

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Council of the Walsall Metropolitan Borough held on **Monday 20th May, 2019, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

## **Present**

### **Councillor M. Longhi (Mayor) in the Chair**

#### **Councillor P. Bott (Deputy Mayor)**

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

#### **Councillor S. Johal**

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

1. **Welcome to new members**

The Mayor extended a welcome to the newly elected members of the Council – Councillors Ali, Bashir, Johal, Kaur, Mazhar, Nasreen and C. Statham.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors S. Coughlan, Neville and Young.

3. **Election of Mayor 2019/20**

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

That Councillor Paul Bott be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2019/20.

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

**Resolved**

That Councillor Paul Bott be elected Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2019/20.

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

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

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

4. **Appointment of Deputy Mayor 2019/20**

It was **moved** by Councillor Underhill and seconded by Councillor Ward:

That Councillor Rose Burley be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2019/20.

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

**Resolved**

That Councillor Rose Burley be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the municipal year 2019/20.

5. **Minutes**

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on the 8th and 26th April 2019, copies having been sent to each member of the Council, be approved as correct records and signed.

6. **Mayor's announcements**

(a) **Mayor's Chaplain**

The Mayor stated that the Reverend Gilbert David 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 14th July 2019 at 10.45 a.m. at St. Matthew's Church.

(c) **Charities**

The Mayor announced that monies raised during his year of office would be donated to Samaritans Walsall and Many Tears Animal Rescue.

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

The Mayor presented badges to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor M. Longhi, Mrs. A. Longhi, Miss M. Longhi and Miss D. Longhi.

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

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

**Resolved**

That the Council thank Councillor Marco Longhi for the contribution he has made as Mayor of Walsall MBC and to the people who live and work in the borough and that Mrs. A. Longhi, Miss M. Longhi and Miss D. Longhi be thanked for their services as Mayoresses.

9. **Adjournment**

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

**Resolved**

That the Council adjourn until 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 22nd May 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 6.55 p.m.

**Meeting reconvened at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 22nd May 2019**

The Mayor reminded the meeting that 2 hours 5 minutes remained for business to be transacted.

10. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

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

There were no items to be considered in private session.

12. **Election results – 2nd May 2019**

The report was submitted.

**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 Andrew, seconded by Councillor Perry and:

**Resolved**

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

15. **Corporate Parenting Board – annual report**

Councillor Wilson presented the report.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Hannah Armstrong then read her poem to the Chamber in which she expressed her experience within the care system. At the conclusion of the reading, several members thanked Ms Armstrong for attending Council and congratulated her on both her skills at writing and delivery of the reading within the Chamber.

**Resolved**

That the annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board be noted.

16. **Members appointed to the Executive**

A schedule of portfolio responsibilities was submitted.

**Resolved**

That the following Cabinet responsibilities for the municipal year 2019/20 be noted:

| Description of portfolio   | Names of portfolio holder |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. <b>Leader of the Council</b> - 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. West Midlands Combined Authority, Association of Black Country Authorities and Black Country Joint Committee. Transformation and digital. Finance including payroll and pensions, insurance, risk management, policy led budgeting. Financial Regulations, Audit, Legal and Democratic Services, Performance. Member Development. | 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. Traffic and transportation, car parks, strategic transport and highways. Business liaison and skills. Money Home Job | Councillor Andrew |
| 3. | <b>Education and Skills</b> – schools and education services, interagency cooperation, involvement of children and young people, special educational needs, disabilities and inclusion. Adult learning.  | Councillor Towe   |
| 4. | <b>Adult Social Care</b> – 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.   | Councillor Martin |
| 5. | <b>Community, leisure and culture</b> – Locality co-ordination, community development, engagement and consultation, community associations, voluntary and community sectors, leisure and culture services including the New Art Gallery, libraries, sports and museums. Cemeteries and crematoria. Community Safety, community cohesion, Safer Walsall Partnership, public protection.                           | Councillor Perry  |
| 6. | <b>Clean and Green</b> – gateways and corridors, pollution control, waste strategy, refuse collection, recycling, street cleaning, parks and the Council's vehicle fleet.  | Councillor Butler |
| 7. | <b>Children's</b> - Services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, early help, schools meals commissioning, involvement of children and young people, transition arrangements between Children's and Adult Social Care, and Walsall Children's Safeguarding Board and Chair of Corporate Parenting Board.   | Councillor Wilson |

