

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of East Staffordshire Borough Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Friday 26th May 2023.

Present:

Councillor P Hudson (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors	A Afsar	Mrs J Jones
	Mrs B Ashcroft	P Krupski
	A Bailey	Z Krupski
	L Beech	Ms A J Legg
	L Bullock	R Lock
	A A Chaudhry	A Mansfield
	A Clarke	S McKiernan
	M T Fitzpatrick	M Shrive
	S P Gaskin	M Slater
	Mrs V J Gould	S Slater
	T Hadley	C Smedley
	R Hawkins	K Smith
	M Holton	L Walker
	M Huckerby	P Walker
	P Hudson	C V Whittaker
	S A Hussain	C Wileman

Officers Present:

The Chief Executive, the Heads of Service (Thomas Deery and Mark Rizk), the Monitoring Officer, the Corporate and Commercial Manager, the Programmes and Transformation Team Leader and the Senior Democratic Services Officer.

Also Present:

Mr Chris Sylvester (Deputy Mayor).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Ackroyd, G Allen, D Fletcher, B G Peters and S Sankey.

01/23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

02/23 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Borough Council held on 20th March 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
Mrs B Ashcroft		A Afsar
L Beech		A Bailey
A A Chaudhry		L Bullock
A Clarke		R Hawkins
M T Fitzpatrick		M Holton
S Gaskin		M Huckerby
Mrs V J Gould		P Krupski
T Hadley		Z Krupski
P Hudson		A Mansfield
S A Hussain		M Slater
Mrs J Jones		S Slater
Ms A J Legg		C Smedley
R Lock		K Smith
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

03/23 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements at the meeting.

04/23 **REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER**

The report of the Returning Officer on the results of the Borough Council Elections held on 4th May 2023 was received for information.

NOTED

05/23 **APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR A FOUR YEAR TERM**

Resolved:

That Councillor M Fitzpatrick be appointed Leader of the Council.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

06/23 **APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION FOR A FOUR YEAR TERM**

Resolved:

That Councillor G Allen be appointed Leader of the Opposition.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
Mrs B Ashcroft		A Afsar
L Beech		A Bailey
L Bullock		A A Chaudhry
A Clarke		M T Fitzpatrick
S P Gaskin		T Hadley
Mrs V J Gould		R Hawkins
P Hudson		M Holton
Mrs J Jones		S Hussain
R Lock		P Krupski
C Smedley		Z Krupski
C Wileman		Ms A J Legg
		A Mansfield
		S McKiernan
		M Shrive
		M Slater
		S Slater
		K Smith
		L Walker
		P Walker
		C V Whittaker

07/23 **CABINET**

The Leader informed Council that he had appointed the following Members to serve on the Cabinet:

Councillor A A Chaudhry (Cabinet Member Finance and Treasury Management);
 Councillor D F Fletcher (Cabinet Member Environment and Climate Change);
 Councillor R Hawkins (Cabinet Member Regeneration and Development);
 Councillor S Slater (Cabinet Member Communities and Regulatory Services);
 Councillor P Walker (Cabinet Member Tourism and Cultural Development).

He indicated that he had appointed Councillors S McKiernan and L Walker as Cabinet Support Members and that Councillor D F Fletcher had been appointed Deputy Leader of the Council.

NOTED

08/23 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

The report of the Head of Service (Mark Rizk) on the number and allocation of Councillors to serve on Committees, to receive nominations to those committees from the political groups and to appoint to those committees was considered.

Appendix 1: List of Member nominated to serve on Committees and Panels (May 2023) (a copy of which is appended to these minutes) had been circulated at the meeting and Appendix 2: Revised Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference (Parts 3la, 3lb, 3lc and 3ld of the Constitution had been circulated with the report.

Council noted that the report also contained a proposed amendment to the Scrutiny Committee structure and in addition to the necessary changes to the Constitution as a result of these proposed changes.

Council noted the number of seats to be allocated following the application of the political balance calculations, as follows:

Committee	Labour	Conservative	Ungrouped	Total
Licensing Committee*	6	4	1*	11
Planning Committee*	6	4	1*	11
Audit (Statement of Accounts) Committee	5	3	-	8
Audit Committee	5	3	-	8
Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee	5	3	-	8
Scrutiny (Health and Well Being) Committee	5	3	-	8
Scrutiny (Regeneration, Development and Market Hall) Committee	5	3	-	8
Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee	5	3	-	8
Chief Officer Standards Committee	3	2	-	5
Development Plan Committee	3	2	-	5
Standards Committee	3	2	-	5
Appeals Panel	2	1	-	3
Complaints Panel	2	1	-	3
Total	55	34	2	91

*Residual seats allocated to ungrouped Members.

Resolved:

- 1) That the revision to the Scrutiny Committee structure, increasing the number of Committees from 3 to 4 as detailed in Paragraph 5.1 of the report be agreed;
- 2) That, subject to the above the budget for 2023/24 in relation to Members Allowances as detailed in Paragraph 7.2 of the report be increased, to be funded from the 2022/23 revenue budget underspend and that this increase be incorporated into the next refresh of the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2024/25 onwards;

- 3) That, subject to the above, the updates to the Constitution as attached at Appendix 2 of the report be agreed and that the Monitoring Officer make any further necessary amendments to the Constitution as referred to in Paragraph 5.4 of the report;
- 4) That the number and allocation of Councillors serving on each Committee and Panel as set out in paragraph 6.4 of the report be agreed;
- 5) That, subject to the above, the appointment of Councillors to serve on each Committee and Panel (appendix 1 of the report refers) be noted and approved;
- 6) That the ungrouped Independent Member be appointed to the residual seats on the Planning Committee and the Licensing Committee.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

