



# Walsall Council

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Council of the Walsall Metropolitan Borough held on **Wednesday 26th May, 2021, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Town Hall, Walsall.

## Present

### Councillor P. Bott (Mayor) in the Chair

#### Councillor R. Burley (Deputy Mayor)

“ G. Ali  
“ B. Allen  
“ A.J.A. Andrew  
“ H. Bashir  
“ M.A. Bird  
“ C. Bott  
“ R. Burley  
“ O. Butler  
“ B. Chattha  
“ A.G. Clarke  
“ S.J. Cooper  
“ D. Coughlan  
“ S. Coughlan  
“ S.R. Craddock  
“ C.U. Creaney  
“ S.K. Ditta  
“ S. Elson  
“ K. Ferguson  
“ G. Flint  
“ M. Follows  
“ N. Gandham  
“ N.Z. Gultasib  
“ A.D. Harris  
“ L.A. Harrison  
“ A.J. Hicken  
“ A. Hussain  
“ K. Hussain  
“ L.D. Jeavons

#### Councillor S. Johal

“ P. Kaur  
“ E. Lee  
“ Mrs. R.A. Martin  
“ F. Mazhar  
“ K. Murphy  
“ J. Murray  
“ S. Nasreen  
“ A.A. Nawaz  
“ A. S. Nazir  
“ M. Nazir  
“ K. Pedley  
“ G. Perry  
“ W. Rasab  
“ L.J. Rattigan  
“ I.C. Robertson  
“ S. Samra  
“ H.S. Sarohi  
“ K. Sears  
“ P. Smith  
“ G. Singh Sohal  
“ C.A. Statham  
“ M.A. Statham  
“ C.D.D. Towe  
“ A. Underhill  
“ V.J. Waters  
“ J. Whitehouse  
“ T.S. Wilson  
“ R.V. Worrall

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors D. James and A. Young.

2. **Election of Mayor 2021/22**

It was **moved** by Councillor Underhill and seconded by Councillor D. Coughlan:

That Councillor Rose Burley be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2021/22.

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

**Resolved**

That Councillor Rose Burley be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2021/22.

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

**Councillor Rose Burley (Mayor) in the Chair**

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

3. **Appointment of Deputy Mayor 2021/22**

It was **moved** by Councillor Hussain and seconded by Councillor Gultasib:

That Councillor Harbans. Sarohi be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2021/22.

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

**Resolved**

That Councillor Harbans Sarohi be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2021/22.

4. **Minutes**

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2021, copies having been sent to each member of the Council, be approved as correct records and signed.

5. **Mayor's announcements**

**Charities**

The Mayor announced that monies raised during her year of office would be donated Phoenix French Bull Dog Rescue, Alzheimers Society and Walsall Foster Carers Association.

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. **Election results – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

The report was submitted.

**Resolved**

That the report be noted.

9. **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.

10. **Members appointed to the Executive**

A schedule of portfolio responsibilities was submitted.

**Resolved**

That the following Cabinet responsibilities for the municipal year 2021/22 be noted:

Description of portfolio	Names of portfolio holder
Leader of the Council	Cllr Mike Bird

<p><b><i>Services are efficient and deliver value for money</i></b></p> <p>Overall responsibility for Council strategy, the Corporate Plan, Proud Programme, 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 (inc Information Governance) . 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><b>Deputy Leader and Regeneration</b></p> <p><b><i>Creating an environment where business invests and everyone who wants a job can access one;</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Housing meets all people’s needs, is affordable safe and warm.</i></b></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. Customer.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Adrian Andrew</b></p>
<p><b>Deputy Leader and Resilient Communities</b></p> <p><b><i>Children grow up in connected communities and feel safe everywhere</i></b></p> <p>Oversight role for all Cabinet portfolios;</p>	<p><b>Cllr Gary Perry</b></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><b>Education and Skills</b></p> <p><i>Education, training and skills enable people to fulfil their personal development</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><b>Cllr Chris Towe</b></p>
<p><b>Adult Social Care</b></p> <p><i>People know what makes them healthy and they are encouraged to get support when they need it</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><b>Cllr Rose Martin</b></p>
<p><b>Clean and Green</b></p> <p><i>People are proud of their vibrant town, districts and communities</i></p> <p>Gateways and corridors, pollution control, waste strategy, refuse collection, recycling, street cleaning, parks (maintenance) and the Council's vehicle fleet. Healthy spaces.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Oliver Butler</b></p>

