Y. Clarke.

8. **Vote of thanks to retiring Mayor and Mayoress**

It was **moved** by Councillor Ansell, seconded by Councillor Douglas-Maul and:

**Resolved**

That the Council thank Arthur Gary Clarke for the contribution he has made as Mayor of Walsall MBC to the people who live and work in the Borough and that Mrs. Clarke be thanked for her services as Mayoress.

Councillor Clarke replied.

9. **Adjournment**

It was **moved** by the Mayor, duly seconded and:

**Resolved**

That the Council adjourn until 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 25th May 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 6.48 p.m.

**Meeting reconvened at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 25th May 2011**

The Mayor reminded the meeting that 2 hours 12 minutes remained for business to be transacted.

10. **Declarations of interest**

Councillor Murray declared a personal interest in item 23 – Walsall Partnership Constitution and Accountable Body agreement.

11. **Petitions**

The following petitions were submitted:

- (1) Councillor Harrison – Site of the Bulls Head, Bloxwich;
- (2) Councillor Martin – Pharmacy services in Chuckery;
- (3) Councillor Phillips – Parking facilities for mums and toddlers in Bloxwich car parks.

12. **Election results – 5th May 2011**

The report was submitted.

The Chief Executive informed the meeting that all newly elected members had signed their acceptance of office.

**Resolved**

That the report be noted.

13. **Formation of political groups**

The report of the Chief Executive was circulated around the Council Chamber.

**Resolved**

That the receipt of returns from political groups be noted.

14. **Appointment of Leader of the Council**

The report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor A. Andrew, seconded by Councillor Ansell and:

**Resolved**

That Councillor Bird be appointed Leader of the Council under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

15. **Appointment of members to the Executive**

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber.

**Resolved**

That the Council note the following Cabinet responsibilities for the municipal year 2011/2012:

	<b>Description of portfolio</b>	<b>Name of portfolio holder</b>
1.	<b>Leader of the Council</b> - overall responsibility for Council strategy, the corporate plan and the working smarter programme, communications and public relations, city region agenda, government relations and liaison with local MPs and West Midlands leaders. Local Strategic Partnership.	Councillor Bird
2.	<b>Deputy Leader and Regeneration</b> – economic development, physical development, markets, property and asset management, Black Country Consortium, sub regional regeneration issues. Town and district centres. Planning policy and local development framework. Strategic housing role, housing partnerships, private sector housing, homelessness.	Councillor A. Andrew

- |    |  |                      |
|----|--|----------------------|
| 3. | <b>Business support services</b> – shared services, including ICT and procurement; business improvement.   | Councillor Arif      |
| 4. | <b>Children’s services</b> - education services, including relationship with Walsall Children’s Services, Serco, social services for children, safeguarding and promoting welfare of children, looked after children and corporate parenting, care leavers, interagency cooperation, involvement of children and young people, youth parliament, children’s trust arrangements, youth offending services, youth service. | Councillor R. Andrew |
| 5. | <b>Communities and partnerships</b> – neighbourhood management, community engagement and consultation, community associations, community safety, Safer Walsall Partnership, voluntary and community sectors, customer contact, public protection.  | Councillor Ali       |
| 6. | <b>Finance and personnel</b> - strategic and operational financial management, insurance, risk management, revenues and benefits, policy led budgeting. Financial regulations, audit, legal and constitutional services; human resources.  | Councillor Towe      |
| 7. | <b>Leisure and culture</b> - parks, leisure and culture services including the New Art Gallery, libraries, adult learning, school meals, sports, museums and twinning.   | Councillor Harris    |
| 8. | <b>Social care and health</b> - care services for older people and people with learning disabilities, people with physical disabilities and people with mental health needs, health partnership and the public health agenda, community meals, supporting people, protection for vulnerable adults.  | Councillor McCracken |
| 9. | <b>Transport and environment</b> – traffic and transportation, car parks, gateways and corridors, strategic transport and highways. Waste management, clean and green agenda, sustainability, pollution control, street cleansing, and cemeteries and crematoria.  | Councillor Ansell    |

## 16. **Appointments on Committees**

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting.

