



Walsall Council

Minutes of the **ORDINARY MEETING** of the Council of the Walsall Metropolitan Borough held on **Monday 23rd May, 2022, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

Present

Councillor R. Burley (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillor G. Ali

“ B. Allen
“ A. Andrew
“ B. Bains – Adj Cll
“ H. Bashir
“ M.A. Bird
“ C. Bott
“ P. Bott
“ S. Cheema
“ A.G. Clarke
“ S.J. Cooper
“ C. Creaney
“ S.K. Ditta
“ S. Elson
“ K. Ferguson
“ G. Flint
“ M. Follows
“ N. Gandham – Adj Cll
“ A. Garcha
“ N. Gultasib
“ A. Harris
“ L.A. Harrison
“ A.J. Hicken
“ C. Horton
“ A. Hussain
“ K. Hussain
“ S. Hussain
“ D. James
“ S. Johal – Adj Cll

Councillor T. Jukes

“ P. Kaur
“ R. Larden
“ E. Lee
“ Mrs. R.A. Martin
“ F. Mazhar
“ R. K Mehmi
“ K. Murphy
“ J. Murray
“ S. Nasreen – Adj Cll
“ A.A. Nawaz
“ A. Nazir
“ K. Pedley
“ G. Perry
“ W. Rasab
“ L.J. Rattigan
“ S. Samra
“ K. Sears
“ G. Singh Sohal
“ P. Smith
“ C.A. Statham
“ M.A. Statham
“ C.D.D. Towe
“ V.J. Waters
“ J. Whitehouse
“ T.S. Wilson
“ R.V. Worrall
“ A. Young

1. **Welcome to new members**

The Mayor extended a welcome to the newly elected members of the Council – Councillors Amandeep Garcha, Bobby Bains, Shakila Hussain, Tina Jukes, Connor Horton, Izzy Hussain, Ram Mehmi, Rob Larden and Simran Cheema.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor B. Bains, N. Gandham, I Hussain, S. Johal, and A. Underhill.

**Note: Councillors Bains, Johal, Gandham and Nasreen joined the adjourned meeting on 25th May, 2022*

3. **Election of Mayor 2022/23**

It was **moved** by Councillor Perry and seconded by Councillor Bird:

That Councillor Rose Martin be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2022/23.

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

Resolved

That Councillor Rose Martin be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2022/23.

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

Councillor R. Martin (Mayor) in the Chair

The Mayor read and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for the honour conferred upon her. that is missed by many. In doing so, I would like to pay tribute to former Councillor Sarohi, who, due to his sad passing was unable to become Mayor himself this year. As many will know, Councillor Sarohi was a kind and caring gentleman.

4. **Appointment of Deputy Mayor 2022/23**

It was **moved** by Councillor Andrew and seconded by Councillor Bird:

That Councillor Christopher Towe be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2022/23.

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

Resolved

That Councillor Christopher Towe be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2022/23.

5. **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th April, 2022, a copy having been sent to each member of the Council, be approved as a correct record.

6. **Declarations of interest**

None.

7. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)**

There were no items to be considered in private session.

8. **Mayor's announcements**

(a) **Mayor's Chaplain**

The Mayor stated that the The Reverend Alison Morris from St. Michael and All Angels Pelsall would be her Chaplain during his year of office.

(b) **Mayor's Civic Service**

The Mayor said that a Civic Service would be held in December, 2022 and intertwined with a Civic Carol Service. Members would be informed of the date once agreed.

(c) **Charities**

The Mayor announced that monies raised during her year of office would be donated to The Manor Trust, NHS, Well Wishers Charity, Walsall Community Network and FastAid Walsall.

9. **Presentation of badges to retiring Mayor and Mayoresses**

The Chief Executive presented badges to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor Burley, Maria Micallef and Jade Micallef.

