

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Council held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 22 March 2022

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 C Miks
Councillor J Birdi	Councillor B Mosterman
Councillor J Blundell	Councillor J Mutton
Councillor R Brown	Councillor M Mutton
Councillor K Caan	Councillor S Nazir
Councillor J Clifford	Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor G Duggins	Councillor G Ridley
Councillor B Gittins	Councillor E Ruane
Councillor L Harvard	Councillor K Sandhu
Councillor M Heaven	Councillor T Sawdon
Councillor P Hetherton	Councillor P Seaman
Councillor A Hopkins	Councillor R Simpson
Councillor J Innes	Councillor R Singh
Councillor T Jandu	Councillor D Skinner
Councillor S Keough	Councillor C Thomas
Councillor T Khan	Councillor A Tucker
Councillor AS Khan	Councillor D Welsh
Councillor R Lakha	

Honorary Alderman D Batten, T Skipper

Apologies: Councillor R Bailey, G Hayre, A Masih, K Maton and S Walsh
and Honorary Aldermen H Fitzpatrick and K Taylor

Public Business

82. Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2022

The minutes of the Meeting held on 22 February 2022 were signed as a true record.

83. Coventry Good Citizen Award

On behalf of the City Council, the Lord Mayor and Judge Lockhart, Honorary Recorder presented Pru Porretta with the Good Citizen Award. Her citation read:

For the past 40 years Pru has embodied the heart and soul of Coventry's modern day Lady Godiva, working tirelessly within the community to celebrate diversity, and devoting her time and energy to helping and raising money for charitable causes within Coventry.

As founder and CEO of the Godiva Trust Pru is devoted to helping all generations of women, men and children from Coventry's diverse cultures better relate and reinterpret our heritage celebrations with a unique identity that reinforces the City's international role as a Centre for Peace & Reconciliation. She is always seeking opportunities to enact positive social development through artistic and cultural means.

In addition to her role in the Trust and Godiva Sisters Founder Pru is a knowledgeable Heart of England tourist guide and offers her support and commitment to tourism in Coventry by providing educational workshops, storytelling of the heritage of Godiva and is involved in multicultural events, women's events, Peace and Reconciliation Programmes throughout the City.

Even through the Covid-19 Pandemic Pru never stopped her inventiveness and resourcefulness, she made educational films such as 'Covid through the eyes of a child' to better educate communities during a dark time. In addition, she also organised a rose bed planting ceremony in the Peace Garden at Memorial Park as a touching and lasting tribute to our city's victims of COVID-19, it is now a place loved ones can visit to pay their respects.

Pru actively promotes the City of Coventry and has built bridges with communities locally, nationally, and internationally. She is a true pioneer of Peace & Reconciliation and through her work she has made Coventry a better place. Her actions truly reflect her character, and she is a worthy recipient of this Coventry Good Citizen Award.

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

a) Ukraine

A Minute's silence was held as a mark of respect for the terrible suffering and loss of life in Ukraine.

b) Retiring Councillors

The Lord Mayor referred to Councillors A Lucas OBE and D Skinner MBE who were not standing in the forthcoming Municipal Election.

Members of the City Council paid tribute to the work carried out by the Councillors over the years they had served as Members of the Council and wished them well for the future.

85. **Petitions**

RESOLVED that the following petitions be referred to the appropriate Council/outside body:

- a) **Petition calling on Coventry City Council, UHCW NHS Trust and HM Coroners Office to provide Coventry with appropriate scanner and facilities to carry out digital autopsies – 866 signatures, presented by Councillor G Ridley**
- b) **Request to include the resurfacing of Upper Eastern Green Lane, Lower Eastern Green Lane and Alderminster Road in the Highways Capital Programme 2022 – 158 signatures, presented by Councillor J Lepoidevin**
- c) **Request to improve road safety at drop off and pick off times at Limbrick Wood School Tile Hill – 42 signatures, presented by Councillor J Lepoidevin**
- d) **Request to reinstate the road markings at the Wing Wah roundabout – 44 signatures, presented by Councillor J Lepoidevin**
- e) **Request from local residents to preserve the Lebanese Cedar tree (7025), planning application OUT/2019/0022 – 44 signatures, presented by Councillor S Keough**
- f) **Request to make Mantilla Drive safe to drive on – 110 signatures, presented by Councillor M Heaven**

86. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

87. Options to Improve the Provision of Temporary Accommodation for Homeless Families Through Property Acquisition

Further to Minute 90 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Adult Services and Housing that sought approval to add £6m to the Council's capital programme to purchase, refurbish and manage 25 properties to use as temporary accommodation for homeless families.

