

COUNCIL

HELD: Wednesday, 19 May 2021

Start: 7.30 pm

Finish: 8.35 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: T Aldridge (Mayor)

M Nixon (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors:

I Ashcroft

Mrs M Blake

A Blundell

C Coughlan

Daniels

C Dereli

T Devine

Eccles

S Evans

J Finch

N Furey

J Gordon

G Johnson

K Lockie

J Mee

J Monaghan

P O`Neill

G Owen

E Pope

N Pryce-Roberts

A Sutton

Turpin

D West

Mrs M Westley

J Wilkie

J Witter

Mrs P Baybutt

T Blane

Clandon

V Cummins

I Davis

N Delaney

G Dowling

D Evans

Fennell

S Gregson

Y Gagen

Hirrell

Jukes

Mrs J Marshall

K Mitchell

I Moran

D O'Toole

A Owens

I Rigby

Mrs D Stephenson

J Thompson

Upjohn

D Westley

D Whittington

K Wilkie

A Yates

Officers:

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey, Chief Operating Officer

Kay Lovelady, Principal Solicitor

Jacky Denning, Democratic Services Manager

Jill Ryan, Senior Member Services Officer

Julia Brown, Member Services /Civic Officer

Thomas Lynan, Admin and Electoral Services Manager

In attendance:

Rev Pauline Bicknell

1 PRAYERS

The Mayor welcomed all those in attendance to the meeting, particularly the new Members, Councillors James Upjohn, Paul Turpin, George Clandon, Denise Hirrell, Ian Eccles, Anne Mary Fennell, Darren Daniels and Katie Jukes.

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

Officers in Prayer.

2 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor R Cooper.

The Mayor paid tribute to those who were no longer Councillors following the elections held on 6 May 2021, namely Gail Hodson, Sam Currie, Andrew Pritchard, Maureen Mills, Kevin Wright, John Cairns and Carolyn Evans and thanked them for their 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 A. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR ENSUING YEAR

The retiring Mayor, Councillor Terry Aldridge, 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 2021/22.

The following nominations, were moved and seconded:

- Councillor Maureen Nixon
- Councillor Gordon Johnson

Councillors Nixon and Johnson accepted the nomination.

A vote was taken as follows:

Councillor Maureen Nixon – 26 (TWENTY-SIX)

Councillor Gordon Johnson – 27 (TWENTY-SEVEN)

Councillor Gordon Johnson indicated his acceptance of office.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Gordon Johnson be elected as Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.

(Note, during this item, the new Mayor, Councillor Gordon Johnson:

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 he assumed the Chair.
2. Expressed his thanks to the proposer and seconder, and to the Council for the honour conferred upon him, in electing him as Mayor, before presenting Councillor Aldridge, the retiring Mayor, with his Past Mayor's engraved Shield.

3. Informed Members that his Mayoress would be Jacqueline Johnson.)

B. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

The Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of Deputy Mayor.

The following nominations, were moved and seconded:

- Councillor Terry Devine
- Councillor Marilyn Westley

Councillors Devine and Mrs Westley accepted the nomination.

A vote was taken as follows:

Councillor Terry Devine – 26 (TWENTY SIX)

Councillor Marilyn Westley - 27, (TWENTY SEVEN)

Councillor Mrs Westley signified her acceptance of office.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Marilyn Westley be appointed Deputy Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.

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

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. Informed Members that her Deputy Mayoress would be Councillor Doreen Stephenson.)

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

The Mayor announced:

- A. That his Chaplain for the year would be Father Godric of St Anne's Church, Ormskirk.
- B. That Civic Sunday would be held at the end of September.
- C. That fund-raising activities for his year in office would be the Birchwood Centre, St. Anne's Scouts and Guides, and the Alfie Lund Fund.

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 2021/22 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 Ian Moran
- Councillor David Westley

Councillors Moran and D Westley accepted the nominations.

A vote was taken as follows:

Councillor Ian Moran – 26 (TWENTY SIX)
Councillor David Westley – 21 (TWENTY ONE)
Abstentions – 6 (SIX)

Councillor Ian Moran indicated his 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 Ian Moran be elected as the Leader of the Council for a term of office expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting in 2022.

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 2021/22, 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 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

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.

8 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES ETC 2021/22

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources, as contained on pages 21 to 24 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 2021/22.

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

A Motion to approve recommendations 2.1 to 2.4 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.