10. **Adjournment**

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

Resolved

That the Council adjourn until 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 25th May, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 6.53 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 25th May 2022

The Mayor reminded the meeting that 2 hours 7 minutes remained for business to be transacted.

**Note: Councillors C. Bott, P. Bott, A.G. Clarke, I. Husain, W. Rasab and A. Underhill were not in attendance.*

11. **Election results – 5th May 2022**

The report was submitted.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

12. **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.

13. **Members appointed to the Executive**

A schedule of portfolio responsibilities was submitted.

Resolved

That the following Cabinet responsibilities for the municipal year 2022/23 be noted:

Description of portfolio	Names of portfolio holder
<p>Leader of the Council</p> <p><i>Council Plan Vision: Inequalities are reduced and all potential is maximised. Together we are committed to developing a healthier, cleaner and safer Walsall and creating an environment that provides opportunities for all residents, communities and businesses to fulfil their potential and thrive.</i></p> <p>Overall responsibility for Council strategy, the Council Plan, Proud Way of Working, communications and public relations, emergency planning, government relations and liaison with local MPs and West Midlands leaders. West Midlands Combined Authority, Association of Black Country Authorities and Black Country Joint Committee. Transformation and digital (incl. Information Governance). Financial vision and strategy. Finance including payroll and pensions, insurance, risk management, financial reporting, policy led budgeting and MTFO. Financial Regulations, Audit, Counter Fraud and Corruption, Treasury Management, financial systems, external funding Legal and Democratic Services, Performance. Member Development. Governance, Business Insights (intelligence), Policy and Strategy Unit.</p>	<p>Cllr Mike Bird</p>
<p>Deputy Leader and Regeneration</p> <p><i>Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place.</i></p> <p>Statutory Deputy Leader as required by Schedule A1 of Local Government Act 2000</p> <p>Economic development, physical development, markets, property and strategic asset management, Black Country Consortium, sub regional regeneration issues. Town and district centres, planning policy and local development framework. Strategic housing role. Traffic and transportation, car parks, strategic transport and highways. Business liaison. Programme Delivery.</p>	<p>Cllr Adrian Andrew</p>

<p>Deputy Leader and Resilient Communities</p> <p><i>Children and young people grow up in connected communities and feel safe everywhere</i></p> <p><i>Our communities will be more resilient and supportive of each other</i></p> <p>Oversight role for all Cabinet portfolios;</p> <p>Resilient Communities including Locality co-ordination, community development, engagement and consultation, community associations, voluntary and community sectors, Community Safety, community cohesion, Safer Walsall Partnership, public protection. Leisure and culture services including the New Art Gallery, libraries, sports and museums. Cemeteries and crematoria.</p>	<p>Cllr Garry Perry</p>
<p>Education and Skills</p> <p><i>Education, training and skills enable people to contribute to their community and our economy</i></p> <p>Schools and education services, interagency cooperation, involvement of children and young people, special educational needs, disabilities and inclusion. Adult learning.</p>	<p>Cllr Mark Statham</p>
<p>Adult Social Care</p> <p><i>People can access support in their community to keep safe and well and remain independent at home</i></p> <p>Care services for older people and people with learning disabilities, people with physical disabilities and people with mental health needs, health partnership, commissioning and CCG/health interface lead supporting people, protection for vulnerable adults, transition arrangements between Children's and Adult Social Care.</p>	<p>Cllr Keir Pedley</p>
<p>Clean and Green</p> <p><i>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</i></p> <p>Gateways and corridors, pollution control, waste strategy, refuse collection, recycling, street cleaning, parks (maintenance) and the Council's vehicle fleet.</p>	<p>Councillor Kerry Murphy</p>

