



Walsall Council

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Council of the Walsall Metropolitan Borough held on **Monday 22nd May, 2017, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

Present

Councillor K. Phillips (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillor M. Longhi (Deputy Mayor)

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

Councillor E.F. Hughes

“ K. Hussain
“ D. James
“ 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
“ 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
“ P. Washbrook
“ T.S. Wilson
“ R.V. Worrall
“ A. Young

1. **Election of Mayor 2017/18**

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

That Councillor Marco Longhi be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2017/2018.

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

Resolved

That Councillor Marco Longhi be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2017/2018.

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

Councillor M. Longhi (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.

2. **Appointment of Deputy Mayor 2017/18**

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird and seconded by Councillor C. Bott:

That Councillor Paul Bott be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2017/2018.

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

Resolved

That Councillor Paul Bott be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2017/2018.

3. **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 10th April 2017, copies having been sent to each member of the Council, be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. **Mayor's announcements**

(a) **Mayor's Chaplain**

The Mayor stated that Padre Salvatore Musella would be his Chaplain during his year of office.

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

The Mayor said that a Civic Service would be held on Sunday 16th July 2017 at 10.30 a.m. at St. Matthew's Church.

(c) **Charities**

The Mayor announced that monies raised during his year of office would be donated to WPH Counselling (which provided counselling for adults, young people, couples, families and specialist pregnancy counselling).

5. **Presentation of badges to retiring Mayor and Consort**

The Mayor presented badges to the retiring Mayor and Consort, Councillor K. Phillips and Mr. M. Phillips.

6. **Vote of thanks to retiring Mayor and Consort**

It was **moved** by Councillor J. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor S. Fitzpatrick and:

Resolved

That the Council thank Kathleen Phillips for the contribution she has made as Mayor of Walsall MBC to the people who live and work in the Borough and that Mr. Phillips be thanked for his services as Consort.

Councillor Phillips replied.

7. **Adjournment**

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

Resolved

That the Council adjourn until 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 24th May 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 6.48 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 24th May 2017

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

8. Mayor's announcements

Manchester terror attack

Members and officers stood in silence to remember the victims and their families of the Manchester Arena terrorist attack.

9. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)

There were no items considered in private session.

11. Formation of political groups

The report of the Chief Executive was submitted.

Resolved

That the receipt of returns from political groups be noted.

12. Members appointed to the Executive

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber.

Resolved

That the following Cabinet responsibilities for the municipal year 2017/18 be noted:

Description of portfolio	Portfolio holder
1. Leader of the Council - Overall responsibility for Council strategy, the corporate plan, communications and public relations, emergency planning, government relations and liaison with local MPs and West Midlands leaders. Association of Black Country Authorities and Black Country Joint Committee. Strategic and operational financial management and administration, insurance, risk management, policy led budgeting. Financial Regulations, Audit, Legal and Democratic Services, Performance. Member Development	Councillor S. Coughlan
2. Deputy Leader and Regeneration – 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. Traffic and transportation, car parks, strategic transport and highways. Business liaison and skills	Councillor Jeavons
3. Children’s Services and Education – services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, education services, interagency cooperation, involvement of children and young people, youth parliament, children’s trust arrangements, youth offending services, youth service, schools meals commissioning, transition arrangements with Adult Social Care. Adult learning	Councillor Nawaz
4. Community, leisure and culture – Area co-ordination, community engagement and consultation, community associations, voluntary and community sectors, leisure and culture services including the New Art Gallery, libraries, catering service, sports and museums. Cemeteries and crematoria. Community Safety, Safer Walsall Partnership, public protection.	Councillor Shires

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| 5. | Clean and Green –gateways and corridors, pollution control, waste strategy, refuse collection, recycling, street cleaning, parks and the Council's vehicle fleet. | Councillor Jones |
| 6. | Health - Public health, Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board | Councillor Robertson |
| 7. | Social Care - care services for older people and people with learning disabilities, people with physical disabilities and people with mental health needs, health partnership, community meals, supporting people, protection for vulnerable adults and transition arrangements with Children Services. Money, Home, Job. | Councillor D. Coughlan |
| 8. | Personnel and Business Support/Agenda for Change –issues relating to governance and decision making processes including the corporate plan. HR function, shared services, including ICT, procurement, facilities management. In collaboration with partner agencies, issues relating to proposals for new area arrangements. Cross portfolio issues that contribute to enlargement of opportunities for public engagement. Cross portfolio liaison on change programmes within the Council. | Councillor Chambers |

13. **Constitution and timetable of meetings 2017/18**

A report was submitted.