The Council has a statutory duty to provide temporary accommodation to homeless households who are eligible and have a priority need. In order to meet demand from homeless families who require temporary accommodation of 3 or more bedrooms, it was proposed to initially add £6m to the Council's capital programme to purchase, refurbish and manage 25 properties for use as temporary accommodation for homeless families. Subject to review, once the 25 properties had been achieved and / or £6m resource used, the programme may be increased by a further 25 properties, bringing the total to 50 properties. In completing the programme of work the City Council would focus on bringing as many Houses of Multiple Occupation back into family use for temporary accommodation as possible within the delivery timescales.

In addition, the Council would seek nomination agreements for a further 25 properties of 3 or more bedrooms for use as temporary accommodation from existing approved budgets.

There remained a significant demand for temporary accommodation from families and as of 11th February 2022 there were 83 families in 3 and 4 bedroomed nightly temporary accommodation. There was no indication that this number would reduce. Previous programmes of work undertaken within the Housing and

Homelessness Service had focussed on temporary accommodation for smaller families requiring 1 or 2 bedrooms and accommodation for single people. These initiatives had resulted in both a reduced cost and improved supply of temporary accommodation. The proposals within the report submitted aim to deliver a similar set of outcomes to those achieved for smaller families and single people through both reducing the cost and improving the supply of temporary accommodation.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor M Lapsa, seconded by Councillor P Male and lost:

That Recommendations 1 and 4 be deleted and replaced with the following:

“That Council refers the report to Cabinet for further consideration pending its examination by Scrutiny.”

RESOLVED that, the City Council:

- 1. Approves the addition of capital resource of up to £6m to the capital programme to purchase, refurbish and manage 25 properties which are 3 or more bedrooms to use as temporary housing for homeless families.**
- 2. Approves that Nomination Agreements to be entered into for 25 properties which have 3 or more bedrooms for use as temporary housing for homeless families using existing approved budgets.**
- 3. Approves that a further £7m to purchase, refurbish and manage properties to use as temporary housing for homeless families to be added to the capital programme once the £6m has been expended and / or 25 properties have been purchased in recommendation 1 above, and authority be delegated to the Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer), following consultation with the Director of Adult Services and Housing, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities and the Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources, to ensure it continues to deliver value for money in purchasing properties to use as temporary housing for homeless families.**
- 4. Delegates authority to the Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer), following consultation with the Director of Adult Services and Housing, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities and the Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources to finalise and agree the detailed terms of the acquisitions. The authority under this delegation shall also include the power to enter into the necessary legal agreements and subsequently the power to negotiate and agree variations to the terms of such agreements.**

88. Transforming Mental Health Services

Further to Minute 91 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a joint report of the Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer) and the Director of Adult Services

and Housing, which sought approval to enter into a partnership agreement with Coventry & Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust.

The ambitions set out in the Mental Health Implementation Plan 2019/20–2023/24, remained the foundation for the transformation of local mental health services across the Coventry and Warwickshire footprint.

To support driving that change it was proposed that the Council enter into a partnership agreement with Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust. This would be a partnership agreement whereby NHS organisations and local authorities contribute an agreed level of resource into a single pot (the pooled budget) that would then be used to drive the integration and improvement of existing services.

City Council budgets would not be part of this proposed pooling arrangement, with the pooled sums being provided by Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust. The Council would provide officer time and the fulfilment of hosting responsibilities.

