

BOROUGH OF TELFORD & WREKIN

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Borough of Telford & Wrekin held on Thursday 23rd May 2013 at 6.30 p.m. at 'The Place', Oakengates, Telford, Shropshire

PRESENT:

Councillors K.R. Guy (Mayor), R.K. Austin, S. Bentley, K.T. Blundell, F.M. Bould, E.J. Carter, E.A. Clare, D.G. Davies, N.A. Dugmore, A.J. Eade, C.B.A. Elliot, A.R.H. England, N.A.M. England, R.C. Evans, I.T.W. Fletcher, V.A. Fletcher, G.M. Green, E.J. Greenaway, K.R. Guy, T.J. Hope, M.B. Hosken, A.S. Jhawar, A. Lawrence, J. Loveridge, A.A. Mackenzie, C.N. Mason, A.D. McClements, W.A.M. McClements, J.C. Minor, C.P.R. Mollett, L.A. Murray, R.A. Overton, F.R. Picken, J. Pinter, G.C.W. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, H. Rhodes, K.S. Sahota, R.G. Scammell, J.M. Seymour, R.J. Sloan, C.F. Smith, M.J. Smith, A.J. Stanton, B.J. Thompson, K.L. Tomlinson, W.L. Tomlinson, C.R. Turley, P.R. Watling and D.R.W. White.

1. WELCOME FROM MAYOR

The Mayor welcomed civic dignitaries, Members and invited guests to the Annual Meeting of the Borough of Telford & Wrekin. In particular he noted the presence of Vice- Lord Lieutenant Edmund Thewles, Lieutenant Colonel Nick Jenkins representing The Rifles and Freeman of the Borough Liz Holt. The Mayor began by asking Members and guests to observe a minutes silence to mark the passing of Drummer Lee Rigby who had been killed at Woolwich on the 22nd of May. The thoughts of all those present were with Fusilier Rigby's family and friends at this very sad time.

Prior to the next item the Mayor presented a Certificate of achievement to Ashley Keegan of Madeley Academy who had received the High Sheriff's Citizenship award for his contribution to his community.

Ashley, a representative of children in care, was described as role model for others and fully deserving of recognition for his achievements.

2. DECLARATION

Councillor J.Pinter read the following declaration:

"Colleagues, aware of our responsibilities to promote democracy and the well-being of all local people, on behalf of the Council, I make this re-commitment to our office as elected representatives.

Elected to serve the public good, we recognise that public office is a privilege granted by the people and not a right.

We, elected representatives of the people of Telford & Wrekin, declare that we will, to the best of our ability, uphold the Council's constitution and serve the community above any private or personal interest."

Members signified their affirmation of the Declaration.

3. ELECTION OF SPEAKER

It was moved by Councillor P.R. Watling, seconded by Councillor R.C. Evans that Councillor D.G. Davies be elected as Speaker of the Council. It was moved by Councillor J.M. Seymour, seconded by Councillor M.B. Hosken that Councillor I.T.W. Fletcher be elected as Speaker of the council. A vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED – that Councillor D.G. Davies be elected as Speaker of the Council for the municipal year 2013-14

4. APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor R.A. Overton, seconded by Councillor F.R. Picken that Councillor L.A. Murray be appointed as Mayor of the Council. Councillor A.J. Eade moved that Councillor M.B.Hosken be appointed Mayor, this was seconded by Councillor E.J. Carter. A vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED – that Councillor L.A. Murray be appointed as Mayor of the Council for the municipal year 2013-14.

5. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor E.A. Clare, seconded by Councillor C.N. Mason, that Councillor M.J. Smith be appointed as Deputy Mayor. A vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED – that Councillor M.J. Smith be appointed as Deputy Mayor of the Council for the municipal year 2013-14.

6. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR

A vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor, Councillor K.R. Guy, was proposed by Councillor R.C. Evans and seconded by Councillor C.B.A. Elliott. Councillor Evans told the meeting that the retiring Mayor had carried out his Mayoral role with dedication and had been an exceptional ambassador for the Borough. He had also been an excellent Chairman of council meetings. Councillor C.B.A. Elliott paid tribute to the personal qualities of the outgoing Mayor and commended him on a fine year in office. A number of other Members also paid tribute to the retiring Mayor for all his hard work in representing the Borough over the past year.