### **Resolved**

That the following members be appointed to Committees for the municipal year 2011/2012:

#### **Audit Committee**

Councillors Barker, Chambers, Flower, Hussain, Murray, Robertson, Turner  
1 independent member

#### **Appointments Board**

7 members (as notified to the Chief Executive for each meeting by the group leaders)

#### **Employment Appeals “A”**

Councillors Carpenter, Chambers, Cook, Ditta, Douglas-Maul, Fletcher-Hall, Martin

#### **Employment Appeals “B”**

Councillors Bennett, Cook, James, Jeavons, Munir, Paul, Thomas

#### **Licensing and Safety Committee**

Councillors Anson, Barton, Burley, Carpenter, Clarke, Cook, Douglas-Maul, Harrison, Murray, Rochelle, Russell, Sarohi, Sears, Wilkes

#### **Planning Committee**

<b>Ward:</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
Aldridge Central & South	Rochelle
Aldridge North & Walsall Wood	Harris
Bentley & Darlaston North	Madeley
Birchills-Leamore	Jeavons
Blakenall	Thomas
Bloxwich East	Fitzpatrick
Bloxwich West	Westley
Brownhills	Turner
Darlaston South	James
Paddock	Ali
Palfrey	Ditta
Pelsall	Perry
Pheasey Park Farm	Bird

Pleck  
Rushall-Shelfield  
Short Heath  
St. Matthews  
Streetly  
Willenhall North  
Willenhall South

Sarohi  
Carpenter  
Cook  
Azam  
Douglas-Maul  
Woodruff  
Creaney

### **Standards Committee**

Councillors A. Andrew, Carpenter, D. Shires, Wilkes  
6 independent members

### **Children's and Young People Scrutiny and Performance Panel**

Councillors Barton, Bennett, Cassidy, Chambers, Hughes, Martin, Paul,  
D. Shires, Thomas

together with representatives from:

- 1 representative - Lichfield Diocesan Education (voting)
- 1 representative - Archbishop of Birmingham (voting)
- 3 Parent governors (voting)
- 1 Primary Education Teacher (non-voting)
- 1 Secondary Education Teacher (non-voting)

### **Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel**

Councillors Azam, S. Coughlan, Creaney, Harrison, Rattigan, Sears,  
I. Shires, Westley, Young

### **Corporate Scrutiny and Performance Panel**

Councillors S. Coughlan, Flower, Hussain, Illmann-Walker, Longhi,  
Murray, Nazir, Rochelle, D. Shires

### **Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel**

Councillors Carpenter, Creaney, Douglas-Maul, Fitzpatrick, Illmann-  
Walker, Munir, Murray, Westley, Woodruff

### **Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel**

Councillors Carpenter, Fletcher-Hall, Longhi, Martin, Robertson, Russell,  
Sarohi, Turner, Woodruff

### **Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel**

Councillors Anson, Azam, Carpenter, Douglas-Maul, Fitzpatrick, James,  
Jeavons, Munir, I. Shires

## **Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel**

Councillors Barker, Burley, D. Coughlan, Ditta, Douglas-Maul, Oliver, Paul, Rattigan, Turner

### **17. Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen**

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting.

#### **Resolved**

That the following members be appointed Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2011/2012:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
Audit	Councillor Turner	Councillor Chambers
Employment Appeals A	Councillor Douglas-Maul	Councillor Chambers
Employment Appeals B	Councillor Paul	Councillor Thomas
Licensing and Safety	Councillor Sears	Councillor Clarke
Planning	Councillor Perry	Councillor Bird
Children's and Young People Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Cassidy	Councillor Hughes
Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Harrison	Councillor Creaney
Corporate Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor S. Coughlan	Councillor Flower
Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Carpenter	Councillor Westley
Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Longhi	Councillor Woodruff
Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor I. Shires	Councillor Azam
Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Oliver	Councillor Paul

18. **Constitution and timetable of meetings**

The report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, duly seconded and:

**Resolved**

- (1) That the amendments to the following parts of the Constitution as set out in the report be approved:
  - (a) Part 2 Article 6 – Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel
  - (b) Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions
    - Scheme of delegations to Committees
    - Scheme of delegations to officers
  - (c) Part 4.2 – Access to Information procedure rules
- (2) That the timetable of meetings for the municipal year 2011/2012 as set in Appendix 2 of the report be approved.

