

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council (Part 1) held at 11.10 am on Thursday,
16 May 2024

Present:

Members: Councillor J Birdi (Chair)

Councillor F Abbott	Councillor R Lakha
Councillor S Agboola	Councillor R Lancaster
Councillor N Akhtar	Councillor M Lapsa
Councillor P Akhtar	Councillor J Lepoidevin
Councillor M Ali	Councillor G Lewis
Councillor R Bailey	Councillor G Lloyd
Councillor L Bigham	Councillor P Male
Councillor J Blundell	Councillor K Maton
Councillor R Brown	Councillor J McNicholas
Councillor K Caan	Councillor S Nazir
Councillor B Christopher	Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor G Duggins	Councillor G Ridley
Councillor J Gardiner	Councillor K Sandhu
Councillor S Gray	Councillor T Sawdon
Councillor L Harvard	Councillor P Seaman
Councillor G Hayre	Councillor R Singh
Councillor P Hetherton	Councillor R Thay
Councillor A Hopkins	Councillor D Toulson
Councillor T Jandu	Councillor A Tucker
Councillor A Jobbar	Councillor D Welsh
Councillor A Kaur	
Councillor L Kelly	
Councillor AS Khan	

Honorary Alderman D Batten, J Clifford, D Skinner and T Skipper

Apologies: Councillors M Heaven, J Innes, T Khan, C Miks, B Mosterman, E M Reeves, E Ruane, B Singh and CE Thomas
Honorary Alderman: H Fitzpatrick, M Hammon and K Taylor

Public Business

1. Correspondence and Announcements of the Lord Mayor

The Lord Mayor welcomed Councillors B Christopher, G Lewis and D Toulson to their first meeting in the Council Chamber.

There were no formal announcements of the Lord Mayor.

2. Motion without Notice - Deferral of Items

In accordance with the Constitution, a Motion without Notice was moved by Councillor P Seaman and seconded by Councillor G Lloyd that: -

“Agenda item 3 (Election of the Chair of the Council (being the Lord Mayor of the City)), item 4 (Vote of thanks to the Retiring Lord Mayor) and item 5 (Election of the Vice-Chair of the Council (being the Deputy Lord Mayor of the City)) be deferred to Part 2 of the Annual Meeting to be held on 4 July 2024”.

RESOLVED that the Motion as outlined above be adopted.

3. Election of the Leader of the Council

It was moved by Councillor P Seaman and seconded by Councillor G Lloyd that Councillor George Duggins be elected as the Leader of the Council for the remainder of his term of office.

RESOLVED that Councillor George Duggins be elected as Leader of the Council for the remainder of his term of office.

4. To receive a report of the Leader of the Council on the composition of the Cabinet and the appointment of Deputy Cabinet Members and allocation of Executive Functions within the Cabinet

The City Council received a report of the Leader, Councillor G Duggins, together with a Statement, which confirmed the composition of the Cabinet, the appointment of Deputy Cabinet Members and the allocation of executive portfolios/functions within the Cabinet (detailed below):

CABINET PORTFOLIOS 2024/25

Member	Portfolio
The Leader Policy and Leadership Councillor G Duggins	One Coventry Council Plan Scrutiny External relations / public relations Chair of Cabinet / Management Board meetings Emergency Planning Regional Matters West Midlands Combined Authority Corporate Governance Information Management and Governance Risk Management Political Management
The Deputy Leader Policing and Equalities Councillor AS Khan Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor P Akhtar	Community Safety Community Cohesion Public Protection and Licensing Prosecution and Enforcement Democratic Services, including Lord Mayor’s Electoral Services Equalities Legal Services

	<p>Training (Members)</p> <p>Constitutional Matters</p> <p>Domestic Violence and Sexual Exploitation</p> <p>Local Policing</p> <p>Media Strategy</p> <p>Events and Parks</p> <p>International Liaison and diplomacy</p> <p>Peace, reconciliation and twinning</p> <p>Deputising on Leader Items</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Strategic Finance and Resources</p> <p>Councillor R Brown</p>	<p>Strategic Finance</p> <p>Medium Term Financial Strategy</p> <p>Budget Setting / Transformation</p> <p>External Resources</p> <p>Operational Finance incl. Revenues and Benefits</p> <p>Service Transformation and value for money</p> <p>Procurement</p> <p>Human Resources</p> <p>Organisational Development</p> <p>Key Staff Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Customer Services</p> <p>Health and Safety</p> <p>Pensions</p> <p>Digital Strategy</p>
Member	Portfolio
<p>Cabinet Member Children and Young People</p> <p>Councillor P Seaman</p>	<p>Children and Families (Early Help)</p> <p>Children and Young People's Social Care</p> <p>Child Exploitation</p> <p>Young People</p> <p>Youth Offending Service</p> <p>Safeguarding</p> <p>*S19 Children Act 2004 Lead Member</p> <p>Fostering, Adoption, Special Guardianship Orders and Kinship Care</p> <p>Corporate Parenting</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Education and Skills</p> <p>Councillor K Sandhu</p>	<p>Post 16 Education and Training</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Early Years</p> <p>Special Educational Needs and Disability</p> <p>Libraries</p> <p>Adult Education</p> <p>Higher and Further Education (incl. Universities)</p> <p>Skills and Employability</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Jobs, Regeneration and Climate Change</p> <p>Councillor J O'Boyle</p>	<p>Economic Development</p> <p>City Centre (Regeneration)</p> <p>International Trade and Inward Investment</p> <p>Commercial and Operational Property</p> <p>Growth Company</p> <p>Urban Regeneration</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>Tourism and Marketing</p>