RESOLVED – that the Council recorded its thanks to the retiring Mayor, Councillor K.R. Guy for his service over the 2012-13 term of office.

7. REPLY TO VOTE OF THANKS

In response, the retiring Mayor thanked his partner Gary, his parents and Grandfather, Councillor R.C. Evans and Mayoral staff for their support during the year. He also thanked Nick Holding and Adrian Osborne from the Shropshire & Telford Hospital Trust for their support with his charitable fund raising for the new Women and Children's Unit at The Princess Royal Hospital, Telford. The "Caring for our future appeal" was to raise money for a fun, learning, high-tech facility at the new Women and Children's Unit at the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford. The appeal focussed on supporting young patients to "thrive, learn and play" and the facilities could include a special garden room and an internal classroom. He felt sure that the newly appointed Mayor would do an outstanding job in the next year.

Highlights of his year included the Queen's visit to Cosford and the arrival of the Olympic torch in the Borough. He had also been immensely proud to meet the Borough's Olympians and Paralympians. An estimated total of £45K had been raised for his chosen charity, the Women & Children's unit at Princess Royal Hospital.

8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors S.P. Burrell, S. Davies, M.G. Ion and R.T. Kiernan

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

10. MINUTES

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 2nd May, 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Speaker.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor, Councillor L.A. Murray, told the meeting that it was a great privilege to be Mayor of the Borough. He thanked family, friends, colleagues and Mayoral staff for their support. He also paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor's excellent year in office.

His chosen charities were the Severn Hospice (Telford) and Wellington Cottage Care Trust .

12. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET

Councillor K.S. Sahota, leader of the Council, welcomed Members and guests to the Annual meeting and notified the meeting of Cabinet appointments.

Councillor Sahota reflected on some memorable moments from the previous year. In particular he noted the Queen's visit, the Olympic flame and the successes of Paralympians Mickey Bushell and Danni Brown.

The year had been a difficult one in the face of significant public spending reductions. The values and priorities of the Co-operative council were clear to see and significant achievement had been made:

- Volunteer snow wardens scheme
- The growing number of town & parish councils working with the Borough to provide environmental action teams to improve their areas
- The council's commitment to the way we live-- values of openness, honesty fairness, respect, involvement and ownership – one of the only Councils to publish its expenditure above £100 and inviting filming of meetings – a direct result of the Transparency Policy.
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The number one priority was to fight hard for jobs and growth, making Telford a place to do business. Jobs and growth would provide opportunities and create wealth for the people of the Borough. Key points were:

- A Business winning and supporting culture
- Opening of First Point for business to make it easier for companies to contact and do business with the Council
- Reducing bureaucracy, making the planning process simpler.
- Small Business Loans Fund – which had already lent over £200,000 to local firms to help protect and create jobs.
- Southwater development taking shape
- More focus on developing commercial opportunities to create income, eg housing rental market
- 125 Apprentices working for the council and 300 apprenticeships created in local businesses
- 22,000 people and 120 businesses signed up to Telford Loyalty Card
- Stabilisation scheme in Jackfield to protect The Gorge

The future presented a number of challenges:

- Tackling unemployment
- Reducing Health Inequality
- Narrowing the gap between most affluent and deprived areas of Borough

Despite significant spending cuts the Leader told the meeting that the council was determined to move forward, tackling challenges and adapting to change.

RESOLVED – that the Membership of the Cabinet, as notified by Councillor K.S. Sahota, be appointed for the municipal year 2013-14 as set out in Appendix 1 to these Minutes.

13. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, BOARDS, ETC.

Proposals for the appointment of Committees, Commissions and Boards, etc. in accordance with the political balance of the Council had been submitted. A vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED – that the internal bodies for the municipal year 2013-14, (including the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen) be appointed as set out in Appendix 2 to these Minutes.

14. PROGRAMME OF ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

The programme of dates for ordinary meetings of the Council for 2013/14 would be as follows:

2012	2013
Thursday 11 July Thursday 12 September Thursday 21 November	Thursday 23 January Thursday 27 February Thursday 1 May

Mayor:

Date:

The meeting ended at 7.26 p.m.

