



### MINUTES OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

**DATE: Wednesday 19 May 2021 TIME: 10.00 am**

**VENUE: Oxstalls Indoor Tennis Centre - Oxstalls Indoor Tennis Centre**

#### **Present**

#### **Membership:**

Cllr Carole Allaway-Martin	Cllr Joe Harris	Cllr Alan Preest (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Phil Awford	Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE	Cllr Philip Robinson
Cllr Matt Babbage	Cllr Colin Hay	Cllr Steve Robinson
Cllr John Bloxson	Cllr Alex Hegenbarth	Cllr Vernon Smith
Cllr David Brown	Cllr Jeremy Hilton	Cllr Lisa Spivey
Cllr Alastair Chambers	Cllr Stephen Hirst	Cllr Lynden Stowe
Cllr Cate Cody	Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Cllr Wendy Thomas
Cllr Linda Cohen	Cllr Nick Housden	Cllr Brian Tipper
Cllr Stephen Davies	Cllr Beki Hoyland	Cllr Pam Tracey MBE
Cllr David Drew	Cllr Mark Mackenzie-Charrington	Cllr Chloe Turner
Cllr Ben Evans	Cllr Chris McFarling	Cllr Robert Vines
Cllr Stephan Fifield	Cllr Dr Andrew Miller	Cllr Roger Whyborn
Cllr Bernard Fisher	Cllr Graham Morgan	Cllr Kathy Williams
Cllr Andrew Gravells MBE	Cllr Dominic Morris	Cllr Susan Williams
Cllr David Gray	Cllr Gill Moseley	Cllr Suzanne Williams
Cllr Terry Hale	Cllr Emma Nelson	Cllr Dr David Willingham
Cllr Rebecca Halifax	Cllr David Norman MBE	
Cllr Tim Harman	Cllr Sajid Patel	

#### **Honorary Aldermen**

Apologies: Cllr Paul Baker,  
Gordon Shurmer,  
Bill Hobman,  
Bill Crowther

#### **1. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Cllr Ray Theodoulou thanked members and officers for their support and said that it had been a pleasure to serve the Council. In particular he thanked Michelle Pidgeon for her support and Cllr Alan Preest as his Vice Chair.

Members paid tribute to Cllr Theodoulou and the way in which he had chaired the Council during changing times including using new technology and holding meetings remotely.

*Minutes subject to their acceptance as a correct record at the next meeting*

Cllr Theodoulou invited nominations for the position of Chair of the Council for 2021/22.

Cllr Alan Preest was proposed and seconded.

There being no other nominations it was:

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Alan Preest be elected as Chair of Council for the 2021/22 civic year.

Cllr Alan Preest made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Preest thanked members for their support and specifically thanked Cllr Theodoulou wishing him all the best for the future. He stated that the Council represented a diverse and special county and asked that members embraced positivity regardless of political differences. He reminded members that they were here to serve the people of Gloucestershire.

## **2. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR**

The Chair invited nominations for Vice-Chair of Council for the 2021/22 civic year.

There being no other nominations it was

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Stephen Hirst be appointed Vice-Chair of Council for the 2021/22 civic year.

Cllr Hirst made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Hirst thanked members for their support stating that he was humbled and that the County Council should be proud of its record of providing services to the great people of the County. He would do all he could to continue that record.

## **3. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2021 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A copy of the declarations of interest is attached to the signed copy of the minutes.

Cllr David Willingham declared a non-prejudicial interest as a member of Cheltenham Borough Council who would also be appointing to the bodies in item 10.

## **5. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

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The Chair invited nominations for Leader of Council, Cllr Mark Hawthorne was proposed and seconded.

Members commended Cllr Hawthorne for his leadership during the difficult times during the pandemic and his work in helping the Council build back better.

Cllr Paul Hodgkinson spoke that the majority of residents had voted for change. He expressed his disappointment in the electoral system. He hoped that the Conservative leadership had listened to the residents of Gloucestershire and would share responsibility of leadership. He welcomed the 24 new faces to the Council.

There being no other nominations it was:

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Mark Hawthorne be appointed as Leader of the Council for the four year term of the Council.

## **6. CABINET MEMBERSHIP**

Cllr Mark Hawthorne thanked members for their support in appointing him as Leader of Council. He thanked the residents of Gloucestershire for voting in huge numbers and he thanked those officers running the elections for their hard work. He congratulated the new members from all groups. He felt that all members would work together in the best interests of residents. He thanked those members who were not returning and thanked them for all they had done in the past.

He announced that he had appointed the following Cabinet Members:

Cllr Lynden Stowe – Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance and Change  
Cllr Stephen Davies – Cabinet Member for Childrens Safeguarding and Early Years  
Cllr Carole Allaway Martin – Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care Commissioning  
Cllr Kathy Williams – Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care Delivery  
Cllr David Gray – Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning  
Cllr Dave Norman – Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Parking and Libraries  
Cllr Phil Robinson – Cabinet Member for Economy, Education and Skills  
Cllr Vernon Smith – Cabinet Member for Highways and Flood  
Cllr Tim Harman – Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities

## **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A) The meeting would be webcast. Members would be maintaining social distancing and wearing masks when circulating round the room.
- B) Information was provided on the fire and evacuation procedure
- C) The Chair welcomed the newly elected members and congratulated returning members on this re-election to the County Council.