RESOLVED that, the City Council:

- 1. Approves entering into a partnership agreement with Coventry and Warwickshire Commissioning Group and Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust to support the transformation of mental health services.**
- 2. Approves that the Council be the host for the pooled budget to support the partnership arrangement.**

89. One Coventry Elected Member Training and Development Strategy

Further to Minute 32 of the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Law and Governance which indicated that the City Council provides a range of training and support for Members, including an induction programme for newly elected Members, specific training to support Members in roles such as members of Planning Committee or Licensing and Regulatory Committee, and specific topical issues as they arise. Members would also be able to attend training and events run by other organisations. However, the uptake of training by Members has been low.

The environment in which Members work is constantly changing. Ensuring that Members are properly supported to help them meet the high demands placed on them to carry out this challenging role effectively is increasingly important. Consultation with Members and officers suggest that the training offer has not kept pace with these demands and take up of what has been on offer has been low. With support from a Member Advisory Panel, improvements have been introduced over the last year and the report set out a strategic approach to make sure that the Member training offer meets current and future needs.

In order to enable executive oversight and strategic approach to training as well as raising the profile of training with Members, a Strategy has been developed to

support the delivery and promotion of a Members' Training Programme. The draft One Coventry Elected Members Training and Development Strategy was attached as Appendix A to the report. The draft Strategy has been developed following research to identify how to support Members training and development needs and included consultation with Members. A summary of the research findings was appended as Appendix B to the report.

The draft Strategy covers:

- Purpose of the Strategy
- Assessing Need and Requesting Training
- Training Matrix
- Governance and Delivery

To oversee the governance and delivery of the Strategy, a cross-party Cabinet Member Advisory Panel has been established to review Members training needs, recommend a training and development programme to the Cabinet Member, monitor delivery of, and evaluate the programme to inform future planning. This Panel has been in place since September 2021. The Terms of Reference for this Panel were detailed in Appendix 1 of the draft Strategy.

In order to ensure that a wide range of training and development is offered to Members, a training matrix will be developed and endorsed by the Members Training and Development Advisory Panel. The training matrix will be regularly reviewed and evaluated to ensure it meets Members' training need and will provide a programme of mandatory training, which all Members will be required to complete throughout their term of office.

In addition to this there will be role specific mandatory training for those Members with special responsibilities, or who sit on specific Committees.

It is proposed that Mandatory training for all Members will include:

- Code of Conduct
- Fire Safety Awareness
- Safeguarding (Awareness) including Corporate Parenting
- Equality and Diversity
- Health and Safety in the Workplace
- Local Governance and Budget Setting
- Data Protection Law, Definitions and Principles with Information Security (annually)
- Mandatory induction programme for newly elected Members

Most of these training programmes are available through the Council's online learning portal, but preferred delivery style will be assessed through consultation with Members. There will also be Mandatory training for specific roles, for those Members who sit on Licensing and Regulatory Committee, Planning Committee, Audit and Procurement Committee, Shareholders Panels and HR Appeals Panel. It is proposed that the Constitution be amended to include, within the functions of each relevant Committee, the requirement that all Members shall have received appropriate training before carrying out any of the functions that are delegated to that Committee and that this role specific training should take **place on an annual**

basis to ensure that decision making by Members is based on the most up to date and relevant information, legislation, and guidance.

It is also proposed that there will also be a programme of regular in-house supplementary training, identified by regular training needs analysis through consultation with Members. This would be organised and arranged, but not necessarily delivered, internally by Council officers. In addition to an in-house programme, Members would be able to request to attend ad hoc one-off training requests delivered by external organisations, such as the Local Government Association (LGA). A training request pro-forma will be developed and managed by the Members Training and Development Co-ordinator. There will be a budget allocated to enable one-off requests.