APPENDIX 1

Cabinet Member	Area of Responsibility
Cllr Kuldip Sahota	Leader
Cllr Richard Overton	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Public Health & Public Protection
Cllr Paul Watling	Children, Young People & Families
Cllr Shaun Davies	Neighbourhood Services, Employment & Skills
Cllr Liz Clare	Leisure Services & Culture
Cllr Charles Smith	Housing, Development & Borough Towns
Cllr Arnold England	Adult Social Care
Cllr Bill McClements	Finance & Enterprise
Cllr Hilda Rhodes	Customer Services, Libraries & Transport

APPENDIX 2

GOVERNANCE

Standards Committee – 7 Seats	
Cllr S. Davies (Lab) – Vice Chair Cllr N.A.M. England (Lab) – Chair Cllr R.C. Evans (Lab) Cllr T.J. Hope (Con) Cllr M.B. Hosken (Con) Cllr A.D. McClements (Lab) Cllr A.J. Stanton (Con)	

Audit Committee – 7 Seats	
Cllr R.K. Austin (Lab) Cllr D.G. Davies (Lab) – Vice Chair Cllr I.T.W. Fletcher (Con) Cllr A.A. Meredith (Con) Cllr S.A.W. Reynolds (Lab) Cllr R.J. Sloan (Lab) - Chair Cllr W.L. Tomlinson (Lib Dem/I)	

Council Constitution Committee – 7 Seats	
Cllr A.J. Eade (Con) Cllr R.C. Evans (Lab) Cllr I.T.W. Fletcher (Con) Cllr G.M. Green (Lib Dem/I) Cllr K.R. Guy (Lab) Cllr C.F. Smith (Lab) – Vice Chair Cllr M.J. Smith (Lab) - Chair	

Boundary Review Committee - 7 Seats	
Cllr K.T. Blundell (Lib Dem/I) Cllr S. Davies (Lab) Cllr N.A. Dugmore (Con) Cllr A.J. Eade (Con) Cllr A.D. McClements (Lab) Cllr R.A. Overton (Lab) – Vice-Chair Cllr R.J. Sloan (Lab) – Chair	

REGULATORY

Planning Committee – 9 Seats

Cllr N.A. Dugmore (Con)
Cllr I.T.W. Fletcher (Con)
Cllr K.R. Guy (Lab)
Cllr A.S. Jhawar (Lab)
Cllr R.T. Kiernan (Con)
Cllr J.C. Minor (Lab) – Chair
Cllr G.C.W. Reynolds (Lab)
Cllr S.A.W. Reynolds (Lab) – Vice Chair
Cllr C.R. Turley (Lab)

Lab Subs

Cllr J. Loveridge
Cllr A.A. Mackenzie
Cllr C.N. Mason
Cllr R.J. Sloan
Cllr M.J. Smith
Cllr B.J. Thompson

Con Subs

Cllr V.A. Fletcher
Cllr A.A. Meredith
Cllr C.P.R. Mollett

Licensing Committee – 10 Seats

Cllr T.J. Hope (Con)
Cllr A.A. Mackenzie (Lab)
Cllr C.N. Mason (Lab) – Chair
Cllr R.G. Scammell (Con)
Cllr J.M. Seymour (Con)
Cllr R.J. Sloan (Lab)
Cllr M.J. Smith (Lab)
Cllr B.J. Thompson (Lab)
Cllr K.L. Tomlinson (Lib Dem/I)
Cllr C.R. Turley (Lab) – Vice Chair

Lab Subs

Con Subs

Lib Dem/Ind
Vacancy

SCRUTINY

Scrutiny Management Board – 7 Seats

Cllr V.A. Fletcher (Con)
Cllr M.G. Ion (Lab)
Cllr A.D. McClements (Lab)
Cllr C.P.R. Mollett (Con)
Cllr S.A.W. Reynolds (Lab)
Cllr C.R. Turley (Lab)
Cllr D.R.W. White (Lab) – Chair

Scrutiny Committee – Finance & Budget – 8 Seats

Cllr R.K. Austin (Lab)
Cllr R.C. Evans (Lab)
Cllr K.R. Guy (Lab)
Cllr A. Lawrence (Con)