09/23 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN**

Resolved:

That the appointment of the Members listed below as Chairman of each of the following Committees be approved:

Appeals Panel	Councillor P Walker
Audit Committee	Councillor A Mansfield
Audit (Statement of Accounts) Committee	Councillor A Mansfield
Chief Officer Standards Committee	Councillor M Fitzpatrick
Complaints Panel	Councillor S Slater
Development Plan Committee	Councillor S McKiernan
Planning Committee	Councillor A Afsar
Licensing Committee	Councillor S Hussain
Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee	Councillor M Slater
Scrutiny (Regeneration, Development and Market Hall) Committee	Councillor K Smith
Scrutiny (Health & Well Being) Committee	Councillor T Hadley
Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee	Councillor Z Krupski
Standards Committee	Councillor L Walker

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		Mrs B Ashcroft
A Bailey		L Beech
A A Chaudhry		L Bullock
M Fitzpatrick		A Clarke
T Hadley		S Gaskin
R Hawkins		Mrs V J Gould
M Holton		P Hudson
M Huckerby		Mrs J Jones
S A Hussain		R Lock
P Krupski		C Smedley
Z Krupski		C Wileman
Ms A J Legg		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		

10/23

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Resolved:

That Councillor M Holton be appointed to serve on the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Staffordshire County Council.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

11/23 **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE STAFFORDSHIRE AND
STOKE ON TRENT LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

Resolved:

That Councillor S McKiernan be appointed to serve on the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Local Enterprise Partnership.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

12/23 **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL**

Resolved:

That Councillor M Fitzpatrick be appointed to serve on the Staffordshire Police Fire and Crime Panel.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

13/23 **2023/24 COUNCIL MEETING DATES**

Resolved:

That the following Council meeting dates be approved:

3rd July 2023;

25th September 2023;

11th December 2023;

19th February 2024;

18th March 2024;

17th May 2024 (Annual Council meeting to be held at 6pm).

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

14/23 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

15/23 **APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM S151 OFFICER (MAY 2023 – SEPTEMBER 2023)**

The report of the Chief Executive on the appointment of an interim s151 Officer with effect from 26th May 2023 until 25th September 2023 was considered. Appendix A: Management Structure diagram had been circulated with the report.

Following on from discussions with group leaders at the Council before and after the local elections, the report recommended that Lisa Turner CPFA be appointed as interim s151 officer/CFO for East Staffordshire Borough Council, with effect from 26th May 2023 through to 25th September 2023. Lisa Turner CPFA had been deputy s151 officer since 2015 and would qualify as responsible officer by virtue of being a member of CPFA. She would also take on responsibility for management of the Revenues and Benefits Service.

Council noted the report placed in context the interim and re-designated arrangements for chief officers following the departure of Sal Khan as Chief Officer/ S151 officer and that between May 2023 and September 2023 the council would look to put in place permanent arrangements for the role of s151 officer/ CFO.

Resolved:

That Lisa Turner CPFA be appointed Interim S151 Officer.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

16/23 **URGENT DECISION 573/23 GBSLEP – CHANGE OF ARTICLES ASSOCIATION AND SPECIAL WRITTEN RESOLUTION**

Council noted that the decision had been an urgent decision subject to call in which could not reasonably be deferred due to requirement that the resolution needed to have been made by 3rd May 2023 and consequently could have created issues in the winding down of the GBSLEP.

NOTED.

17/23 **QUESTIONS**

No questions had been received prior to the meeting.

18/23 **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR**

It was moved by Councillor A A Chaudhry and seconded by Councillor A Afsar and

Resolved:

That Councillor S Hussain be elected the thirty first Mayor of the Borough of East Staffordshire until the Annual Meeting in May 2024.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

The Mayor gave his speech of thanks and intentions during his year of office and announced that Mrs Forjea Khan would be his Mayoress and Lance Corporal Evangeline Kininmonth would be his cadet.

19/23 **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

It was moved by Councillor A Mansfield and seconded by Councillor A Bailey and

Resolved:

That Councillor S McKiernan be appointed the Deputy Mayor of the Borough of East Staffordshire until the Annual Meeting in May 2024.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

20/23 **VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND MAYOR'S CONSORT**

It was moved by Councillor A Clarke and seconded by Councillor S Gaskin and

Resolved:

That we, the Council, record our sincere appreciation of the excellent manner in which Councillor P Hudson has carried out his duties as the Mayor of the Borough of East Staffordshire over the last year, and we acknowledge the interest he has shown in the welfare of all parts of the Borough following a very difficult time in our history. We would particularly acknowledge the manner in which he has calmly and politely presided over this Council's business through many challenging long meetings and on many contentious issues. We also wish to place on record our thanks to him for representing the Council at approximately 150 events during his year of office and we also thank the Mayor's consort Mrs Karen Hudson, for the help and support she has so readily given to him during his year of office.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
A Afsar		A Bailey
Mrs B Ashcroft		R Hawkins
L Beech		P Krupski
L Bullock		Z Krupski
A A Chaudhry		M Shrive
A Clarke		M Slater
M T Fitzpatrick		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
M Huckerby		
M Holton		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith		
L Walker		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

Councillor P Hudson replied suitably.

21/23 **PRESENTATION TO PAST MAYOR**

The Mayor presented a Past Mayor's badge to Councillor P Hudson and a Past Mayoress' badge to Mrs Karen Hudson.

The Mayor presented a badge to Lance Corporal Evangeline Kininmonth, his cadet for the ensuing year.

Mayor