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

- (1) That the amendments to the following parts of the Constitution as set out in the report be approved, subject to the Sustainable Community Strategy being removed from Article 4 (Policy framework):
 - (a) Part 2 – Articles:
 - Article 4 – Policy framework
 - Article 8 – Regulatory and other Committees
 - Article 13 – Review and revision of the Constitution
 - (b) Part 3 – Responsibility for functions:

- 3.2 – Scheme of delegations to Committees
 - 3.5 – Scheme of delegations to officers
- (c) Part 4 – Rules of procedure - Overview and Scrutiny
- (d) Part 5 – Codes and protocols:
- 1 – Member’s Code of Conduct
 - 10 – Budget setting
 - 15 – Handling petitions
 - 16 – Use of Councillor resources by Councillors
 - 19 – Flag flying
- (2) That Area Panels be dissolved and that the Constitution be amended accordingly.
- (3) That the Members’ Allowances Scheme as amended by Council at its meeting on 10th April 2017, be approved for a further 12 months subject to any changes to structures or responsibilities.

Amendment moved by Councillor Bird and duly seconded:

That the following be added to the motion:

“That the time limit for speakers at Planning Committee be reduced from 3 minutes to 2 - Part 3.2 - delegations to Planning Committee.”

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared carried.

The substantive motion was put to vote and declared carried and it

Resolved

- (1) That the amendments to the following parts of the Constitution as set out in the report be approved, subject to (i) the Sustainable Community Strategy being removed from Article 4 (Policy framework) and (ii) the time limit for speakers at Planning Committee being reduced from 3 minutes to 2 (Part 3.2 - delegations to Planning Committee):
- (a) Part 2 – Articles:
- Article 4 – Policy framework
 - Article 8 – Regulatory and other Committees
 - Article 13 – Review and revision of the Constitution
- (b) Part 3 – Responsibility for functions:
- 3.2 – Scheme of delegations to Committees
 - 3.5 – Scheme of delegations to officers

- (c) Part 4 – Rules of procedure - Overview and Scrutiny
 - (d) Part 5 – Codes and protocols:
 - 1 – Member’s Code of Conduct
 - 10 – Budget setting
 - 15 – Handling petitions
 - 16 – Use of Councillor resources by Councillors
 - 19 – Flag flying
- (2) That Area Panels be dissolved and that the Constitution be amended accordingly.
- (3) That the Members’ Allowances Scheme as amended by Council at its meeting on 10th April 2017, be approved for a further 12 months subject to any changes to structures or responsibilities.

14. **Appointments to Committees**

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

The list was **moved** by Councillor S. Coughlan, seconded by Councillor Jeavons with Councillor P. Bott being nominated to Scrutiny Overview Committee and Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee and it was:

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to Committees for the municipal year 2017/18:

Audit Committee

Councillors Barker Chambers, Craddock, Harris, Kudhail, Robertson, Young, together with 3 independent members

Health and Wellbeing Board

Councillors P. Bott, D. Coughlan, A. Ditta, James, Martin, Robertson, Shires, Washbrook, together with:

- Executive Director, Adult Services
- Executive Director, Children’s Services
- Director of Public Health
- 5 Clinical Commissioning Group representatives
- Healthwatch representative
- West Midlands Police representative
- West Midlands Fire representative
- “One Walsall” representative

Licensing and Safety Committee

Councillors Clarke, S. Ditta, J. Fitzpatrick, S. Fitzpatrick, D. Hazell, Hussain, Murray, Nawaz, Rochelle, Sarohi, Sears, Washbrook (2 vacancies)

Personnel Committee

Councillors Andrew, Bird, Chambers, S. Coughlan, E. Hazell, Jeavons, Shires

Planning Committee

Ward:

Aldridge Central & South	Councillor Rochelle
Aldridge North & Walsall Wood	Councillor Harris
Bentley & Darlaston North	Councillor Underhill
Birchills-Leamore	Councillor Jones
Blakenall	Councillor Ward
Bloxwich East	Councillor S. Fitzpatrick
Bloxwich West	Councillor Harrison
Brownhills	Councillor Craddock
Darlaston South	Councillor P. Bott
Paddock	Councillor Washbrook
Palfrey	Councillor M. Nazir
Pelsall	Councillor Perry
Pheasey Park Farm	Councillor Bird
Pleck	Councillor Sarohi
Rushall-Shelfield	Councillor Worrall
Short Heath	Councillor D. Hazell
St. Matthews	Councillor Nawaz
Streetly	Councillor Douglas-Maul
Willenhall North	Councillor Shires
Willenhall South	Councillor Creaney

Standards Committee

Councillors Andrew, P. Bott, Burley, Chambers, A. Ditta, E. Hazell, Martin, Murray, Sohal, Underhill

Scrutiny Overview Committee

Councillors Bird, P. Bott, Burley, A. Ditta, S. Ditta, E. Hazell, Hussain, Longhi, Murray, A. Nazir, Towe

Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors Andrew, Bird, P. Bott, Craddock, Creaney, M. Nazir, Phillips, Rattigan, Sohal, Wade, Ward

Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors Barker, A. Ditta, J. Fitzpatrick, Follows, E. Hazell, James, Jukes, Kudhail, A. Nazir, Towe, Wilson, together with:

- 1 Lichfield Diocesan Education (voting)
- 1 Archbishop of Birmingham (voting)
- 3 Parent Governors (voting)
- 1 Primary Education Teachers (non-voting)
- 1 Secondary Education Teachers (non-voting)

Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors Allen, Barker, S. Ditta, E. Hazell, Hicken, James, Jukes, Longhi, Phillips, Rochelle, Sarohi

15. Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber and nominations were made as set out, with Councillor E. Hazell withdrawing her nomination as Vice-Chair of Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Resolved

That the following members be appointed Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2017/18:

Committee	Chair	Vice-Chair
Audit	Mr. F. Bell (independent member)	Councillor Robertson
Health and Wellbeing Board	Councillor Robertson	To be appointed by Health and Wellbeing Board
Licensing and Safety	Councillor S. Fitzpatrick	Councillor Sarohi
Personnel	Councillor S. Coughlan	Councillor Chambers
Planning	Councillor M. Nazir	Councillor Underhill
Standards	Councillor Underhill	Councillor Martin
Scrutiny Overview	Councillor Hussain	Councillor Murray
Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor Andrew	Councillor Creaney

Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor Towe	Councillor Jukes
Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny	Councillor Longhi	Councillor Sarohi

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

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

(a) **Outside bodies**

That the following members be appointed to the undermentioned outside bodies for the municipal year 2017/18:

Local Government Association – General Assembly

Councillors S. Coughlan (2 votes), Douglas-Maul, Hicken, Jeavons

West Midlands Combined Authority

Councillors S. Coughlan, Jeavons
Councillors D. Coughlan, Jukes (substitutes)

West Midlands Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Burley
Councillor Hughes (substitute)

West Midlands Combined Authority – Audit Committee

Councillor Chambers
Councillor Robertson (substitute)

West Midlands Combined Authority – Transport Delivery Committee

Councillors Andrew, Worrall

West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

Councillor S. Coughlan (Leader)
Councillor Clews (named substitute)

West Midlands Joint Committee

Councillor S. Coughlan (voting)
Councillors Andrew, Bird (non-voting)

West Midlands Employers Organisation

Councillor Chambers

West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority

Councillor Young (Prime member)
Councillor Douglas-Maul (Deputy prime member)
Councillor Craddock

Black Country Consortium

Councillor S. Coughlan (or nominee)

Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee

Councillor Andrew
Councillor Worrall (named substitute)

Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee

Councillor Worrall
Councillor Washbrook (deputy)

Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust

Councillor Washbrook

Forest of Mercia Advisory Group

Councillors Barker, Harrison, Phillips

Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference

Councillor Jones

Joint Committee for Civil Parking Enforcement of Parking and Traffic Regulations

Councillor Jeavons
Deputy member – to be advised

New Horizons

Councillor J. Fitzpatrick

River Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

Councillor Jones
Councillor Hicken (deputy)

Steps to Work (Walsall) Limited

Councillor Gultasib

Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall (VIEW) Board

Councillors Burley, Phillips, Towe

Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau

Councillors Rochelle, Russell

Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Development Trust

Councillor Underhill

Walsall Society for the Blind

Councillors Jukes, Washbrook

West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership

Councillor Burley

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

Councillor Chambers (voting)

Councillor Martin (substitute)

(b) **Charities**

Harper, Marsh and Crumps Almshouses

Councillor Russell

Henry Boys Almshouses

Councillor Follows

Roger Hinton's Charity

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

Councillor Underhill

Catherine Walker Charity

For 4 year period expiring 24 May 2020 – to be advised

(c) **Advisory and statutory bodies**

Adoption Panel

Councillor Jukes

Fostering Panel

Councillor Phillips

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

Councillors Barker, Craddock, Gultasib, Phillips, Robertson, Rochelle, Washbrook

Walsall Admission Forum

Councillors Kudhail, Underhill

17. **Recommendation of Cabinet – The Walsall Plan: Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020**

The report to Cabinet on 26th April 2017 was submitted.

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

Resolved

That the Walsall Plan: Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020 be approved as the overarching plan for the Walsall partnership.

18. **Black Country Enterprise Zone – land acquisition**

A report was submitted.

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

Resolved

That Council approve an amendment to the 2017/18 Capital Programme to include a budget for the acquisition of land in the Black Country Enterprise Zone and associated purchase costs of £524,500.

The meeting terminated at 6.40 p.m.