Cllr C.P.R. Mollett (Con) Cllr G.C.W. Reynolds (Lab) Cllr S.A.W. Reynolds (Lab) - Chair Cllr A.J. Stanton (Con)	
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Scrutiny Committee – Children & Young People – 8 Seats	
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Cllr S.P. Burrell (Con) Cllr G.M. Green (Lib Dem/I) Cllr E.J. Greenaway (Con) Cllr M.G. Ion (Lab) - Chair Cllr J. Loveridge (Lab) Cllr A.A. Mackenzie (Lab) Cllr J. Pinter (Lab) Cllr C.R. Turley (Lab)	
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Scrutiny Committee – Co-operative & Community – 8 Seats	
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Cllr N.A.M. England (Lab) Cllr E.J. Greenaway (Con) Cllr T.J. Hope (Con) Cllr A.S. Jhawar (Lab) Cllr A.D. McClements (Lab) – Chair Cllr J. Pinter (Lab) Cllr B.J. Thompson (Lab) Cllr K.L. Tomlinson (Lib Dem/I)	
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Scrutiny Committee – Health & Adult Social Care – 8 Seats	
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Cllr F.M. Bould (Lab) Cllr R.C. Evans (Lab) Cllr V.A. Fletcher (Con) Cllr A.A. Meredith (Con) Cllr J.C. Minor (Lab) Cllr F.R. Picken (Lab) Cllr J.M. Seymour (Con) Cllr D.R.W. White (Lab) – Chair	
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Scrutiny Committee – Housing, Economy & Infrastructure – 8 Seats	
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Cllr E.J. Carter (Con) Cllr C.N. Mason (Lab) Cllr C.P.R. Mollett (Con) Cllr J.M. Seymour (Con)	
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Cllr R.J. Sloan (Lab) Cllr B.J. Thompson (Lab) Cllr K.L. Tomlinson (Lib Dem/I) Cllr C.R. Turley (Lab) – Chair	
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Joint Health & Overview Scrutiny Committee – 3 Seats

Cllr V.A. Fletcher (Con) Cllr J.C. Minor (Lab) Cllr D.R.W. White (Lab) – Chair	
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PERSONNEL

Appeals Committee – 7 Seats

Cllr K.T. Blundell (Lib Dem/Ind) Cllr C.B.A. Elliott (Lab) Cllr R.C. Evans (Lab) – Vice Chair Cllr K.R. Guy (Lab) – Chair Cllr A. Lawrence (Con) Cllr A.A. Meredith (Con) Cllr M.J. Smith (Lab)	<u>Lab Subs</u> Cllr E.A. Clare Cllr A.D. McClements Cllr R.J. Sloan Vacancy <u>Con Subs</u> Cllr V.A. Fletcher Cllr R.G. Scammell
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Personnel Committee – 7 Seats

Cllr S.P. Burrell (Con) Cllr E.A. Clare (Lab) Cllr S. Davies (Lab) Cllr A.J. Eade (Con) Cllr K.R. Guy (Lab) Cllr R.A. Overton (Lab) – Vice Chair Cllr K.S. Sahota (Lab) – Chair	
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Employee JICF – 7 Seats

Cllr R.K. Austin (Lab) Cllr K.T. Blundell (Lib Dem/I) Cllr S.P. Burrell (Con) Cllr A.J. Eade (Con) Cllr R.C. Evans (Lab) Cllr R.A. Overton (Lab) – Vice Chair Cllr K.S. Sahota (Lab) – Chair	<u>Lab Subs</u> Cllr W.A.M. McClements Cllr P.R. Watling
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OTHER

Health & Wellbeing Board – 14 Seats	
Cllr E.A. Clare P. Clifford Cllr A.R.H. England D. Evans Cllr G.M. Green D. Harrison Dr M. Innes – Vice Chair L. Johnston Cllr R.A. Overton – Chair Cllr J.M. Seymour D. Urwin/D. Wickham Cllr P.R. Watling Dr. C. Woodward TBC	Cabinet Member – Leisure Services & Culture Director for Adult Social Care, TWC Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care Chief Operating Officer, Telford & Wrekin CCG Lib Dem/Independent Group Non-Executive Director, Telford & Wrekin CCG Chair, Telford & Wrekin CCG Director for Children’s Services, TWC Cabinet Member - Public Health Conservative Group NHS Commissioning Board Cabinet Member – Children, Young People & Families Director of Public Health, TWC Healthwatch

NB: Appointed by Council on 7 March 2013

<i>Combined Fire Authority</i>	
Cllr F.M. Bould (Lab) Cllr E.J. Carter (Con) Cllr R.T. Kiernan (Con) Cllr F.R. Picken (Lab) Cllr G.C.W. Reynolds (Lab) Cllr B.J. Thompson (Lab)	