

## **BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday, 5th September, 2019

Present:- **Councillors** Rob Appleyard, Tim Ball, Sarah Bevan, Colin Blackburn, Alison Born, Shelley Bromley, Neil Butters, Paul Crossley, Gerry Curran, Chris Dando, Jess David, Tom Davies, Sally Davis, Winston Duguid, Mark Elliott, Michael Evans, Andrew Furse, Alan Hale, Liz Hardman, Steve Hedges, Joel Hirst, Lucy Hodge, Duncan Hounsell, Shaun Hughes, Eleanor Jackson, Grant Johnson, Dr Kumar, Matt McCabe, Ruth Malloy, Sarah Moore, Robin Moss, Paul Myers, Lisa O'Brien, Michelle O'Doherty, Bharat Pankhania, June Player, Vic Pritchard, Manda Rigby, Dine Romero, Richard Samuel, Bruce Shearn, Brian Simmons, Alastair Singleton, Karen Walker, Sarah Warren, Karen Warrington, Andy Wait, Chris Watt, Ryan Wills, David Wood and Joanna Wright

Apologies for absence: **Councillors** Vic Clarke, Douglas Deacon, Kevin Guy, Hal MacFie, Paul May, Mark Roper and Shaun Stephenson-McGall

#### **37 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure, as set out on the agenda.

#### **38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Personal ('other') interests were noted for item 41 from the Members of the Restructuring Implementation Committee who had taken part in the recruitment process; Councillors Dine Romero, Paul Myers, Karen Walker and Robin Moss. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that they could take part in the debate and vote.

#### **39 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL OR FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chair made the customary announcement regarding telephones and electronic devices.

She thanked those who made the Civic service on 21st July 2019 possible. The hard hitting sermon by Revd Dr Keith Clements, entitled 'Are we still of any use?' is available from the Chair. She announced that the collection for the Swallows charity for those with learning difficulties amounted to £193.

The Chair was privileged to attend the 75th Double Hills Arnhem glider disaster anniversary on 1st September, and laid a floral tribute.

The Chair drew Councillors' attention to the Chair's Awards, which have just been launched. There are new categories this year including for those who go 'above and beyond' their duties. She hoped to see nominations from across Bath and North East Somerset.

She concluded by giving apologies for the next Full Council meeting as it coincides with a family wedding.

**40 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

There were no items of urgent business.

**41 APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DESIGNATION AS HEAD OF PAID SERVICE AND RETURNING OFFICER**

The Council considered a report recommending appointment of a new Chief Executive.

In moving the recommendations, Councillor Dine Romero informed Council of the rigorous recruitment process they had undertaken and outlined some of the key strengths Mr Godfrey would bring to the role. This was followed by further positive endorsements from Councillors Paul Myers, Karen Walker and Robin Moss in their capacity as Group Leaders and Spokespersons.

All Group Leaders also took the opportunity to thank Ashley Ayre for his exemplary leadership of the Council since September 2016 and wished him well for the future.

On a motion from Councillor Dine Romero, seconded by Councillor Paul Myers, it was

**RESOLVED** unanimously, on a recommendation from the Restructuring Implementation Committee, that Council approves;

1. The appointment of Chief Executive to Mr Will Godfrey on a salary of £147,000 per annum within the approved range with a start date of 7 October 2019.
2. The designation of the postholder as Head of Paid Service under section 4 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 with effect from 7 October 2019; and
3. The designation of the postholder as Returning Officer for all elections and Electoral Registration Officer with effect from 7 October 2019.

The meeting ended at 5.45 pm

Chairman .....

Date Confirmed and Signed .....

**Prepared by Democratic Services**