<p><b>Children's</b></p> <p><i>Children thrive emotionally, physically, 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><b>Cllr Tim Wilson</b></p>
<p><b>Internal Services</b></p> <p><i>Internal services deliver quality and adapt to meet the needs of customer facing services</i></p> <p>HR, Organisation Development. Learning and development, equalities, procurement, Corporate Landlord including facilities and general asset management, , catering, cleaning, caretaking. Admin and Business Support. Workforce.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Mark Statham</b></p>
<p><b>Health and Wellbeing</b></p> <p><i>People live a good quality of life and feel they belong</i></p> <p>Public Health commissioned services including: Healthy Lifestyles – tobacco control /smoking cessation, physical activity, healthy weight and healthy eating; Healthy Child programme for 0-19 year olds including school nursing, health visiting, teenage pregnancy, breastfeeding, infant mortality and smoking in pregnancy; Sexual Health services; Integrated Drug &amp; Alcohol Services .</p> <p>Public Health functions and activities including the prevention of long term conditions through NHS Health Checks; oral health interventions;</p>	<p><b>Cllr Stephen Craddock</b></p>

<p>health and housing; suicide prevention and mental /emotional wellbeing; health at work.</p> <p>In-house Health Protection team providing local outbreak management, screening and immunisation, infection prevention and control, disease and injury prevention.</p>	
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## 11. **Constitution and timetable of meetings 2021/22**

The report was submitted.

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

**Resolved** that:

1. the amendments to the Constitution as set out in appendix 1 to the report be approved:
2. the timetable of meetings for the municipal year 2021/2022 as set out in **Appendix 2** to the report be approved.

## 12. **Appointments to Committees**

A list of nominations from the political groups was circulated.

The Leader confirmed that Councillor Murphy would serve on the Education Scrutiny Committee rather than Councillor Sears.

The list, with the amendment above, was **moved** by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Andrew and:

**Resolved**

That the following members be appointed to Committees for the municipal year 2021/22:

### **Audit Committee**

Councillors Chattha, Flint, James, Johal, Pedley, Robertson, Smith,  
3 Independent members

### **Corporate Parenting Board**

Councillors Ferguson, Hicken, M Nazir, Mazhar, Murphy, Wilson, Worrall

### **Health and Wellbeing Board**

Councillors Craddock, Martin, Robertson, Wilson.

## **Licensing and Safety Committee**

Councillors C. Bott, Cooper, S. Ditta, Ferguson, Gandham, Hicken, K Hussain, Kaur, Nawaz, Samra, Sarohi, Sears, Smith, Waters

## **Personnel Committee**

Councillors Andrew, Bird, Elson, Gultasib, Harris, K Hussain, Nawaz, Samra, Waters

## **Planning Committee**

### **Ward:**

Ald. Central & S.	Murray
Ald. Nrth & W.W.	Harris
Bentley & Darl N.	Underhill
Birchills-Leamore	Ali
Blakenall	Robertson
Bloxwich East	M Statham
Bloxwich West	Allen
Brownhills	Craddock
Darlaston South	P. Bott
Paddock	Rasab
Palfrey	M. Nazir
Pelsall	Perry
Pheasey P. Farm	Bird
Pleck	Sarohi
Rushall-Shelfield	Waters
Short Heath	Cooper
St. Matthews	Nawaz
Streetly	Samra
Willenhall North	Hicken
Willenhall South	Creaney

## **Standards Committee**

Councillors Allen, Andrew, Burley, Follows, Lee, Rasab, Samra, Sarohi, Underhill, Young.

## **Scrutiny Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillors Ali, P Bott, Harrison, Hicken, K Hussain, Jeavons, Murray, Nawaz, Rasab, Samra, Sohal

## **Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillors Bashir, Flint, A. Hussain, Hicken, Kaur, Mazhar, Murphy, Nawaz, A Nazir, Rattigan, C Statham.

### **Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillors Burley, Ditta, Elson, Ferguson, Jeavons, Johal, Kaur, Lee, Murphy, Nasreen, Rattigan.

### **Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillors Allen, P. Bott, S Coughlan, Follows, Jeavons, Harrison, Kaur, Lee, Singh Sohal, Whitehouse, Worrall.

### **Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillors Allen, Cooper, D Coughlan, Ditta, Gandham, Johal, K Hussain, Murphy, Pedley, Sarohi, Waters.