<p>Children's</p> <p><i>Children and young people thrive emotionally, physical, mentally and feel they are achieving their potential</i></p> <p>Statutory role as Lead Member for Children's Services</p> <p>Services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, early help, involvement of children and young people, transition arrangements between Children's and Adult Social Care and Walsall children's Safeguarding board, Chair of Corporate Parenting Board</p>	<p>Cllr Tim Wilson</p>
<p>Customer</p> <p><i>The Council will deliver trusted, customer focused, and enabling services which are recognised by customers and our partners for the value they bring</i></p> <p>Customer Experience Centre, Customer Access Management, Revenues and Benefits, Housing and Welfare, Housing Standards and Improvement, Migrant Support</p>	<p>Cllr Gaz Ali</p>
<p>Internal Services</p> <p><i>We get things right, first time and make all services accessible and easy to use.</i></p> <p>HR, Organisation Development. Learning and development, workforce equalities, procurement, Corporate Landlord including facilities and general asset management, catering, cleaning, caretaking. Admin and Business Support. Workforce.</p>	<p>Cllr Ken Ferguson</p>
<p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <p><i>People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</i></p> <p>Public Health functions and activities including commissioning services that affect the long term health of residents. Health protection for local outbreak management, infection prevention and control, immunisation. Healthy Spaces. Mental and emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>Chair of Health & Wellbeing Board.</p>	<p>Cllr Gary Flint</p>

14. **Constitution, Officer Scheme of Delegation and timetable of meetings 2022/23**

A report was submitted [annexed].

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

Resolved

1. The proposed amendments to the Constitution (**appendix 1**), Officer Delegations (**appendices 2 and 3**) and timetable of meetings for the 2022/23 municipal year (**appendix 4**), be approved; and
2. That the Director of Governance be authorised to make minor and/or necessary changes to the Constitution

15. **Appointments to Committees**

A list of nominations from the political groups was circulated around the Council Chamber.

The list was **moved** by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Andrew and:

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to Committees for the municipal year 2022/23:

Audit Committee

Councillors Bains, Elson, S Hussain, Larden, Mehmi, Singh Sohal
Sureya Ajaz (Independent member) 1 Independent member vacancy

Corporate Parenting Board

Councillors Hicken, A. Hussain, I. Hussain, Jukes, Mazhar, Wilson, Worrall.

Health and Wellbeing Board

Councillors Flint, Nawaz, Pedley, Wilson,

Licensing and Safety Committee

Councillors Bains, C. Bott, Cooper, Gandham, A. Hussain, I. Hussain, K. Hussain, Kaur, Nasreen, Nawaz, Rasab, Samra (2 vacancies).

Personnel Committee

Councillors Andrew, Bird, Elson, Garcha, Gultasib, K. Hussain, Nawaz, Towe, Whitehouse

Planning Committee

Councillors Allen, Bains, Bashir, Bird, P. Bott, Cheema, Cooper, Gandham, Harris, A. Hussain, I. Hussain, K. Hussain, Larden, Murray, Nawaz, Perry, Samra, M. Statham, Underhill, Waters

Standards Committee

Councillors Allen, Andrew, Burley, Elson, James, Lee, Kaur, Nazir, Towe, Young

Scrutiny Overview

Councillors P. Bott, Cooper Ditta, Follows, Hicken, K. Hussain, Johal, Murray, Nawaz, Samra, Singh Sohal

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny

Councillors Garcha, Harrison, Hicken, Horton, Jukes, Kaur, Mazhar, Nasreen, Rattigan, C. Statham, Waters.

Education Overview and Scrutiny

Councillors Bains, Burley, Cheema, Ditta, Elson, A. Hussain, I. Hussain, S. Hussain, Kaur, Rattigan, Towe.

Economy and Environment

Councillors Allen, P. Bott, Creaney, Follows, Garcha, I. Hussain, Kaur, Larden, Nazir, Whitehouse, Worrall.

Social Care and Health

Councillors Clarke, Cooper, Elson, K. Hussain, Mehmi, Rasab, Rattigan, Sears, Smith, Waters, Worrall.

19. Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber.