Members would also be able to request additional training, where several Members have identified that a greater understanding of an issue is required and is not covered by the current offer. This would enable the training and development programme to be responsive and flexible to Members training needs.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor J Lepoidevin, seconded by Councillor T Sawdon and lost:

That Recommendations 1 and 2 be deleted and replaced with the following:

“That Council refers the report back to the Cabinet Member to consider making training advisory and not mandatory”

RESOLVED that the City Council:

- 1) Approves the One Coventry Elected Members Training and Development Strategy as appended to the report.**
- 2) Approves the proposals for mandatory training for Members as identified in Section 3 and agree that the Constitution be amended to include within the functions of each relevant Committee the requirement that all Members of those Committees shall have received appropriate training before carrying out any of the functions that are delegated to that Committee.**

90. Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Further to Minute 33 of the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Law and Governance which proposed a number of changes to the Constitution that reflect changes in practices within the Council.

The Cabinet Member recommended that the Council approve the following amendments:

1. Part 2N – Coventry Shareholder Committee Terms of Reference:

- a) An increase from the current maximum of 5 elected Members to be a maximum of 10 elected Members at paragraph 2.1: Composition (NB minimum of 3 is to remain the same);
- b) Additional wording to be inserted to permit Key Decisions in relation to charitable holdings held by the Council on trust for a charity to be made by the Shareholder Committee as trustee, with decisions below the Key Decision threshold delegated to Directors, Heads of Service and Officers in the areas concerned.

Recommendation b) above was made on the basis that currently there was no delegation in the Constitution for Key Decisions or other decisions that do not meet the threshold for key Decisions in respect of charitable holdings.

2. Part 2D – Functions of Scrutiny, paragraph 6: Educations Representatives:

- a) A maximum four year term of office and a minimum of two year term of office (which will be applicable to all Education Representatives);
- b) Removal of the requirement for a parent governor representative from both a maintained primary and secondary school in the City (instead introducing a requirement for a generic parent governor who could technically be from any maintained school) in keeping with the legislation in this area and to reflect the fact that Coventry now has no maintained secondary schools.

3. Part 6: Management Structure:

- a) Changes to staff and job titles need to be reflected in the Constitution as well as the fact that the Management Team are now known as the Strategic Leadership team;
- b) The changes to staff and job titles have also subsequently resulted in changes to delegations as these have been redistributed and should also be reflected throughout the Scheme of Delegation.

4. Part 2A – General Principles – Paragraph 6: Government Consultation Papers:

- a) The introduction of wording to permit Government Consultation Papers to be primarily considered by the relevant Cabinet Member as apposed to Council by default, unless the Government Consultation Paper is high profile or of a particular matter of substantial public importance.

5. Part 2M: Taxi Licensing Delegations

- a) An addition be made to the Constitution to the Taxi Licensing delegations to allow Taxi Licensing Officers to take enforcement action under the “Smoke Free Legislation” at Part 2M – Scheme of Functions Delegated to Employees, paragraph 6.15 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Scheme of Delegation, as new paragraph 1.

The proposed changes to the Constitution were detailed in the annexes to the report.

RESOLVED that, the City Council approves Recommendations (1) to (5) below, with immediate effect, and authorises the Director of Law and Governance to make any necessary amendments to the Constitution.

- (1) With regard to the Coventry Shareholder Committee Terms of Reference:**
 - (a) The current maximum of 5 elected Members be increased to a maximum of 10 elected Members; and**
 - (b) Approve additional wording to permit Key Decisions in relation to charitable holdings held by the Council on trust for a charity to be made by the Shareholder Committee as trustee, with decisions below the Key Decision threshold delegated to Directors, Heads of Service and Officers in the areas concerned.**
- (2) With regard to the Functions of Scrutiny in respect of Parent Governor Representative:**
 - (a) The requirement for a Parent Governor Representative from both a maintained primary and secondary school in the City be removed (instead introducing a requirement for a generic parent governor who could technically be from any maintained school); and**
 - (b) A maximum four year term of office and minimum of two year term of office for Parent Governor Representatives be inserted into the Constitution.**
- (3) The Management Structure in Part 6 and the Scheme of Delegations in Part 2 to be updated to reflect changes to staff and job titles.**
- (4) The change of wording to permit Government Consultation Papers to be primarily considered by the relevant Cabinet Member as apposed to Council by default, unless the Government Consultation Paper is high profile or of a particular matter of substantial public importance.**
- (5) An addition to the Taxi Licensing delegations to allow taxi Licensing Officers to take enforcement action under the “Smoke Free Legislation” with the written permission of the City Solicitor.**