	Sustainability and climate change Social Enterprise Strategy
Cabinet Member City Services Councillor P Hetherton Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor G Lloyd	Highways, Drainage and Lighting Licensing Policy (Hackney Carriage and Private Hire) Public Realm Street Services (Ground Maintenance, Refuse (domestic and commercial), Street Cleaning) Waste Management Flood Management Environment Bereavement Services Traffic Management and Road Safety Average Speed Cameras Parking Policy and Operations Information Technology

Member	Portfolio
Cabinet Member Adult Services Councillor L Bigham Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor S Nazir	Social Care for Adults and Older People Better Care Fund Transforming Care Carers Adult Safeguarding Adult social care integration with health Loneliness and Isolation Digital Exclusion Armed Forces Champion
Cabinet Member Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing Councillor K Caan Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor G Hayre	Health Strategy and Policy Integrated Care Systems Health Inequalities and Marmot Air Quality Local Health Economy Public Health Sexual Health Teenage Pregnancies Mental Health Poverty Fuel Poverty Sport, Physical Activity and Parks
Cabinet Member Housing and Communities Councillor D Welsh Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor S Agboola	Archives Arts Heritage Museums Conservation City of Culture 2021 Legacy Mutuals Community and Voluntary Sector Relations Community Centres Refugees and Asylum Seekers Welfare Advice Services Housing and Homelessness Planning Policy

*Cabinet Member Children and Young People is designated as the Lead Member for Children's Services as required by Section 19 of the Children's Act 2004

5. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 March 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

6. Return of persons elected as Councillors for the City on 2 May 2024

The return of Councillors elected for the following Wards of the City on 2 May 2024 was reported:

Ward	Name	Political Party	Year of Retirement
BABLAKE	Bea Christopher	Labour	2026
BINLEY AND WILLENHALL	Christine E Thomas	Labour	2026
CHEYLESMORE	Barbara Mosterman	Conservative	2026
EARLSDON	Antony Tucker	Labour	2026
FOLESHILL	Shakila Nazir	Labour	2026
HENLEY	Ed Ruane	Labour	2026
HOLBROOK	Rachel Lancaster	Labour	2026
LONGFORD	George Duggins	Labour	2026
LOWER STOKE	Catherine Miks	Labour	2026
SHERBOURNE	David Toulson	Labour	2026
ST MICHAEL'S	Naeem Akhtar	Labour	2026
UPPER STOKE	Kamran Caan	Labour	2026
WAINBODY	John Blundell	Conservative	2026
WESTWOOD	Grace Lewis	Labour	2026
WHOBBERLEY	Jayne Innes	Labour	2026
WOODLANDS	Gary Ridley	Conservative	2026
WYKEN	Angela Hopkins	Labour	2026

7. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

8. **Matters Left for Determination by the City Council**

The City Council considered the following documents which were tabled at the meeting:

- (i) The size, appointments and Terms of Reference for those Boards and Committees (as set out in the Constitution)
- (ii) The allocation of seats to Political Groups in accordance with the Political Balance Rules
- (iii) Nominations and Appointments to Outside Bodies
- (iv) A programme of ordinary meeting of the Council, Cabinet, Scrutiny Boards, Committee and Advisory Panels for 2024/25 including the time and date of the Annual Meeting 2025 and agree the scheme of delegations as set out in the Constitution

RESOLVED that the City Council approve:

- (a) The size and Terms of Reference for those Boards and Committees, as set out in the Constitution**
 - (b) The Programme of Meetings for 2024/25**
 - (c) The allocation of seats and appointments to Council Bodies including the following:**
 - (i) That authority be delegated to the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to appoint to the Labour Group vacancy on the Corporate Parenting Board.**
 - (ii) That authority be delegated to the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the Chair of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee and the appropriate Group Leader, any amendments to the memberships of the Licensing and Regulatory Sub-Committees for Hackney Carriages and Private Hire (Taxis)**
 - (d) The Appointments to Outside Bodies, including the delegation of authority to the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any outstanding appointments and/or changes to Outside Body appointments for the Municipal Year 2024/25 (as appended to these minutes)**
 - (e) To agree the scheme of delegations as set out in the Constitution.**
9. **If required, to consider any changes to the Constitution or any other matters arising from the Annual Meeting decisions and appointments**

There were no other matters arising.

(Meeting closed at 11.20 am)