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

Resolved

That the following members be appointed Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2022/23:

Committee	Chair	Vice-Chair
Audit	Independent Person	Councillor Singh Sohal
Corporate Parenting Board	Councillor Wilson <i>(Portfolio Holder for Children's Services)</i>	Councillor Jukes
Health and Wellbeing Board	Councillor Flint <i>(Nominee of controlling group)</i>	<i>To be appointed by Health and Wellbeing Board</i>
Licensing and Safety	Councillor Gandham	Councillor Sears
Personnel	Councillor Bird	Councillor Perry
Planning	Councillor Bird	Councillor Perry
Standards	Councillor P. Kaur	Councillor Burley
Scrutiny Overview	Councillor J. Murray	Councillor Nawaz
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor Hicken	Councillor Jukes
Education Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor S Ditta	Councillor Elson
Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor M Follows	Councillor Allen
Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor K Hussain	Councillor Waters

20. **Appointment of representatives to outside bodies and charities**

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber.

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

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to the undermentioned bodies for the municipal year 2022/23 (unless otherwise stated):

(a) Outside bodies

Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee

Councillors Kaur and Lee

Birmingham Airport Holdings Ltd

Councillor Bird

Black Country Cluster Board (NHS)

Councillor Pedley

Black Country Commonwealth Games 2022 Steering Group

Councillor Perry

Black Country Consortium

Councillor Andrew

Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Councillor S Hussain

Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee

Councillor Singh-Sohal

Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust

Councillor R K Mehmi

Forest of Mercia Advisory Group

Councillors Harrison, Murphy, A Nawaz

Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference

Councillor Hicken

Joint Committee for Civil Parking Enforcement of Parking and Traffic Regulations

Councillors Larden and R. K. Mehmi (Deputy)

Local Government Association – General Assembly

Councillors * Allen (allocated 2 votes), Hicken, Nawaz and K. Hussain

Project WR2 Contract Management Board

Councillor Murphy

River Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

Councillors Murphy and Lee (Deputy)

Steps to Work (Walsall) Limited

Councillor Martin

Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau

Councillors Rattigan and S. Hussain

Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Development Trust

Councillor Follows

Walsall Society for the Blind

Councillor Towe and Jukes

West Midlands Combined Authority Board

Councillors Bird, Andrew (Sub), R Burley, K Hussain (Sub)

West Midlands Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Waters, *(Vacant – Sub)

West Midlands Combined Authority – Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee

Councillor R Mehmi, *(Vacant – Sub)

West Midlands Combined Authority – Transport Delivery Committee (£)

Councillor Singh Sohal, R Worrall

WMCA Investments Board

Councillor Bird

WMCA Public Service Perform Board

Councillor Flint

WMCA Strategic Economic Development Board

Councillor Andrew

WMCA Wellbeing Board

Councillor Flint

WMCA Environment & Energy Board

Councillor Murphy

WMCA Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Councillor Waters

West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority

Councillors Waters (To answer questions on the discharge of the functions of the Fire Authority) and A. Young

West Midlands Pension Fund Committee

Councillor Underhill and x1 vacancy

West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

Councillor Samra

West Midlands Shareholders Airport Committee

Councillor Kaur, (x2 observers vacant)

West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership Board

Councillor Nawaz

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

Councillors Waters and Harris

(b) Charities

Barr Beacon Trust

Councillors Bird, P. Kaur, Wilson, Bains, Andrew, Towe, Johal, Pedley, Samra and Murphy

Harper, Marsh and Crumps Almshouses

Councillor Singh Sohal

Henry Boys Almshouses

Councillor Nawaz

(c) Advisory and statutory bodies

Fostering Panel

Councillor Murphy

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Councillors Pedley, M. Statham, Lee, Singh-Sohal, R K Mehmi, C Horton, F Mazhar

Walsall Admission Forum

Councillors Samra and C. Horton

The meeting terminated at 6.21 p.m.

Mayor:

Date: