

## COUNCIL

**HELD: Wednesday, 24 June 2020**

Start: 7.30pm

Finish: 9.00pm

## PRESENT:

Councillor: G Owen (Mayor)  
T Aldridge (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors:

I Ashcroft	Mrs P Baybutt
Mrs M Blake	T Blane
A Blundell	J Cairns
R Cooper	C Coughlan
V Cummins	S Currie
I Davis	C Dereli
N Delaney	T Devine
G Dowling	Mrs C Evans
D Evans	S Evans
J Finch	S Gregson
N Furey	Y Gagen
J Gordon	G Hodson
G Johnson	Mrs J Marshall
J Mee	M Mills
K Mitchell	J Monaghan
I Moran	M Nixon
P O`Neill	D O'Toole
A Owens	E Pope
A Pritchard	I Rigby
N Pryce-Roberts	Mrs D Stephenson
A Sutton	J Thompson
D West	D Westley
Mrs M Westley	D Whittington
J Wilkie	K Wilkie
J Witter	K Wright
A Yates	

Officers:

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey, Chief Operating Officer  
Heidi McDougall, Corporate Director of Place & Community  
Chris Twomey, Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources  
Ian Gill, Head of Growth & Development Services  
Simon Burnett, Head of Wellbeing & Leisure Services  
Michelle Williams, Head of Environmental Services  
Paul Knight, Interim Head of Housing and Regulatory Services  
Matt Jones, Legal & Democratic Services Manager  
Jacky Denning, Democratic Services Manager  
Jill Ryan, Member Services/Civic Officer

## 1 PRAYERS

The Mayor welcomed all those in attendance to the meeting.

The Mayor's Chaplain for the evening, Rev Pauline Bicknell led Members and

Officers in Prayer.

The Mayor thanked Rev Pauline Bicknell for her support during her Mayoral year in office.

**2 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor K Lockie.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

**4 A. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR ENSUING YEAR**

The retiring Mayor, Councillor Owen, 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 2020/21.

The following Motion, was moved and seconded:  
"That Councillor Terence Aldridge be elected Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year."

A vote was taken, the Motion was CARRIED.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Terence Aldridge be elected as Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.

(Note, during this item:

1. Councillor Aldridge signified his acceptance of the Office and made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office, following which he assumed the Chair.
2. The New Mayor, Councillor Aldridge, expressed his thanks to the proposer and seconder, and to the Council for the honour conferred upon him, in electing him as Mayor.
3. The New Mayor, Councillor Aldridge informed Members that his Mayoress would be Margaret Ball.)

**B. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

The Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of Deputy Mayor.

The following Motion was moved and seconded:  
"That Councillor Maureen Nixon be appointed Deputy Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year."

A vote was taken, the Motion was CARRIED.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Maureen Nixon be appointed Deputy Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.

(Note, during this item:

1. Councillor Nixon signified her acceptance of Office and she made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and assumed the Deputy Mayor's Chair. The Deputy Mayor then thanked the Council for the honour of allowing her to serve as Deputy Mayor.
2. The Deputy Mayor informed Members that her Consort would be Laughton Wilkinson.)

5 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

The Mayor announced:

- A. That his Chaplain for the year would be Father Michael of St. Francis of Assisi.
- B. That Civic Sunday would be arranged as soon as it was safe to do so.
- C. That fund raising activities for his year in office would be in aid of the Women's Refuge, Skelmersdale Veterans, Skelmersdale Junior Football League, the Evermoor Hub and the Birchwood Centre and he sought the support of Members at the various fund raising events to be held throughout the year.

6 **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 Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources, as contained on pages 5 to 6 of the Book of Reports, which sought to elect the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting in 2021, receive notification of the Leader's appointment of a Deputy Leader for the same term and Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2020/21 and to confirm the 'Proper Officer Provisions and Schemes of Delegation'.

- RESOLVED: A. That Councillor Ian Moran be elected as the Leader of the Council for a term of office expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting in 2021.
- 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 2020/21, with the Portfolios identified by the Leader, be noted as follows:

- Councillor Moran – Leader, Economic Regeneration
- Councillor Gagen – Deputy Leader, Leisure and Human Resources
- Councillor Cummins – Health and Wellbeing
- Councillor J Wilkie – Housing and Landlord Services
- Councillor K Wilkie - Street Scene
- Councillor Yates – Resources and Transformation
- Councillor D Evans – Planning
- Councillor Wright – Emergency Planning, Preparation and Implementation
- Councillor Dowling – Communities and Community Safety

- 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.

**7 TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION GROUPS AND SHADOW CABINET**

The Council noted that Councillor David Westley had been appointed Leader of the Conservative Group and that Councillor Iain Ashcroft had been appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Group. Details of the Shadow Cabinet and Spokesmen had been circulated prior to 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 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**8 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES ETC 2020/21**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources, as contained on pages 21 to 22 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 2020/21.

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 Appendix 1 to the report and that the allocation of seats to the political groups be as indicated.

- B. That the representatives of the political groups on the Committees etc now appointed shall be as indicated on Appendix 1 to the report, subject to Councillor Gordon Johnson being appointed to the Electoral Review Working Group, and the appointment of the Independent Person and Reserve Independent Person and the 2 Parish Council Representatives on the Standards Committee, be as detailed in the appendix.
- C. That the terms of reference for the Committees etc now appointed be agreed as set out in the Constitution.
- D. That it be noted that the Leader has appointed Cabinet Working Groups as indicated on Appendix 1 to the report, with the terms of reference included in the Constitution.

**9 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES**

Consideration was given to the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for the ensuing year.

A motion to appoint the Members detailed in Appendix 1 to the report considered at agenda item 6, was moved and seconded.

An amendment to the Motion was moved and seconded.

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

A vote was taken on the original Motion, which was CARRIED

**RESOLVED:** That Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2020/21 be appointed as indicated in Appendix 1 to the report at agenda item 6.

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**THE MAYOR**