- |    |  |                    |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 8. | <b>Personnel and Business Support</b> –<br>HR, equalities, procurement, facilities<br>management, complaints, information<br>governance, print and design, catering,<br>cleaning, caretaking and Town Hall events. | Councillor Chattha |
| 9. | <b>Health and Wellbeing</b> - Public Health and<br>Member of Health and Wellbeing Board  | Councillor Longhi  |

## 17. **Constitution and timetable of meetings 2019/20**

The report was submitted, together with a revised Appendix 5 – timetable of meetings which was circulated around the Council Chamber.

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

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the amendments to the following parts of the Constitution as set out in the report be approved:
  - (a) Part 3 – Responsibility for functions:
    - 3.2 - Audit Committee/Personnel Committee
    - 3.5 – Scheme of delegations to officers
  - (b) Part 4 – Rules of procedure:
    - 4.1 – Council procedure rules
    - 4.5 – Overview and Scrutiny procedure rules
    - 4.6 – Officer Employment Procedure Rules
  - (c) Part 5.1 – Members’ Code of Conduct
  - (d) Article 4 – The Council
- (2) That the revised timetable of meetings for the municipal year 2019/2020 (as circulated) be approved.

## 18. **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 2019/20:

### **Audit Committee**

Councillors Ali, Craddock, Johal, Neville, Robertson, Young (1 vacancy)  
3 Independent members

### **Corporate Parenting Board**

Councillors Ferguson, Jeavons, Jukes, M. Nazir, Neville, M. Statham, Wilson

### **Health and Wellbeing Board**

Councillors Longhi, Martin, Robertson, Wilson

### **Licensing and Safety Committee**

Councillors Clarke, Cooper, Hicken, Hussain, Jukes, Kaur, Nawaz, Samra, Sarohi, Sears, Ward, Waters, Worrall (1 vacancy)

### **Personnel Committee**

Councillors Allen, Andrew, Bird, Gultasib, Hussain, Kaur, Nawaz

### **Planning Committee**

#### **Ward:**

Aldridge Central & South  
Aldridge North & Walsall Wood  
Bentley & Darlaston North  
Birchills-Leamore  
Blakenall  
Bloxwich East  
Bloxwich West  
Brownhills  
Darlaston South  
Paddock  
Palfrey  
Pelsall  
Pheasey Park Farm  
Pleck  
Rushall-Shelfield  
Short Heath  
St. Matthews  
Streetly  
Willenhall North  
Willenhall South

Councillor Murray  
Councillor Harris  
Councillor Underhill  
Councillor Jukes  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor M Statham  
Councillor Harrison  
Councillor Craddock  
Councillor P. Bott  
Councillor Rasab  
Councillor M. Nazir  
Councillor Perry  
Councillor Bird  
Councillor Sarohi  
Councillor Waters  
Councillor Chattha  
Councillor Nawaz  
Councillor Samra  
Councillor Hicken  
Councillor Creaney



### **Standards Committee**

Councillors Andrew, Bashir, P. Bott, Burley, Craddock, Samra, C. Statham, M. Statham, Underhill, Waters, Young

### **Scrutiny Overview Committee**

Councillors Ditta, Ferguson, Harrison, Hussain, Jeavons, Murray, Nawaz, Rasab, Samra, Shires, M. Statham

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

Councillors Barker, Bashir, Douglas-Maul, Follows, Jeavons, Jukes, Neville, Rattigan, C. Statham, M. Statham, Wade

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

Councillors Ali, Barker, Burley, Cooper, Douglas-Maul, Jeavons, Johal, Kaur, Mazhar, Nasreen, Rattigan

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

Councillors P. Bott, Craddock, Creaney, Follows, Harrison, Hicken, Kaur, A. Nazir, Shires, Singh Sohal, Ward

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

Councillors Allen, Ali, Clarke, D. Coughlan, Ditta, Hussain, Neville, Rasab, Robertson, Sarohi, Waters

## **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 2019/20:

| <b>Committee</b>          | <b>Chair</b>  | <b>Vice-Chair</b>   |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Audit                     | Independent Person  | Councillor Craddock |
| Corporate Parenting Board | Councillor Wilson<br>(Portfolio Holder for Children's Services) | Councillor Jukes    |

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Health and Wellbeing Board                    | Councillor Longhi<br>(Nominee of controlling group) | <i>To be appointed by Health and Wellbeing Board</i> |
| Licensing and Safety                          | Councillor Samra                                    | Councillor Clarke                                    |
| Personnel                                     | Councillor Bird                                     | Councillor Andrew                                    |
| Planning                                      | Councillor Bird                                     | Councillor Perry                                     |
| Standards                                     | Councillor Waters                                   | Councillor Underhill                                 |
| Scrutiny Overview                             | Councillor Murray                                   | Councillor Nawaz                                     |
| Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny     | Councillor M. Statham                               | Councillor Jukes                                     |
| Education Overview and Scrutiny               | Councillor Jeavons                                  | Councillor Cooper                                    |
| Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny | Councillor Harrison                                 | Councillor Hicken                                    |
| Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny  | Councillor Hussain                                  | Councillor Allen                                     |

## 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 2019/20 (unless otherwise stated):

#### **(a) Outside bodies**

##### **Local Government Association – General Assembly**

Councillors Allen, Hicken (2 votes), Hussain, Nawaz

##### **West Midlands Combined Authority Board**

Councillors Bird, Andrew  
Councillors Towe, Longhi (substitutes)

## **West Midlands Combined Authority - Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillor Douglas-Maul  
Councillor Burley (substitute)

## **West Midlands Combined Authority – Audit Committee**

Councillor Waters  
Councillor Robertson (substitute)

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

Councillors Andrew, Worrall

## **West Midlands Police and Crime Panel**

Councillor Bird (Leader)  
Councillor Samra (substitute)

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

Councillor Cooper (Prime member)  
Councillor Young

## **Black Country Consortium**

Councillor Bird (Councillor Andrew nominee)

## **Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee**

Councillor Murray  
Councillor Kaur (substitute)

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

Councillor Waters  
Councillor Worrall (deputy)

## **Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust**

Councillor Longhi

## **Forest of Mercia Advisory Group**

Councillors Butler, Worrall, Shires

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

Councillor Butler

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

Councillor Andrew

**Project WR2 Contract Management Board**

Councillor Butler

**River Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee**

Councillor Butler

Councillor Worrall (deputy)

**Steps to Work (Walsall) Limited**

Councillor Ali

**Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall (VIEW) Board**

Councillors Andrew, Johal, Hussain

**Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau**

Councillor Ali, Johal

**Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Development Trust**

Councillor Chattha

**Walsall Society for the Blind**

Councillors Towe, Jukes

**West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership Board**

Councillor Rasab

**West Midlands Pension Fund Committee**

Councillor Martin (voting)

Councillor Underhill (substitute)

**West Midlands Shareholders Airport Committee**

Councillor Kaur (voting)

**(b) Charities**

**Harper, Marsh and Crumps Almshouses**

Councillor Singh Sohal

**Henry Boys Almshouses**

Councillor Nawaz

**Roger Hinton's Charity**

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

**Fishley Charities**

Councillor Martin for period of 5 years expiring 6th July 2024

**(c) Advisory and statutory bodies**

**Adoption Panel**

Councillor Neville

**Fostering Panel**

Councillor Rasab

**Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**

Councillors Bashir, Chattha, Johal, Mazhar, Nasreen, Rasab, Singh Sohal

**Walsall Admission Forum**

Councillors Burley, M. Statham

The meeting terminated at 6.22 p.m.