



Walsall Council

Minutes of the **MEETING** of the Council of the Walsall Metropolitan Borough held on **Monday 9th April 2018 at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House.

Present

Councillor M. Longhi (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillor P. Bott (Deputy Mayor)

“ B. Allen
“ A.J.A. Andrew
“ D.J. Barker
“ M.A. Bird
“ C. Bott
“ R. Burley
“ K. Chambers
“ A.G. Clarke
“ S.J. Cooper
“ D. Coughlan
“ S.P. Coughlan
“ S.R. Craddock
“ A. Ditta
“ S.K. Ditta
“ B.A. Douglas-Maul
“ K. Ferguson
“ J. Fitzpatrick
“ S.F. Fitzpatrick
“ N.Z. Gultasib
“ A.D. Harris
“ L.A. Harrison
“ D.T. Hazell
“ E.A. Hazell
“ A.J. Hicken
“ D. James

Councillor L.D. Jeavons

“ C. Jones
“ T.J. Jukes
“ A. Kudhail
“ Mrs. R.A. Martin
“ J. Murray
“ A.A. Nawaz
“ M. Nazir
“ A.S. Nazir
“ G. Perry
“ K. Phillips
“ L.J. Rattigan
“ I.C. Robertson
“ J. Rochelle
“ E.B. Russell
“ H.S. Sarohi
“ K. Sears
“ I. Shires
“ G.S. Sohal
“ C.D.D. Towe
“ A. Underhill
“ S. Wade
“ M. Ward
“ T.S. Wilson
“ R.V. Worrall
“ A. Young

79. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bennett, Clews, Creaney, Follows, Hughes and Hussain.

80. **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28th February 2018 copies having been sent to each member of the Council, be approved as a correct record and signed.

81. **Declarations of interest**

The undermentioned members declared an interest in the items indicated:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Councillor Andrew | Item 11 – WHG governance changes |
| Councillor D. Coughlan | Item 11 – WHG governance changes |
| Councillor E. Hazell | Item 11 – WHG governance changes |
| Councillor Worrall | Item 13 – Annual report of Barr Beacon Trust Management Committee |

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

There were no items to be considered in private session.

83. **Mayor's announcements**

(1) **Death of Mr. S.G. Taylor**

The Mayor referred to the recent death of former Councillor Stan Taylor. Councillors S. Coughlan and Bird paid tribute to Mr. Taylor's services to Walsall over a period of many years, following which it was **moved** by the Mayor, duly seconded and:

Resolved

That this Council expresses its regret at the death of Mr. S.G. Taylor a member of Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council from 1996 to 2004 and places on record their appreciation of his services to the borough over a period of many years and expresses its condolences to his family at this sad time.

Members and officers stood in silence as a mark of respect.

(2) Retiring members

The Mayor thanked Councillors Bennett, Clews and Hughes who were not standing for re-election on 3rd May 2018 for their services to the Council and the people of Walsall and wished them well for the future.

(3) Former Councillor Washbrook

The Mayor referred to the recent retirement from the Council due to ill health of Mr. Peter Washbrook and thanked him for his services to the Council and the people of Walsall.

84. Petitions

There were no petitions submitted.

85. Questions

There were no questions by members or members of the public.

86. Statutory Officer appointments

(a) Designation of Section 151 Chief Finance Officer

A report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor S. Coughlan, seconded by Councillor Jeavons and:

Resolved

- (1) That Council designate the post of Executive Director of Resources and Transformation as the Section 151 Chief Finance Officer role, and that the Constitution be amended accordingly.
- (2) That the terms and conditions for the post of Executive Director of Resources and Transformation be amended accordingly.

(b) Statutory Scrutiny Officer

A report was submitted.

A discussion took place on the proposed selective licensing scheme which had been scrutinised by the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 5th March, 2018. The Chair of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee invited the Portfolio Holder (Social Care) to attend the scrutiny meeting to be held on 12th April, 2018 to provide an update, following concerns raised at the meeting.

It was **moved** by Councillor S. Coughlan, seconded by Councillor Jeavons and:

Resolved

That the Executive Director of Economy and Environment be appointed as Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

87. Locality model – Strategic Locality Partnership Boards

The report to Cabinet on 21st March 2018 was submitted and the Council noted that the Cabinet had approved the terms of reference for the Strategic Locality Partnership Boards, subject to the following amendments:

- (a) Councillor membership for the East Strategic Locality Partnership Board only will be one member per ward except where there is more than one political group represented, then all political groups for that ward will be eligible to send a representative;
- (b) Substitutes from partnership organisations should be of comparable seniority to the main nomination.

Resolved

That the report to Cabinet be noted.

88. **WHG governance proposals**

A report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor S. Coughlan, seconded by Councillor Jeavons and:

Resolved

- (1) That Council notes the various changes to the constitution and governance of whg which are being made by the Regulations and which therefore need to be reflected in whg's Articles.
- (2) That Council notes that the Regulations effectively obligate the Council to give its consent to the requisite changes to the Articles of whg.
- (3) That Council, in order to comply with the current requirement in whg's constitution, gives its consent for whg to amend its Articles to reflect the requirements of the Regulations

89. **Children's services and education portfolio holder report**

A report was submitted.

Councillor Nawaz, portfolio holder for children's services and education gave a presentation.

Members asked questions in relation to the presentation which were responded to by Councillor Nawaz.

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

90. **Barr Beacon Trust Management Committee – annual report**

The annual report was submitted.

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

Resolved

- (1) That the work of the Management Committee be noted.

- (2) That the Trust recognises the hard work of Council officers to manage unauthorised encampments on the site and extends its thanks to all those involved.

The meeting terminated at 7.15 p.m.