

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 26th May, 2020

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

Apologies for absence: **Councillors** Sue Craig and Bruce Shearn

1 ELECTION OF CHAIR(MAN) FOR 2020/21

It was proposed by Councillor Dine Romero, seconded by Councillor Paul Myers, and supported by Councillors Karen Walker and Robin Moss then

RESOLVED that Councillor Andy Furse be elected Chairman of the Council for the Council year 2020/21.

The new Chairman made his declaration and acceptance of office. He explained that his preferred term of address was 'Chairman'. As the meeting was being held virtually, it was acknowledged that separate arrangements would need to be made regarding the ceremonial aspect of accepting the chain of office for the new Chair and Vice-Chair.

2 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR(MAN) FOR 2020/21

It was proposed by Councillor Paul Myers, seconded by Councillor Dine Romero, and supported by Councillors Karen Walker and Robin Moss and then

RESOLVED that Councillor Lisa O'Brien be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the Council year 2020/21.

Councillor O'Brien made her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for her appointment.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

4 MINUTES - 25TH FEBRUARY 2020

On a motion from Councillor Dine Romero, seconded by Councillor Rob Appleyard, it was unanimously

RESOLVED that the minutes of 25th February 2020 be approved as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman when possible.

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL OR FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

It was proposed by Councillor Dine Romero, seconded by Councillor Paul Myers, and supported by Councillors Karen Walker and Robin Moss and

RESOLVED that this Council places on record its appreciation of the services performed by Councillor Eleanor Jackson in the office of Chairman of the Council for 2019/20.

Councillor Eleanor Jackson then addressed the Council and thanked Councillors and a wide range of officers and teams for their kind comments and support. She described how she had re-shaped the Chair role to have more focus on North East Somerset whilst being an ambassador for the whole of the region. She drew attention to the Council's 'inclusivity', enabling a Councillor with considerable physical disabilities to perform the role and, as a bus pass waving OAP, get the job done. She mentioned her support for Bath, Keynsham and Radstock in Bloom and various veteran's charities and the British Legion. Councillor Jackson concluded by highlighting the need to maintain justice, freedom and human dignity as we move into a changed world.

The Chairman then;

1. Made his opening speech in which he thanked the outgoing Chair and the residents of Kingsmead ward. He acknowledged the unique circumstances in which he took over as Chairman and the struggles which many residents had had to endure and thanked keyworkers and Council staff going above and beyond to maintain vital services. He highlighted the particular issues 18 – 25 year olds may face and stressed the need for opportunities to be made available to support them, and in particular for employers to look to our local FE College to offer help with job and apprentice opportunities. He also endorsed the work of B&NES Citizens Advice who do an amazing job supporting some of our most vulnerable and distraught residents.
2. Invited the Council to observe a minute's silence following the recent death of former B&NES Councillor Trevor Deacon and also in recognition of all those who have lost their life from coronavirus.

6 URGENT DECISIONS TO NOTE

Council noted the urgent decisions that had been taken under urgency provisions within the Constitution.

7 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS AND OTHER ANNUAL BUSINESS

The Council considered a report regarding appointment of its non-executive and regulatory Committee arrangements for the Council Year May 2020 to May 2021 and associated annual business.

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

RESOLVED

1. Approve the structure for non-executive and regulatory decision making and Policy Development & Scrutiny working (set out in current form in Appendix 1 to the report);
2. Accordingly, appoint those bodies with membership, terms of reference and delegated powers as set out in the Constitution, noting the revisions outlined in paragraph 4.3 of the report;
3. Approve the allocation of seats on those Committees and Panels (such seats to be filled in accordance with the nominations made by the political groups);
4. Appoint to chair each committee and panel those Councillors as may from time to time be nominated by the political group to whom the chairmanship of the body is allocated;
5. Authorise the Monitoring Officer to fill any casual vacancies in membership of all the bodies constituted and vacancy in the office of Chair of such bodies in accordance with the wishes of the political groups;
6. Determine the bodies on which co-opted and independent members are to have seats, as either voting or non-voting members and appoint such members accordingly (current arrangements are set out in Appendix 1 to the report);
7. Authorise the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairs of the Policy Development & Scrutiny Panels, to constitute and support any required Panel joint working as outlined in section 5 of the report;
8. Note the arrangements for the conduct of Cabinet business, as set out in section 6 of the report;
9. Instruct the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with Group Leaders, to make appointments on non-executive outside bodies and note that the Leader or Cabinet Members will do so for executive outside bodies, where such vacancies arise;
10. Note the adoption of the Virtual Meetings Procedure rules, as set out in section 8 of the report;

11. Note the calendar of meeting dates that has been prepared up to May 2021 which is available on the Council's website;
12. Authorise the Monitoring Officer to make and publicise any amendment to the Council's Constitution required, or take any other necessary action, as a result of decisions taken at this meeting on this and other reports within the agenda, or otherwise as required by law.

8 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER ADVOCATES

The Council considered a report seeking appointment to various Member Advocate positions.

In moving the recommendations, Councillor Dine Romero raised a small change to the Cabinet Member responsibility set out in the report so that the responsible Cabinet Member for the Twinning and the Community & Public Buildings roles will be herself.

On her motion, seconded by Councillor Paul May, it was unanimously

RESOLVED that

1. The following Councillors be appointed as Member Advocates;

MEMBER ADVOCATE	AREA	CABINET MEMBER
Cllr Sue Craig	Great Spas of Europe	Cllr Paul Crossley
Cllr Jess David	Biodiversity	Cllr Sarah Warren
Cllr Alan Hale	Safer Roads	Cllr Joanna Wright
Cllr Yuktेशwar Kumar	BAME issues	Cllr Dine Romero
Cllr Ruth Malloy	Twining	Cllr Dine Romero
Cllr Paul Myers	Community & Public Buildings	Cllr Dine Romero
Cllr Alastair Singleton	Renewable Energy	Cllr Sarah Warren
Cllr Shaun Stephenson-McGall	Engagement with students	Cllr Dine Romero
Cllr Chris Watt	Looked After Children	Cllr Kevin Guy
Cllr Ryan Wills	Rural Communities	Cllr Dine Romero

2. The above Councillors be requested to report briefly in writing to the Council AGM each year on their activity.

9 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHARITABLE TRUST BOARD

The Council considered a report updating on the work of the Charitable Trust Board over the past year.

On a motion from Councillor Paul Crossley, seconded by Councillor Karen Walker, it was unanimously

RESOLVED to note the report.

The meeting ended at 5.48 pm

Chair

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services