A vote was taken on the Substantive Motion, 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 1 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 (11 Members: 5 LAB 4 CON 2 OWL)
 - (ii) Planning Committee (14 Members: 6 LAB 5 CON 2 OWL 1 IND)
 - (iii) Licensing & Appeals Committee (12 Members: 6 LAB 5 CON 1 OWL)
 - (iv) Licensing & Gambling Committee (10 Members: 5 LAB 4 CON 1 OWL)
 - (v) Investigating Committee (6 Members: 3 LAB 2 CON 1 OWL)
 - (vi) Chief Officers Committee (6 Members: 3 LAB 2 CON 1 OWL)
 - (vii) Audit & Governance Committee (10 Members: 5 LAB 4 CON 1 OWL)
 - (viii) Edge Hill University/West Lancashire Borough Council Forum (2 LAB 1 CON 1 OWL)
- B. That in accordance with the wishes of the group, the group Leaders submit names in relation to appointment to Committees etc 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 revised Labour appendix circulated prior to the meeting.
- 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 the revised Appendix 1 to the report, with the terms of reference included in the Constitution.

9 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 revised Labour Appendix 1 to the report, considered at agenda item 8, 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, subject to the removal of the nomination for Corporate & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Cllr James Upjohn).

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.

At the request of a Member, where there was more than one nominee for the appointment of Chairman or Vice-Chairman, voting was recorded as follows:

(i) Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee Chairman:

Councillor Carl Coughlan – 26

(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor Adrian Owens – 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

(ii) Planning Committee Chairman:

Councillor Gaynar Owen – 26

(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor David O'Toole – 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs

Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

(iii) Audit & Governance Committee Chairman:

Councillor Neil Furey – 26

(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor Eddie Pope – 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

(iv) Polling Districts & Polling Places Review Committee Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Gareth Dowling – 25

(TWENTY FIVE) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor David Whittington – 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

Abstentions – 1 (ONE) (Councillor Upjohn)

(v) Strategic Asset Purchasing Committee Chairman:

Councillor Ian Moran – 26

(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor Ian Rigby – 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell,

Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

(vi) Licensing & Appeals Committee Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Noel Delaney – 26

(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor John Mee – 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

(vii) Licensing & Gambling Committee Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Terry Devine – 26

(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor John Mee – 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

(viii) Investigating Committee Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Kevin Wilkie – 25

(TWENTY FIVE) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor John Gordon - 27

(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs

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Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

Abstentions – 1
(ONE) (Councillor Upjohn)

(ix) CCTV Committee Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Kevin Wilkie – 26
(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor John Gordon – 27
(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

(x) Chief Officers Committee Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Ian Moran – 26
(TWENTY SIX) (Councillors: Aldridge, Coughlan, Cummins, Delaney, Dereli, Devine, Dowling, D Evans, S Evans, Fennell, Finch, Furey, Gagen, Gregson, Lockie, Monaghan, Moran, Nixon, O'Neill, Owen, Pryce-Roberts, Upjohn, West, J Wilkie, K Wilkie and Yates)

Councillor Ian Davis – 27
(TWENTY SEVEN) (Councillors: Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Blake, Blane, Blundell, Clandon, Daniels, Davis, Eccles, Gordon, Hirrell, Johnson, Jukes, Mrs Marshall, Mee, Mitchell, O'Toole, Owens, Pope, Rigby, Mrs Stephenson, Sutton, Thompson, Turpin, D Westley, Mrs Westley, Whittington and Witter)

RESOLVED: That Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2021/22 be appointed as follows:

- A. Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Chairman: Councillor Adrian Owens
Vice Chairman: Councillor Neil Furey
- B. Corporate & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Chairman: Councillor Donna West

Vice Chairman: Councillor Julian Finch

- C. Planning Committee
Chairman: Councillor David O'Toole
Vice Chairman: Councillor Susan Evans
- D. Licensing & Appeals Committee
Chairman: Councillor Terry Devine
Vice-Chairman: Councillor John Mee
- E. Licensing & Gambling Committee
Chairman: Councillor Delaney
Vice-Chairman: Councillor John Mee
- F. Standards Committee
Chairman: Councillor Ian Moran
Vice Chairman: Councillor David Westley
- H. Investigating Committee
Chairman: Councillor Jenny Wilkie
Vice-Chairman: Councillor John Gordon
- J. Chief Officers Committee
Chairman: Councillor Yvonne Gagen
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Ian Davis
- K. Audit & Governance Committee
Chairman: Councillor Eddie Pope
Vice Chairman: Councillor Paul O'Neill
- L. CCTV Committee
Chairman: Councillor Nichola Pryce-Roberts
Vice-Chairman: Councillor John Gordon
- M. Polling Districts & Polling Places Review Committee
Chairman: Councillor David Evans
Vice-Chairman: Councillor David Whittington
- N. Strategic Asset Purchasing Committee
Chairman: Councillor Ian Rigby
Vice Chairman: Councillor David Evans

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THE MAYOR