

COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 17 MAY 2019

PRESENT:- The Worshipful The Mayor in the Chair; Councillors Junab Ali, Abdul Amin, John Ballman, Ray Ballman, Alan Bishop, Nick Burns-Howell, Emma Bushell, Matthew Courtliff, Malcolm Davies, Paul Dixon, Oliver Donachie, Steph Exell, Emma Faramarzi, Brian Ford, Jim Grant, Dale Heenan, Steve Heyes, Russell Holland, Oladapo Ibitoye, Janine Howarth, Robert Jandy, Jenny Jefferies, Vinay Manro, Mary Martin, Nick Martin, Cathy Martyn, Brian Mattock, Jane Milner-Barry, Des Moffatt, Stan Pajak, Barbara Parry, Maureen Penny, Garry Perkins, David Renard, Adorabelle Shaikh, Imtiyaz Shaikh, Carol Shelley, Kevin Small, Roger Smith, Bazil Solomon, Andy Spry, Gary Sumner, Timothy Swinyard, Caryl Sydney-Smith, Rahul Tarar, Vera Tomlinson, Nadine Watts, Peter Watts, Steve Weisinger, Keith Williams and Robert Wright.

1. Mayor's Announcements

(1) The Mayor welcomed the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire and other distinguished guests to the meeting.

(2) The Mayor welcomed those Councillors Nicholas Burns-Howell, Steven Heyes, Oladapo Ibitoye, Robert Jandy, Jennifer Jefferies, Vinay Manro, Adorabelle Shaikh and Bazil Solomon who had been newly elected in the Elections held on 2nd May 2019.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Steve Allsopp, Claire Crilly, Mark Dempsey, Fay Howard and Jim Robbins.

3. To elect a qualified person to be Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2019/20

The Mayor (Councillor Junab Ali) called upon the Councillors to elect a qualified person to be Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year, 2019/20.

Councillor Dale Heenan moved, Councillor David Renard seconded and the Council unanimously agreed that Councillor Kevin Parry be Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year. Councillors David Renard, Jim Grant and Stan Pajak offered their support and congratulations to the Mayor, on behalf of their political groups.

Councillor Kevin Parry made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

(The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Kevin Parry) in the Chair.)

The Mayor thanked the Council for his election to the post of Mayor of the Borough.

Councillor Bob Wright moved and Councillor Abdul Amin seconded and it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Junab Ali be thanked for his year of service as Mayor of the Borough.

4. To elect a qualified person to be Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2019/20

The Mayor called upon the Councillors to elect a qualified person to be Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year, 2018/19.

Councillor David Renard moved, Councillor Oliver Donachie seconded and the Council agreed that Councillor Garry Perkins be Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Garry Perkins) thanked the Council for his election to the post of Deputy Mayor of the Borough.

5. Return of Councillors Elected

The Interim Director of Law reported the return of Councillors elected on 2nd May 2019, to fill vacancies occasioned by the retirement of Councillors under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 namely:-

WARD	NAME OF COUNCILLOR ELECTED
Blunsdon and Highworth	Alan John Bishop
Central	Adorabelle Domnica Amaral
Chiseldon and Lawn	Jennifer Mary Jefferies
Covingham and Dorcan	Dale James Heenan
Eastcott	Paul Andrew Dixon
Gorse Hill and Pinehurst	John Ballman
Haydon Wick	David Charles Renard
Liden, Eldene and Park	Bazil Stanley Solomon
South	
Lydiard and Freshbrook	Caryl Ann Sydney-Smith
Mannington and Western	Stephanie Gail Exell
Old Town	Nicholas James Andrew Burns-Howell
Penhill and Upper Stratton	Oladapo Ibitoye
Priory Vale	Vinay Manro
Rodbourne Cheney	James Patrick Grant
Shaw	Nicholas David Martin
St. Andrews	Steven John Heyes
St. Margaret and South Marston	Robert Jandy

Walcot and Park North Emma Bushell
Wroughton and Wichelstowe Catherine Anne Martyn

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Russell Holland seconded:

“That the return of Councillors be noted and that those Councillors who have retired from the Council be thanked for their service.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

6. Communications

The Chief Executive reported that no communications had been received.

7. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2019, be confirmed and signed.

8. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

9. Public Question Time

Mrs Hilary Ranford submitted a written question regarding the publication of agendas and minutes relating to the Climate Change Working Group. The Cabinet Member for Corporate and Operational Excellence responded at the meeting and indicated that a written response to the question would be provided.

Ms Joy Corrigan asked a public question regarding work undertaken by the Climate Change Working Group. The Cabinet Member for Corporate and Operational Excellence responded at the meeting.

Ms Joy Corrigan asked a supplemental question regarding the appointment of a member of the public to the Climate Change Working Group. The Cabinet Member for Corporate and Operational Excellence responded at the meeting.

Ms Helen Harris asked a public question regarding current and future Council policies to reduce the effects diesel vehicles and Parliament's Declaration of a Climate Emergency. The Cabinet Member for Corporate and Operational Excellence responded at the meeting.

Ms Janet Copestake asked a public question seeking the Council's acceptance that there was a climate emergency. The Leader of the Council responded at the meeting.

Mr Tristan Strange asked a public question seeking clarification for the reasons the Council did not support a recent Council Motion asking the Council to

support the declaration of a climate emergency. The Cabinet Member for Corporate and Operational Excellence responded at the meeting.

10. Election of Leader of Swindon Borough Council

Councillor Russell Holland moved and Councillor Oliver Donachie seconded:

“That Councillor David Renard be appointed as Leader of Swindon Borough Council.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

Councillor David Renard thanked the Council for his appointment and tabled details of his Cabinet appointments (set out on the Council's Website).

11. Adoptions of Revisions to Swindon Borough Council's Constitution

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Russell Holland seconded:

“(1) That the Swindon Borough Council's Constitution for the Municipal Year 2019/20 be adopted.

(2) That the Interim Director of Law be authorised, in consultation with the members of the Corporate Governance Review Working Group where appropriate, to vary the wording and layout of the Constitution and its associated documentation to reflect legislative and procedural changes should this prove necessary for the efficient discharge of Council business during the course of the Municipal Year.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

12. Numbers to Serve on Council Committees

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Russell Holland seconded:

“That the number of Members to serve on Swindon Borough Council's Committees for the Municipal Year 2019/20, be as follows:

Appeals Committee – 25 Members

Appointments Committee – 21 Members

Audit Committee – 7 Members

Licensing Committee – 15 Members

Planning Committee – 15 Members

Special Committee – 9 Members

Scrutiny Committee – 13 Members

Health and Wellbeing Board – 6 Members

Standards Committee – 9 Members

Adults' Health, Adults' Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 9 Members

Children's Health, Social Care and Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 9 Members

Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 9 Members

Growing the Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 9 Members

Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 9 Members
Health and Wellbeing Board – 6 Members
Standards Committee – 9 Members.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

13. Allocation of Seats to Political Groups and Appointments to Committees, Other Bodies and Outside Bodies

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Russell Holland seconded:

“(1) That, having carried out a review under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council continues to apply the political balance provisions under the Act.

(2) That Committees and other relevant Council Bodies be reminded of their duty to carry out a review under Section 15 of the Local Government Housing Act 1989, as appropriate, and recommends that having carried out that review they continue to apply the political balance provisions.

(3) That the Council’s waiving of the political balance arrangements on the Standards Committee and Special Committee be confirmed.

(4) That Councillors be appointed to serve on the Council’s Committees for the Municipal Year 2019/20, as set out as an Appendices to the Minutes.

(5) That the arrangements relating to the Council’s Standards Committee, as set out in Paragraph 3.10 of the report of the Interim Director of Law, be approved.

(6) That Chairs and Vice-Chairs be appointed to the Council’s Committees for the Municipal Year 2019/20, as set out in the Appendices to the Minutes be approved.

(7) That representatives be appointed to serve on Other and Outside Bodies for the Municipal Year 2019/20, be as set out in the Appendices to the Minutes.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

14. Calendar of Meetings 2019/20

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Russell Holland seconded:

“(1) That the Timetable of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2019/20, as tabled at the meeting, be approved.

(2) That the Interim Director of Law, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to vary the dates for meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, Committees and Other Swindon Borough Council bodies should this prove necessary for the efficient discharge of Council business.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

15. Councillors Question Time

The Interim Director of Law reported that Standing Order 15 Questions had been received from Councillor Bob Wright and that written answers would be provided.