

ANNUAL COUNCIL

21 MAY 2019

R. J. Awty (Chairman)

PRESENT:

Anketell J.
Ball C. J.
Baker, D. F.
Barnett, S. A.
Binney N. D.
Birch R. J.
Brown B. J.
Checkland J.
Cox, R. E.
Cross D. G.
Eadie, I.M.
Eagland, J. M.
Ennis D. M. O.
Ennis L. J.
Evans, C. D.
Grange, J. K.

Greatorex, C.
Gwilt B. J.
Ho W.
Humphreys, K. P.
Lax, A. C.
Leytham, D. J.
Little, A. M.
Little, E. A.
Marshall, T.
Matthews, T. R.
Norman S. G.
Parton-Hughes J. A.
Powell, J. J. R.
Pullen, D.R.
Ray, P. W. W.
Robertson D. C.

Salter, D. F.
Silvester-Hall J.
Smith, A. F.
Spruce, C. J.
Strachan, R. W.
Tapper S. J.
Warburton H. A.
Warfield, M. A.
Westwood B.
White, A. G.
Wilcox, M. J.
Wilcox S
Yeates, A.
Yeates, B. W.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Banevicius.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2019/2020

It was proposed by Councillor Salter, seconded by Councillor Marshall and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Powell be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

Councillor Powell made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested with the Chairman's Chain and Badge of Office following which Mrs Powell was invested with her Badge of Office. Councillor Powell then thanked Members for his election as Chairman.

COUNCILLOR POWELL (CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL) IN THE CHAIR

4 VOTE OF THANKS

It was proposed by Councillor Smith, duly seconded and

RESOLVED: That the sincere thanks of the Council be accorded to Mr Awty and Mrs Awty for their services to the Council and the Community during the previous Municipal Year.

Mr Awty and Mrs Awty were then presented with their replica badges of office and Mr Awty thanked those who had supported him during his term of office.

5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 APRIL 2019

It was proposed, duly seconded and

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16 April 2019 (Volume 46 Part 6 Minute Book) as printed and previously circulated be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6 TO RECEIVE THE RETURNING OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS ON 2 MAY 2019 AND HER REPORT ON COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Returning Officer submitted her report on the election of District Councillors at the election held on 2 May 2019.

RESOLVED: That the report be received.

7 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2019/2020

It was proposed by Councillor Wilcox, seconded by Councillor Leytham and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Cross be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

Councillor Cross signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and the Chairman invested Councillor Cross and Mrs Cross with their Badges of Office. Councillor Cross then thanked Members for his appointment as Vice-Chairman.

8 VOTE OF THANKS

It was proposed by Councillor Eadie, duly seconded and

RESOLVED: That the sincere thanks of the Council be accorded to Mrs Bacon and her consort Mr Bacon for their services to the Council and the community during the previous Municipal Year.

9 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised that his chosen charity would be the Lichfield Foodbank.

10 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) Audit and Member Standards Committee – 24 April 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Strachan "that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit and Member Standards Committee held on 24 April 2019 be approved and adopted."

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit and Member Standards Committee held on 24 April 2019 be approved and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 29 April 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Marshall “that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 29 April 2019 be approved and adopted.”

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 29 April 2019 be approved and adopted.

11 ELECTION OF LEADER AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Eadie and seconded by Councillor White “that Councillor Pullen be appointed Leader of the District Council.”

Councillor Norman thanked Councillor Wilcox for his work and paid tribute to the former Leader of the Labour Group. He indicated he was unable to support the proposal unless Councillor Pullen advised people not to support the local Members of Parliament Michael Fabricant and Christopher Pincher given the money taken away from local government, the closure and privatisation of services and redundancies. He said this would also be welcomed by Burntwood residents fighting to protect the greenbelt, an issue which the local Member of Parliament was very quiet about.

Following a vote it was:

RESOLVED: That Councillor Pullen be elected as Leader of the District Council

Councillor Eadie paid tribute to Councillor Wilcox for the leadership he had provided and the way he had represented the Council which included taking leading roles with the Local Government Association and Local Enterprise Partnerships.

Councillor Wilcox thanked Members for the opportunity they had given him to lead the Council and said it had been a great privilege. He thanked those that had worked with him and supported him during his time as Leader and said he would continue to work for the good of the Council and the District’s residents.

Councillor Pullen noted that Councillor Wilcox had led the Council through some difficult times and it was better off for his leadership. He extended his thanks to all outgoing Cabinet Members, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for their work.

It was then proposed by Councillor Pullen and seconded by Councillor White “that Councillor Eadie be appointed as Deputy Leader of the District Council.”

RESOLVED: That Councillor Eadie be appointed as Deputy Leader of the District Council.

12 MEMBERSHIP OF CABINET, COMMITTEES AND PANELS INCLUDING ALLOCATION OF SEATS AND APPOINTMENTS BY POLITICAL GROUPS

It was proposed by Councillor Pullen and duly seconded “that the Membership of Cabinet, Committees and Panels including the allocation of seats and appointments by Political Groups as submitted be approved.”

RESOLVED: That the Membership of Cabinet, Committees and Panels including the allocation of seats and appointments by political groups as submitted be approved.

13 ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN AND APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES, PANELS ETC.

It was proposed by Councillor Pullen and duly seconded “that the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees and Panels as submitted be approved.”

RESOLVED: That the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Committees and Panels as submitted be approved.

14 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

It was proposed by Councillor Pullen and duly seconded that the appointment of representatives on outside bodies as submitted be approved.”

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies as submitted be approved.

15 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Members noted that the Constitution was reviewed on a regular basis and updated to reflect decisions made by the Council and relevant committees, changes to legislation and recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

Following a recent review, the Cabinet Member for Legal and Regulatory Services submitted proposed amendments to the constitution.

It was seconded by Councillor Spruce and

RESOLVED: That the amendments to Lichfield District Council's Constitution, as submitted, be approved.

16 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Motions on Notice

(i) The following Motion was submitted by Councillor White:

"This Council proposes that the Leader should write to Government to request that all enabling works for HS2 in Lichfield District should be paused until the notice to proceed to main works contractors has been approved. As required by the Department of Transport, notice to proceed should not be given until management capability, affordability of contracts and robustness of revised business case have all been proven. We see no reason why the District should suffer significant disruption and long term environmental destruction until detailed design and cost has been

approved. We also ask that HS2 Ltd significantly improves the effectiveness of its community engagement with those impacted by the line."

It was duly seconded and

RESOLVED: That the Motion be carried.

(ii) The following motion, as amended at the meeting, was submitted by Councillor Lax:

"That this Council addresses, in all its written, digital and verbal communications, all of its Members in a consistent, respectful and equal manner which does not differentiate between their gender or their marital status.

It has been custom and practice for the Council to add the honorific title to female councillors, but not to do so for male councillors. It is recognised that this was only ever intended to be polite and respectful but it is felt that addressing all Members in the same consistent manner better reflects our ambitions to be truly inclusive and empowering. Of course, to differentiate between Councillors with the same surname, we can use their commonly used name rather than their title."

It was seconded by Councillor Evans and

RESOLVED: That the Motion be carried.

(The Meeting closed at 7.10 pm)

CHAIRMAN