

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Council held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 22 June 2021**

Present:

Members: Councillor J McNicholas (Chair)

Councillor F Abbott	Councillor M Lapsa
Councillor N Akhtar	Councillor J Lepoidevin
Councillor P Akhtar	Councillor G Lloyd
Councillor M Ali	Councillor A Lucas
Councillor R Auluck	Councillor P Male
Councillor L Bigham	Councillor A Masih
Councillor J Birdi	Councillor K Maton
Councillor J Blundell	Councillor C Miks
Councillor R Brown	Councillor B Mosterman
Councillor K Caan	Councillor J Mutton
Councillor J Clifford	Councillor M Mutton
Councillor G Duggins	Councillor S Nazir
Councillor B Gittins	Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor L Harvard	Councillor G Ridley
Councillor G Hayre	Councillor E Ruane
Councillor M Heaven	Councillor K Sandhu
Councillor P Hetherton	Councillor P Seaman
Councillor A Hopkins	Councillor R Simpson
Councillor J Innes	Councillor R Singh
Councillor T Jandu	Councillor R Thay
Councillor S Keough	Councillor C Thomas
Councillor T Khan	Councillor A Tucker
Councillor AS Khan	Councillor S Walsh
Councillor R Lakha	Councillor D Welsh
Councillor R Lancaster	

Apologies: Councillor R Bailey, T Sawdon, B Singh and D Skinner

**Public Business**

**13. Correspondence and Announcements of the Lord Mayor**

**1. Condolences**

**a) Bill Shakespeare**

The Lord Mayor referred to the recent death of Bill Shakespeare.

Bill served as a parish councillor and had represented his local community in Allesley for more than three decades. He hit global headlines on December 8 last year when he became the first man to have the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to fight against coronavirus at UHCW.

b) Penny Walker

The Lord Mayor referred to the recent death of Penny Walker. Penny founded the Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre in 1998. She was an inspirational, courageous, and positive lady who dedicated her life to helping others and campaigning for peace.

Tributes were paid to Bill and Penny during the meeting and Members noted that a letter of condolence has been sent from the Lord Mayor and the Leader to both their families.

2. Visit of HRH Prince Charles and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall

The Lord Mayor referred to the recent visit by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Coventry Cathedral. The date marked the anniversary of the consecration of the new Cathedral which was attended by HRH The Queen exactly 59 years before to the day.

At the end of their visit the Duchess of Cornwall visited Pagahghar to commend the support Panahghar offer to Black, Minority Ethnic women. Panahghar provides free dedicated BME multi-lingual support, advice, advocacy and access to safe refuge for victims and their families from domestic, sexual or gendered abuse in Coventry over the pandemic.

3. Queen's Birthday Honours

The Lord Mayor referred to the awards made to the following people associated with the City in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List:

**OBE:** To Michael Robert Ramsey, Home Office, for Services to Public Protection

**MBE:** To Gavin Stuart Kibble, for Services to the community in Coventry, particularly during Covid-19

**MBE:** To Professor Margaret Johnston Low, University of Warwick, for services to Public Engagement and Widening Participation

**MBE:** To Jane Mary Nickerson, Swim England Chief Executive, for services to Swimming during the Covid-19 Pandemic

**OBE:** To Professor Matthew James Keeling, University of Warwick, for services to SAGE during the Covid-19 Response

**OBE:** Wendy Tomes, Sidney Stringer Multi Academy Trust, for services to Education

**MBE:** Melanie Irene Coombes, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, for services to Nursing

Members noted that a letter of congratulations has been sent to all of the recipients, on behalf of the City Council.

**14. Petitions**

**RESOLVED that the following petitions be referred to the appropriate City Council bodies/external organisations:**

- a) Residents requesting the Council to install a children's play area in Moseley Avenue Park, 305 signatures, presented by Councillor S Walsh with support from Councillor G Lloyd
- b) Petition requesting the introduction of traffic calming and other highway interventions on Parkville Highway, 34 signatures, presented by Councillor R Lancaster
- c) Residents of Silverton Road requesting the Council to sort the problem of rubbish and rats in the area, 9 signatures, presented by Councillor S Nazir
- d) Residents of Foleshill area petition the Council to sort out the problems of rats, fly-tipping and weekly bin collection to control rubbish build up, 24 signatures, presented by Councillor S Nazir
- e) Petition requesting traffic calming methods on Binley Avenue to deter drivers from speeding, 49 signatures, presented by Councillor C Thomas
- f) Petition requesting the Council to introduce parking restrictions along the full length of Gardenia Drive, including the layby in front of the shopping parade, 177 signatures, presented by Councillor J Birdi
- g) Petition requesting pavement repairs and replacement on Dane Road, 113 signatures, presented by Councillor K Caan with support from Councillor G Hayre

**15. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**16. Question Time**

Councillor AS Khan provided a written answer to the question set out in the Questions Booklet together with oral responses to supplementary questions put to him at the meeting.

The following Members answered oral questions put to them by other Member as set out below, together with supplementary questions on the same matters:

No	Questions asked by	Question put to	Subject matter
1	Councillors M Heaven, P Male, G Ridley, T Jandu J Lepoidevin and M Lapsa	Councillor P Hetherton	Missed bin collections
2	Councillor P Male	Councillor O'Boyle	Sports centre

			and swimming pool, Fairfax Street
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17. **Statements**

There were no statements.

18. **Debate: Call for an immediate public enquiry into the Government's handling of the COVID 19 pandemic**

The following Motion was moved by Councillor G Duggins and seconded by Councillor AS Khan:

“This Council calls for a public inquiry to begin immediately into the Government’s handling of the COVID 19 pandemic”.

**RESOLVED that the Motion, as set out above, be adopted.**

**(Note: A vote on this was taken by name)**

19. **Debate: National Plastic Bottle Deposit Return Scheme**

The following Motion was moved by Councillor P Male and Seconded by Councillor R Simpson:

“This Council supports a national plastic bottle, deposit return scheme and resolves to explore the feasibility of Coventry becoming a pilot area”.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor P Hetherington and seconded by Councillor A Tucker and carried:

“This Council supports a national plastic bottle deposit and return scheme”

Delete the rest of the Motion and insert the following: -

“However, we note that the Government carried out a consultation exercise in 2019 and decided to introduce such a scheme by 2023. This timetable has now been amended because the Government decided to carry out yet another consultation (which closed 2 weeks ago) and the new date for introduction of the scheme will be late 2024 at the earliest.

We call on the Government to stop dithering, stop the delays of their own making, and get their act together and bring forward a DRS by the original date of 2023.”

**RESOLVED that the amended Motion, as set out above, be adopted.**

**(Note: A vote on this was taken by name)**

(Meeting closed at 5.05 pm)