

ANNUAL COUNCIL

14th May 2024

Present: **The Mayor, Councillor Louis Stephen, in the Chair**

Councillors Agar, Ali, Allcott, Amos, Barnes, Cockeram, Collier, Cookson, Cooper, Cross, Denham, Desayrah, Gregson, Hussain, Jagger, Kimberley, Kinnersley, Lamb, Laurenson, Lawrance, Lewing, Mace, Murray, Norfolk, Pingree, Riaz, Round, Rudge, Sadiq, Scott, Smith, Sobczyk, Udall and Willmore

The Mayor's Orator, Rhianna Levi, addressed the Council before commencement of the formal business of the Council

1 ELECTION OF MAYOR

Nominations were sought for the position of Mayor. It was proposed by Councillor Lawrance and seconded by Councillor Murray that Councillor Allcott be nominated for the position. Both Councillor Lawrance and Councillor Murray spoke in support of the nomination.

The Mayor asked for further nominations. No further nominations were proposed.

On being put to the vote it was agreed and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Allcott be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2024/25.

COUNCILLOR ALLCOTT IN THE CHAIR

2 MAYOR'S CONSORT/MAYORESS AND PRESENTATION OF BADGE

The Mayor informed the Council that her main Consort will be her partner, Andrew Lee, who will be assisted by Mike Mullins and Stuart Wild. The Mayor presented Andrew Lee with the Consort's Badge.

3 VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR

Councillor Lewing proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor, Councillor Stephen. She paid tribute to his work during his year in office on behalf of the Council.

4 PRESENTATION OF PAST MAYOR'S BADGE

The Mayor presented Councillor Stephen with the Past Mayor's badge.

5 RESPONSE FROM RETIRING MAYOR

Councillor Stephen thanked the Council and summarised the highlights of his year in office.

He also thanked the many people who had supported him during his year. He paid particular tribute to Gill Preece, Civic Services Administrator, who had played a significant role in co-ordinating and delivering civic events throughout his Mayoral Year.

6 PRESENTATION OF PAST MAYORESS'S BADGE

Councillor Stephen presented his wife, Katey Stephen, with the past Mayoress's badge.

7 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Welcome to Newly Elected Members

The Mayor welcomed newly-elected Councillors Barnes, Hussain, Kimberley, Kinnersley, Mace, Rudge, Sobczyk and Scott.

Tribute to Past Councillors

The Mayor thanked former Councillors Cleary, Hodgson and Stanley for their past service to the Council.

Mayor's Chaplain

The Mayor informed the Council that she will invite Chaplains from different religions, and also a non-religious person, to address each Council meeting.

Mayor's Charities

The Mayor announced Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Centre as her charity for the year.

Mayoral Theme for the Year

The Mayor announced that her theme for the year will be "Youth Matters."

Dates of Key Civic Events

The Mayor announced that her Civic Service will take place on 23rd June 2024 and the Inaugural Banquet will be on 27th September 2024.

Refreshments

The Mayor invited everyone to join her for refreshments in the Mayor's Parlour at the end of the meeting.

8 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Council proceeded to consider the appointment of the Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2024/25.

It was proposed by Councillor Norfolk and seconded by Councillor Agar that Councillor Lamb be nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor. Both Councillor Norfolk and Councillor spoke in support of the nomination.

There were no further nominations. On being put to the vote it was agreed and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Lamb be elected as Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2024/25.

9 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

10 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

11 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER(S) OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Denham and seconded by Councillor Riaz that this item and the two subsequent items be deferred to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council scheduled to take place immediately following this meeting, after consideration of the Notice of Motion on the agenda for the Extraordinary Meeting. Upon being put to the vote, the Council agreed to defer these three items.

12 POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

This item was deferred to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council scheduled to take place immediately following this meeting.

13 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES, APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS AND OUTSIDE BODIES APPOINTMENTS

This item was deferred to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council scheduled to take place immediately following this meeting.

14 REPORT OF RETURNING OFFICER

The Council received the report of the Returning Officer that summarised the results of the City Council Election held on Thursday, 2nd May 2024.

RESOLVED: That the Council note the results of the City Council Election held on 2nd May 2024.

15 REPORT ON COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES

In accordance with the Local Authority (Members' Allowances) Regulations, the Council received a report on allowances paid to Members in the financial year 2023/24.

RESOLVED: That the Council note the allowances paid to Members in the financial year 2023/24.

16 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council received a schedule of dates for meetings of the Council until July 2025.

RESOLVED: That the Council agree to note the dates for meetings of the Council until the end of July 2025.

Duration of the meeting: 7.00p.m. – 7.30p.m.

Chair at the meeting on
9th July 2024