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

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 2021/22:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
Audit	Independent Person	Councillor Johal
Corporate Parenting Board	Councillor Wilson <i>(Portfolio Holder for Children's Services)</i>	Councillor Worrall
Health and Wellbeing Board	Councillor Craddock	<i>To be appointed by Health and Wellbeing Board</i>
Licensing and Safety	Councillor Waters	Councillor Kaur
Personnel	Councillor Bird	Councillor Andrew
Planning	Councillor Bird	Councillor Perry
Standards	Councillor Rasab	Councillor Underhill
Scrutiny Overview	Councillor Murray	Councillor Nawaz

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor Hicken	Councillor Mazhar
Education Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor Jeavons	Councillor Murphy
Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor Harrison	Councillor Follows
Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor K. Hussain	Councillor Cooper

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

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

**Resolved**

That the following members be appointed to the undermentioned bodies for the municipal year 2021/22 (unless otherwise stated):

**(a) Outside bodies**

**Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee**

Councillor Chattha  
Councillor Waters (substitute)

**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 Bird

**Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust**

Councillor Robertson

**Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee**

Councillor Waters,  
Councillor Worall (Deputy)

**Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust**

Councillor Craddock

**Forest of Mercia Advisory Group**

Councillors Follows, Harrison, Nawaz

**Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference**

Councillor Hicken

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

Councillor Ali, K.  
Councillor Hussain (Deputy)

**Local Government Association – General Assembly**

Councillors Hicken (2 votes), Nawaz, K. Hussain

**Project WR2 Contract Management Board**

Councillor Butler

**River Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee**

Councillor Butler,  
Councillor Harrison (Deputy)

**Steps to Work (Walsall) Limited**

Councillor Statham

**Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau**

Councillors Chattha, Johal

**Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Development Trust**

Councillor Follows

**Walsall Society for the Blind**

Councillors Harrison, Johal

**West Midlands Combined Authority Board**

Councillors Andrew, Bird

Councillors Samra, Towe (substitutes)

**West Midlands Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillor Waters

Councillor Samra (Substitute)

**West Midlands Combined Authority – Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee**

Councillor Flint

Councillor Pedley (Substitute)

**West Midlands Combined Authority – Transport Delivery Committee**

Councillors Andrew, Worrall

**WMCA Investments Board**

Councillor Bird

**WMCA Public Service Perform Board**

Councillor Craddock

**WMCA Strategic Economic Development Board**

Councillor Andrew

**WMCA Wellbeing Board**

Councillor Craddock

**WMCA Environment & Energy Board**

Councillor Butler

**WMCA Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee**

Councillor Hicken

**West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority**

Councillors Ferguson (to answer questions), Young

**West Midlands Pension Fund Committee**

Councillor Waters

**West Midlands Police and Crime Panel**

Councillor Samra

**West Midlands Shareholders Airport Committee**

Councillor Martin

Councillors Waters, Kaur (Observers)

**West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership Board**

Councillor Rasab

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

Councillor Waters

Councillor Harris (Substitute)

**(b) Charities**

**Barr Beacon Trust**

Councillors Andrew, Bird, Keir Pedley, Johal, Murray, Kaur, Samra, Towe, Wilson, Butler

**Blanch Woollaston Charity**

Councillors Flint, Nawaz

**Catherine Walker Charity**

Councillor Sears

**C.C. Walker Charity**

Councillors Flint, Mazhar

**Harper, Marsh and Crumps Almshouses**

Councillor A. Hussain

**Henry Boys Almshouses**

Councillor Nawaz

**Merrions Wood**

Councillors Rasab, Sohal

**Roger Hinton's Charity**

Councillors Burley, Clarke, Sarohi

**School Holiday Camp Fund of Walsall (Bryntysilio)**

Councillors Towe, Worrall

**Sheffield Playing Fields**

Councillors Rattigan, Waters

**Walsall Wood Allotment Charity**

Councillor Bird

**W.J. Croft Charity**

Councillor Nawaz

**(c) Advisory and statutory bodies**

**Fostering Panel**

Murphy

**Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**

Councillors Hussain, K. Hussain, Johal, Nasreen, Pedley, Robertson, Sohal

**Walsall Admission Forum**

Councillors Nawaz, Rasab

**15. Recommendations of Cabinet**

**(a) Youth Justice Annual Strategic Plan**

The report to Cabinet on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2021 was submitted.

Councillor Wilson moved the approval of the recommendation, which was seconded by Councillor Andrew.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

**Resolved**

1. That Walsall's Youth Justice Annual Strategic plan be approved.
2. That the Executive Director Children's Services, in consultation with the portfolio holder be authorised to make any future minor amendments to the plan if and when required.

16. **Extension of Term of Office – Independent Person – Audit and Standards Committee**

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

**Resolved**

That Mr Andrew Greens term of office as an Independent Person on the Council's Audit and Standards Committees be extended for a period of 4 years.

The meeting terminated at 7.56 p.m.