91. Amendments to the Constitution - The Code of Good Planning Practice for Members and Employees Dealing with Planning Matters

Further to Minute 34 of the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Law and Governance which indicated that the Members' Planning Code of Good Practice (“Model Code”) was originally prepared in 2013-4 in response to a series of successful court challenges around local planning authorities and their Members' conduct or conflicts of interests. The Model Code was subject to consultation and comment from a number of local authorities through the machinery of the Association of

Council Secretaries and Solicitors (now LLG), the Local Government Association, the Local Government Ombudsman, Audit Commission and from firms of solicitors or counsel acting on their behalf. It replaced what was a number of individual and sometimes haphazard approaches in individual councils at the time. A copy of the Model Code was attached as Appendix A to the report.

The report sought approval to adopt a revised Code of Good Planning Practice for Members and Employees Dealing with Planning Matters ("Revised Planning Code"), amendments to which have been made in line with the Model Code and to remove the Revised Planning Code (as adopted) from the body of the Constitution and instead append the final document to the Constitution. A copy of the proposed Revised Planning Code was attached as Appendix B to the report.

The Model Code takes into account the following:

- a) Updates to the Seven Principles of Public Life (the 'Nolan principles');
- b) Commentary from the Committee on standards in public life;
- c) The changes in the approach to codes of conduct;
- d) The changes to predetermination introduced by the Localism Act 2011;
- e) The guide on 'Openness and transparency on personal interests' published by the Department for Communities and Local Government 2013.

Whilst broadly similar to the Model Code, the proposed revised Model Code contains some differences to the LLG version, in keeping with established practice at Coventry City Council. The main changes are as follows:

- a) References to "you should", "your responsibility is" etc have been removed and replaced with "Members should", "Members' responsibility is etc";
- b) At paragraph 3.2 the word "must" is used in relation to mandatory training for Members before sitting on the Planning Committee, ensuring that all Member must be trained before they attend Planning Committee meetings;
- c) Reference is made to the Employee Code of Conduct in regard to "Respect" at paragraph 4.2 to reiterate that this value is embedded in both the Employee and Member Codes of Conduct;
- d) Consideration of "material interests" has been clarified at paragraph 7.3.3;
- e) Paragraph 7.4 has been removed in its entirety as bias may not just exist in relation to Council owned land.

The current Code of Good Planning Practice for Members and Employees Dealing with Planning Matters (“Current Planning Code”) sits in the Constitution and has been absorbed into the Constitution over time despite the fact that it is a document that was intended to be “appended” to the Constitution.

The views of the Planning Committee had been sought on the proposed revisions and the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities was informed that Planning Committee had endorsed the proposed revisions with the following proposed modifications, which were accepted by the Cabinet Member :-

- 1) At paragraph 1.2 (part of the introduction) in the third sentence, the word 'your' to be replaced by the word 'their'.
- 2) The wording at Paragraph 7.3.3 and 7.3.4 (which relate to what Members should keep in the front of their mind when making a decision) to be revised as follows: -
 - 7.3 Members should keep at the front of their mind that, when they come to make the decision, they:...
 - 7.3.3 represent the interests of the whole community,
 - 7.3.4 must do so in accordance with the development plan (Local Plan) unless material considerations indicate otherwise,
 - 7.3.5 must only take into account material planning considerations, which can include the views of the public where they relate to relevant planning matters (Local opposition or support for a proposal is not in itself a ground for refusing or granting planning permission, unless it is founded upon valid material planning reasons),
 - 7.3.6 are to come to a decision after giving what they feel is the right weight to those material planning considerations.
- 3) Removal of “Part 4C” from the header and title and simply naming the document as – *Code of Good Practice for Members and Employees Dealing with Planning Matters* – on the basis that this document will be removed from the body of the Constitution and will instead be appended to the Constitution.