19. **Appointments on outside bodies and charities**

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting and nominations were made as set out.

(a) **Outside bodies**

**Resolved**

That the following members be appointed to the undermentioned outside bodies for the municipal year 2011/12:

**Local Government Association – General Assembly**

Councillors Bird (2 votes), Douglas-Maul, Oliver, I. Shires

**Local Government Association – Urban Commission**

Councillor Douglas-Maul and 1 officer

**West Midlands Councils**

Councillor Bird

### **West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority**

Councillor A. Andrew, Chambers and Douglas-Maul and that Councillors A. Andrew and Douglas-Maul be nominated to answer questions on Fire and Rescue matters during 2011/12.

### **West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority**

Councillors Ansell (Prime member), Clarke (Deputy prime member) and Wilkes.

### **West Midlands Joint Committee**

Councillors Bird (voting), A. Andrew (non-voting), Nazir (non-voting)

### **Association of Black County Authorities**

Councillor Bird

### **Birmingham University Court**

Councillor Flower

### **Black Country Consortium**

Councillor Bird (or nominee)

### **Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee**

Councillor Ansell, Illmann-Walker (deputy)

### **Forest of Mercia Advisory Group**

Councillors Harrison, Phillips, D. Shires

### **Groundwork West Midlands (Black Country) Local Trust**

Councillor A. Andrew

### **Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference**

Councillor Harris

### **Joint Committee for Civil Parking Enforcement of Parking and Traffic Regulations**

Councillors Ansell, Paul (deputy)

### **New Horizons**

Councillor Thomas and 1 officer

**Safer Walsall Borough Partnership**

Councillor Ali

**Shopmobility Management Board**

Councillor A. Andrew

**Steps to Work (Walsall) Limited**

Councillor Ansell

**Supporting People Commissioning Body**

Councillor McCracken

**Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall Ltd.**

Councillors A. Andrew, Robertson, Towe

**Walsall and Wolverhampton Transport Users Advisory Committee**

Councillor Ansell

**Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau**

Councillors Jeavons, Rochelle

**Walsall Education Business Partnership**

Councillors Towe, Thomas

**Walsall Society for the Blind**

Councillors Barton, Martin

**West Midlands (Metropolitan Area) Road Safety Partnership Board**

Councillor Ansell

**West Midlands Planning and Transportation Sub-Committee**

Councillors Ansell (voting), Douglas-Maul (non-voting), Chambers (substitute)

**West Midlands Superannuation Committee, Investment Advisory Sub-Committee and Joint Consultative Panel**

Councillors Ali (voting), Chambers (substitute)

## **Black Country Museum Trust**

The following nominations were made to the Trust:

Councillors Harris and Fletcher-Hall

The nominations were put to the vote and on the Mayor's casting vote it was:

### **Resolved**

That Councillor Harris be appointed to the Black Country Museum Trust for the municipal year 2011/12.

## **Housing Groups**

The following nominations were received as set out in the list circulated.

### **Aldridge Brownhills**

Councillor Paul

### **Darlaston**

Councillor Chambers

The following nominations were made to Housing Groups:

### **Walsall**

Councillors Ali and S. Coughlan

### **Bloxwich**

Councillors Harrison and Fitzpatrick

### **Central Walsall**

Councillors Arif and Ditta

### **Willenhall**

Councillors Coughlan and Cook

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

### **Resolved**

That the following members be appointed to Housing Groups for the municipal year 2011/12:

Walsall	Councillor Ali
Aldridge Brownhills	Councillor Paul
Bloxwich	Councillor Harrison (on the Mayor's casting vote)
Central Walsall	Councillor Arif
Darlaston	Councillor Chambers
Willenhall	Councillor Cook

### **Walsall Community Transport**

The following nominations were made to the above:

Councillors Martin and Wilkes

The nominations were put to the vote and it was:

#### **Resolved**

That Councillor Wilkes be appointed to Walsall Community Transport for the municipal year 2011/12.

