

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

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**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>
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 Training (Members)

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

<p>Cabinet Member City Services</p> <p>Councillor P Hetherton</p> <p>Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor G Lloyd</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Adult Services</p> <p>Councillor L Bigham</p> <p>Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor S Nazir</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing</p> <p>Councillor K Caan</p> <p>Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor G Hayre</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Cabinet Member Housing and Communities</p> <p>Councillor D Welsh</p> <p>Deputy Cabinet Member Councillor S Agboola</p>	<p>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</p>

\*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:

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

<b>WYKEN</b>	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 the size and Terms of Reference for those Boards and Committee, as set out in the Constitution, the allocation of seats, appointments and programme of meetings together with the appointments to outside bodies (as appended to these minutes) and 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)