RESOLVED that the City Council adopts the Revised Planning Code as attached as Appendix B to the report with the modifications as outlined in 1) -3) above, with effect from the start of the 2022/23 Municipal Year and authorises the Director of Law and Governance to update the City Council’s Constitution to remove the Revised Planning Code from the body of the Constitution and instead append the Revised Planning Code to the Constitution.

92. **Annual Pay Policy Statement 2022/23**

The City Council considered a report of the Director of Human Resources which presented the Annual Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23.

Local Authorities are required by Sections 38 and 39 of the Localism Act 2011 to produce an annual Pay Policy Statement. The Statement must articulate the City Council's policies towards a range of issues relating to the pay of the workforce, particularly the most senior staff (or "chief officers") and the relationship of their pay to the lowest paid employees. The proposed annual Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23 was attached as appendix 1 of the report.

RESOLVED that the City Council approves the Annual Pay Policy Statement 2022/23 as attached at Appendix 1 of the report.

93. Motion without Notice to Re-order Agenda

In accordance with the Constitution, a Motion without notice was moved by Councillor M Mutton and seconded by Councillor G Lloyd that the agenda be reordered to consider Agenda Item 15 – Debates as the next item of business, before Question Time (Minute 96 below refers)..

94. Question Time

Councillor D Welsh 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 Members as set out below, together with supplementary questions on the same matters:

No	Questions asked by	Question put to	Subject matter
1	Councillor P Male	Councillor AS Khan	Recent stabbings in Foleshill
2	Councillor M Heaven	Councillor P Hetherton	Budget contingency plans in relation to the on-going bin strike
3	Councillor P Male	Councillor P Hetherton	Possible introduction of a charge for green waste bins when reinstated
4	Councillor P Male	Councillor R Brown	Progress on the Council becoming an Accredited Living Wage Employer
5	Councillor P Male	Councillor G Duggins	Negotiations with Unite over bin strike
6	Councillor P Male	Councillor G Duggins	Purchase of Tom White Waste and

			end of bin strike
7	Councillor R Simpson	Councillor D Welsh	30 year commitment not to build on Coundon Wedge
8	Councillor G Ridley	Councillor D Welsh	Sale and development of land at top of Browns Lane
9	Councillor R Simpson	Councillor K Caan	Whether the Air Quality Action Plan will improve the health of children
10	Councillor S Keough	Councillor P Hetherton	Bin collections in Keresley area
11	Councillor J Blundell	Councillor G Duggins	Unite Union funding for Labour Party and facilities time for unions
12	Councillor T Sawdon	Councillor D Welsh	Land at Kings Hill

95. **Statements**

The Leader, Councillor G Duggins, made a Statement in respect of Covid, the bin strike and Coventry City Football Club.

Councillor G Ridley responded to the Statement.

96. **Debates – The Invasion of Ukraine**

With the agreement of the Leader, Councillor G Duggins and the Leader of the Opposition Group, Councillor G Ridley, the two debates as published on the agenda were withdrawn.

The following **amended** Motion was moved by Councillor J Mutton and seconded by Councillor G Ridley:

“Coventry City Council condemns without reservation the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Government, led by President Putin.

Our thoughts and solidarity are with the Ukrainian people.

This war is a war brought about by Putin and is a war against democracy. Our thoughts are also with those brave Russian people who are protesting and demonstrating against Putin’s actions, despite the penalties they themselves face for daring to stand up and be counted.

It is with a heavy heart, that at this time we will now pause our twinning links with the City of Volgograd until such a time that they can resume. We also pledge to explore the possibility of twinning with the City of Mariupol when the time is right.

Coventry City Council supports the suspension of all cultural, educational and sporting exchanges with Russia.

Furthermore, Coventry City Council vow to be part of any refugee dispersal programme for refugees coming to the UK from Ukraine., and we urge the Government to bring forward revised policies to allow any Ukrainian fleeing the war to enter the UK without bureaucratic barriers.

This Council pledges support to all those communities affected by this war as we will continue to be the City of Peace and Reconciliation, and a City of Sanctuary”.

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

(Meeting closed at 7.00 pm)