### **Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Development Trust**

The following nominations were made to the Trust:

Councillors Harris and Russell

The nominations were put to the vote and on the Mayor's casting vote it was:

#### **Resolved**

That Councillor Harris be appointed to the Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Trust for the municipal year 2011/12.

### **West Midlands Ambulance NHS Ambulance Trust**

The following nominations were made to the Trust:

Councillors Burley and Murray

The nominations were put to the vote and it was:

#### **Resolved**

That Councillor Burley be nominated to be considered for appointment to the West Midlands NHS Ambulance Trust for the municipal year 2011/12.

**(b) Charities**

**Resolved**

That the following members be appointed to serve on the undermentioned charities for the periods stated:

**Harper Marsh and Crumps Almshouses**

Councillor Chambers for 2011/12

**Henry Boys Almshouses**

Councillor Bott for 2011/12

**Roger Hinton's Charity**

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2011/12

**Merrions Wood Trust**

Councillor Illmann-Walker for the balance of the 4 year period expiring on 24th May 2012, in place of ex-Councillor Sanders.

**W.J. Croft Charity**

Councillor Russell for the balance of the 4 year period expiring on 25th July 2012, in place of ex-Councillor C. Bott.

**Walsall Hospice**

The following nominations were made to the above:

Councillors Carpenter and Phillips

The nominations were put to the vote and it was:

**Resolved**

That Councillor Phillips be appointed to Walsall Hospice for the municipal year 2011/12.

**(c) Advisory and statutory bodies**

**Resolved**

That the following members be appointed to serve on the undermentioned advisory bodies for the municipal year 2011/12:

### **Fostering Panel**

Councillor Paul

### **Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**

Councillors Arif, Barker, Fitzpatrick, Phillips, Robertson, Rochelle, Turner

### **Walsall Admission Forum**

Councillors Carpenter, Fletcher-Hall

## **20. Recommendation of Cabinet – West Midlands Local Transport Plan 3**

The report to Cabinet was submitted.

### **Resolved**

- (a) That Council endorse the adoption by Centro of the West Midlands Local Transport Plan 3 as a key document for this Council as it informs the Council's own strategy for transportation and a number of other key policy and strategy documents.
- (b) That Council endorse the development of schemes included in Local Transport Plan 3 on the understanding that separate approval will be sought for schemes where necessary and appropriate.

## **21. Recommendation of Audit Committee – Appointment of independent member to Audit Committee**

The report to Audit Committee was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, duly seconded and:

### **Resolved**

That Council appoint Mr. A. Green as an independent member of the Audit Committee with effect from the start of the 2011/12 Municipal Year with a term of office of two years.

## **22. Recommendation of Standards Committee – Appointment of independent members to Standards Committee**

The report to Standards Committee was submitted:

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, duly seconded and:

**Resolved**

That Ms. K. McLeod and Mr. A. Wood be re-appointed as independent members of the Standards Committee.

23. **Freedom of the Borough**

It was **moved** by Councillor Burley, seconded by Councillor Bird and:

**Resolved**

That, in principle, and subject to further detailed consideration of the matter, the honour of Freedom of the Borough be conferred on Mr. B.T. George on a date to be determined.

24. **Walsall Partnership Constitution and Accountable Body Agreement**

The report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor Ali, seconded by Councillor Bird and:

**Resolved**

That the Walsall Partnership Constitution and Accountable Body Agreement be ratified.

25. **Walsall Community Safety Plan**

The report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor Ali, seconded by Councillor Bird and:

**Resolved**

That Walsall's Community Safety Plan 2011 – 14 be approved.

At this point in the meeting, the Council sat as charitable trustees when considering the following item when the normal Council procedure rules did not apply.

26. **Annual report of Barr Beacon Management Trust Management Committee**

The report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor A. Andrew, seconded by Councillor Bird and:

**Resolved**

That the report be noted.

The meeting terminated at 7.03 p.m.

Mayor:

Date: