

COUNCIL

HELD: Wednesday, 18 May 2022

Start: 7.30 pm

Finish: 9.10 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: G Johnson (Mayor)

Mrs M Westley (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors:

T Aldridge

M Anderson

R Bailey

Mrs M Blake

A Blundell

P Burnside

Clandon

C Coughlan

V Cummins

Daniels

I Davis

G Dowling

I Eccles

Fennell

J Fillis

J Finch

A Fowler

N Furey

Y Gagen

J Gordon

S Gregson

L Gresty

Hirrell

P Hogan

Howard

Juckes

Mrs J Marshall

J Mee

K Mitchell

R Molloy

J Monaghan

M Nixon

P O`Neill

D O`Toole

G Owen

D Owen

A Owens

E Pope

I Rigby

S Patel

N Pryce-Roberts

A Sutton

J Thompson

Turpin

Upjohn

D West

D Westley

D Whittington

J Wilkie

K Wilkie

J Witter

A Yates

Officers:

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey, Chief Operating Officer

Chris Twomey, Corporate Director of Housing, Transformation & Resources

Lisa Windle, Head of Corporate and Customer Services

Paul Charlson, Head of Planning & Regulatory Services

Kay Lovelady, Legal & Democratic Services Manager

Jacky Denning, Democratic Services Manager

Kathryn Sephton, Clean & Green Operations Manager

Thomas Lynan, Electoral Services Manager

Jill Ryan, Senior Member Services Officer

Stephen Stephen, Mayor's Chauffeur/Civic Officer

1 PRAYERS

The Mayor welcomed all those in attendance to the meeting, particularly the new

Members, Councillors Mark Anderson, Rob Bailey, Patricia Burnside, Andy Fowler, Rob Molloy, Damian Owen, Suresh Patel, Linda Gresty, Paul Hogan and John Fillis.

The Mayor's Chaplain for the evening, Father Godric led Members and Officers in Prayer.

2 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

The Mayor paid tribute to Doreen Stephenson who had lost her seat in the Borough elections held on 5 May 2022 and was therefore no longer a Councillor and thanked her for her service to the Council.

He advised that the election results were available on the Council's website.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 6 April 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

5 A. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR ENSUING YEAR B. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

The retiring Mayor, Councillor Gordon Johnson, thanked Council Members and staff, friends and family for their part in making her year of office so enjoyable and wished the incoming Mayor a successful year of office and invited nominations for the office of Mayor for the ensuing Municipal year 2022/23.

Councillor Mrs Marilyn Westley was nominated, which was moved and seconded. Councillors Mrs Westley accepted the nomination.

A vote was taken, which was CARRIED

Councillor Mrs Westley indicated her acceptance of office.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs Marilyn Westley be elected as Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.

(Note, during this item, the new Mayor, Councillor Mrs Westley:

1. Was dressed in the Mayor's robes and invested in the Mayor's Chain and Badge of Office and made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office, following which she assumed the Chair.
2. Expressed her thanks to the proposer and seconder, and to the Council for

the honour conferred upon her, in electing her as Mayor, before presenting Councillor Johnson, the retiring Mayor, with his Past Mayor's engraved Shield.

3. The outgoing Mayor presented the outgoing Mayoress, Mrs Jacqueline Johnson, with flowers.
4. The new Mayor, Councillor Mrs Westley, presented the New Mayoress, Mrs Doreen Stephenson, with the Mayoress' Chain and Badge of Office.)

B. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

The Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Kate Mitchell was nominated, which was moved and seconded.

Councillor Mitchell accepted the nomination.

A vote was taken, which was CARRIED

Councillor Mitchell signified her acceptance of office.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Kate Mitchell be appointed Deputy Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.

(Note, during this item, the new Deputy Mayor, Councillor Kate Mitchell:

1. Made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and assumed the Deputy Mayor's Chair.
2. Thanked the Council for the honour of allowing her to serve as Deputy Mayor.
3. The Mayor presented the Deputy Mayoress, Mrs Carol Davies, with the Deputy Mayoress' Chain and Badge of Office.)

6 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

The Mayor announced that she would provide details of her Chaplain for the year and her fund-raising activities for her year in office at the next meeting.

7 ELECTION OF THE LEADER, THE LEADER'S APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET, AND 'PROPER OFFICER PROVISIONS AND SCHEMES OF DELEGATION'

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Operating Officer, as contained on pages 17 to 20 and page 20 of the Book of Reports, which sought to elect the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting in 2022, receive notification of the

Leader's appointment of a Deputy Leader for the same term and Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2022/23 and to confirm the 'Proper Officer Provisions and Schemes of Delegation'.

The Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of Leader.

The following nominations were moved and seconded:

- Councillor Yvonne Gagen
- Councillor David Westley
- Councillor Adrian Owens

Councillors Gagen, D Westley and Owens accepted the nominations.

A vote was taken as follows:

Councillor Yvonne Gagen – 26 (TWENTY SIX)

Councillor David Westley – 20 (TWENTY)

Councillor Adrian Owens – 8 (EIGHT)

As there were more than two people nominated and there wasn't a clear majority of votes in favour of one person, the nominee with the lowest number of votes, Councillor Owens, was taken off the list and a new vote was taken as follows:

Councillor Yvonne Gagen – 27 (TWENTY SEVEN)

Councillor David Westley – 20 (TWENTY)

Abstentions – 7 (SEVEN)

Councillor Yvonne Gagen indicated her acceptance to the position as Leader.

A Motion to move recommendations 2.2 to 2.4 in the report was moved and seconded.

A copy of the Labour nominations had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: A. That Councillor Yvonne Gagen be elected as the Leader of the Council for a term of office expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting in 2023.

B. That the Member appointed by the Leader as Deputy Leader for the same term of office, and the Members appointed by the Leader as Members of the Cabinet for 2022/23, with the Portfolios identified by the Leader, be noted as follows:

- Councillor Gagen – Leader, Legal & Democratic Services
- Councillor Dowling – Deputy Leader, Communities & Community Safety
- Councillor Coughlan - Leisure

- Councillor Cummins – Health & Wellbeing and Economic Regeneration
- Councillor Fennell - Planning
- Councillor Pryce-Roberts – Housing and Landlord Services
- Councillor J Wilkie - Street Scene
- Councillor Yates – Resources & Transformation and Human Resources

C. That the 'Proper Officer Provisions and Scheme of Delegation to Chief Officers', insofar as they are Council functions be confirmed and insofar as they are Cabinet functions it be noted that the Leader has delegated these to the officers stated therein.

D. That the Leader's Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet members, as updated to reflect the Portfolios/Portfolio Holders now appointed, be noted.

8 TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OTHER GROUPS

The Council noted that Councillor David Westley had been appointed Leader of the Conservative Group and that Councillor David Whittington had been appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Group. Details of the Shadow Cabinet and Spokesmen would be circulated after the meeting.

The Council also noted that Councillor Adrian Owens had been appointed Leader of the Our West Lancs Group and that Councillor Ian Davis had been appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Group. Details of Spokesmen would be circulated after the meeting.

9 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES ETC 2022/23

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Operating Officer, as contained on pages 21 to 23 of the Book of Reports, which set out the appointment of Committees etc. and their terms of reference and allocation of seats thereon to the political groups for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

The political balance on Committees and the Labour nominations had been circulated prior to the meeting.

A Motion to approve recommendations 2.1 to 2.5 in the report were moved and seconded.

An Amendment containing proposals from the Conservative and Our West Lancashire Groups, in respect of the allocation on seats on Committees, circulated prior to the meeting, was moved and seconded.

A vote was taken on the Amendment, which was CARRIED.

Councillor Upjohn advised that he would not be able to sit on the Planning Committee.

A vote was taken on the Substantive Motion, with the removal of Councillor Upjohn from the Planning Committee, which was CARRIED.

RESOLVED: A. That, for the period ending with the next Annual Meeting of the Council, or such lesser period should the political balance or allocation to political groups change during the year requiring a review under the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Committees, Sub-Committees etc be appointed as detailed in the revised Labour Appendix circulated prior to the meeting and that the allocation of seats to the political groups be as indicated, with the following changes:

- (i) Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee
12 Members: 6 LAB 4 CON 2 OWL
- (ii) Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee
11 Members: 5 LAB 4 CON 1 OWL 1 IND (JU)
- (iii) Planning Committee
14 Members: 6 LAB 5 CON 2 OWL 1 IND
- (iv) Licensing & Appeals Committee
11 Members: 5 LAB 4 CON 1 OWL 1 IND (PO)
- (v) Chief Officers Committee
7 Members: 3 LAB 3 CON 1 OWL
- (vi) Audit & Governance Committee
12 Members: 6 LAB 4 CON 1 OWL 1 IND (PO)
- (vii) CCTV Committee
6 Members: 3 LAB 2 CON 1 IND (PO)
- (viii) Tawd Valley Developments Shareholders Committee
5 Members: 2 LAB 2 CON 1 OWL
- (ix) Leisure Procurement Committee
5 Members: 2 LAB 2 CON 1 OWL
- (x) Budget / Council Plan Committee
6 Members: 3 LAB 2 CON 1 OWL

- B. That the representatives of the political groups on the Committees etc now appointed shall be as indicated on the attached Labour Appendix (Constitution 4.1A) and the appointment of the Independent Persons & the 2 Parish Council Representatives on the Standards Committee, be as detailed in the Labour proposals appendix and any changes or vacancies be notified to the Legal & Democratic Services Manager in accordance with the wishes of the group.
- C. That the representatives of the political groups on Outside Bodies (Council appointments) be as indicated on the Appendix 2 circulated prior to the meeting, subject to the following changes:

Police & Crime Panel	Councillor G Johnson
Victims Support	Councillors K Jukes and J Thompson
West Lancashire Ageing Well	Councillor M Blake to replace either M Nixon or J Finch

- D. That the terms of reference for the Committees etc now appointed be agreed as set out in the Constitution and the terms of reference of the Leisure Procurement Committee and the Budget / Council Plan Committee be drafted by the Legal & Member Services Manager in consultation with the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees, for approval at the first meeting of those bodies.
- E. That it be noted that the Leader has appointed Cabinet Working Groups as indicated on the Labour proposals Appendix to the report, circulated prior to the meeting, with the terms of reference included in the Constitution and appointed representatives to Outside Bodies (Cabinet appointments) and it be further noted that the West Lancashire Leisure Partnership Cabinet Working Group will no longer be required.

10 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

Nominations for the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for the ensuing year were submitted by the Labour Group as contained in the Labour Appendix 1 to the report, considered at agenda item 9, which were moved and seconded.

Nominations for the appointment of a number of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, from the Conservative Group, circulated prior to the meeting, were moved and seconded.

Nominations for the appointment of a number of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, from the Our West Lancashire Group, circulated prior to the meeting, were moved and seconded.

An individual vote was taken on each appointment that had received more than one nomination.

A vote was taken on the remaining appointments, which had only received one nomination, which was CARRIED.

RESOLVED: That Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2022/23 be appointed as follows:

- A. Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Chairman: Councillor Adrian Owens
Vice Chairman: Councillor Julian Finch
- B. Corporate & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Chairman: Councillor Donna West
Vice Chairman: Councillor Damian Owen
- C. Planning Committee
Chairman: Councillor David O'Toole
Vice Chairman: Councillor Julian Finch
- D. Licensing & Appeals Committee
Chairman: Councillor Gordon Johnson
Vice-Chairman: Councillor John Mee
- E. Licensing & Gambling Committee
Chairman: Councillor Neil Furey
Vice-Chairman: Councillor John Mee
- F. Standards Committee
Chairman: Councillor Yvonne Gagen
Vice Chairman: Councillor David Westley
- G. Investigating Committee
Chairman: Councillor Jenny Wilkie
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Vicki Cummins
- H. Chief Officers Committee
Chairman: Councillor Yvonne Gagen
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Ian Davis
- I. Audit & Governance Committee

COUNCIL

HELD: Wednesday, 18 May 2022

Chairman: Councillor Eddie Pope
Vice Chairman: Councillor Paul O'Neill

- J. CCTV Committee
Chairman: Councillor Kevin Wilkie
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Donna West

- K. Polling Districts & Polling Places Review Committee
Chairman: Councillor Gaynar Owen
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Gareth Dowling

- L. Strategic Asset Purchasing Committee
Chairman: Councillor David Whittington
Vice Chairman: Councillor Adam Yates

- M. Tawd Valley Developments Shareholders Committee
Chairman: Councillor David Westley
Vice Chairman: Councillor Ian Davis

- N. Leisure Procurement Committee
Chairman: Councillor David Westley
Vice Chairman: Councillor Carl Coughlan

- O. Budget / Council Plan Committee
Chairman: Councillor Adam Yates
Vice Chairman: Councillor Rob Molloy

.....
THE MAYOR