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- D) Wayne Bowcock, Chief Fire Officer, was leaving the Council to become Chief Executive and Fire Officer for Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Cllr Dave Norman thanked him for his work and said that he was a very good Chief Fire Officer. He emphasised his professionalism in putting the Fire and Rescue Service back into order after challenging times in recent years.

## **8. PETITIONS**

No petitions were presented.

## **9. COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Members considered appointments to committees and Police and Crime Panel.

In addition consideration was given to increasing the size of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee, Appointments Committee and Pension Committee, and establishing a new scrutiny committee for seven members for the Fire and Rescue Service.

Considering the chairs of the committees, Cllr Paul Hodgkinson outlined that he felt scrutiny committees should be chaired by an opposition member and so had made proposals on that basis. Cllr Mark Hawthorne outlined the success of the current scrutiny process and reiterated his confidence in the Conservative nominations.

There was more than one nomination for the chairs of the following committees:

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Phil Awford and Cllr John Bloxson

Children and Families Committee – Cllr Andrew Miller and Cllr Ben Evans

Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Matt Babbage and Cllr Paul Baker

Environment Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Dominic Morris and Cllr Chris McFarling

Health Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Andrew Gravells and Cllr David Drew

Adult Social Care and Communities Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Stephen Hirst and Cllr Lisa Spivey

On being put to the vote, it was

### **RESOLVED**

- a) To increase the size of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee, Appointments Committee and Pension Committee from six to seven members to reflect the requirements of Section 15(5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

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- b) To establish a new scrutiny committee of seven members for the Fire and Rescue Service.
- c) That members to be appointed to the committees and Police and Crime Panel as indicated in Appendix 1 of the minutes.
- d) The following chairs of committees appointed:

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Phil Awford  
Children and Families Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Andrew Miller  
Environment Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Dom Morris  
Adult Social Care and Communities Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Stephen Hirst  
Health Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Andrew Gravells  
Economic Growth Scrutiny – Cllr Matt Babbage  
Fire and Rescue – Cllr Jeremy Hilton  
Audit and Governance Committee – Cllr Colin Hay

#### **10. APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services which recommended the appointment of the Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee until the next County Council election in May 2025.

**RESOLVED** to appoint David Clowes as the Independent Member to the Audit and Governance Committee until May 2025.

#### **11. INDEPENDENT PERSONS**

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Policy, Performance and Governance relating to the appointment of Independent Persons. Two Independent Persons had been appointed and had served the County Council extremely well but their term had now come to an end. Rob Ayliffe wished to extend his thanks to Graham Baum and John Milner.

One member raised his concern that there was an under-representation of women and suggested there was an unconscious bias. In response, it was explained there were three applicants and there had been two rounds of recruitment. Reassurance was given that candidates were appointed on the basis of their suitability and skills for the role.

**RESOLVED** to appoint Bernard Barton-Ancliffe and Stephen Pearman as Independent Persons for a four year term until May 2025. Their appointments would be subject to review before May 2025 and they be allowed to serve for a maximum of a further four years.

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## **12. POLITICAL ASSISTANTS**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services setting out the legal position regarding the appointment of Political Assistants. It was outlined that Political Assistants worked under the direction of their Political Group Leader but were line managed within Democratic Services.

The Leader of the Council thanked the Conservative Group's former political researcher Richard Coates for his work at the Council.

**RESOLVED** to appoint political assistants for qualifying groups for the term of the Council.

## **13. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2022**

**RESOLVED** to approve the calendar of meetings for 2022 as shown at Appendix 2 of the minutes.

## **CHAIRPERSON**

Meeting concluded at 11.05 am

**19 May 2021**

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

### **A1 Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees and the Audit and Governance Committee**

Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee	Phil Awford
Children and Families Scrutiny Committee	Andrew Miller
Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee	Matt Babbage
Environment Scrutiny Committee	Dominic Morris
Fire and Rescue Scrutiny Committee	Jeremy Hilton
Health Scrutiny Committee	Andrew Gravells
Adult Social Care and Communities Scrutiny Committee	Stephen Hirst
Audit and Governance Committee	Colin Hay

### **A2 Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee**

GCC members	Cons	Lib Dem	Lab	Green
13	7	4	1	1
	Awford, Phil	Evans, Ben	Bloxsom, John	Turner, Chloe
	Babbage, Matt	Harris, Joe		
	Gravells, Andrew	Hilton, Jeremy		
	Hale, Terry	Spivey, Lisa		
	Hirst, Stephen			
	Miller, Andrew			
	Morris, Dominic			

The membership of this committee should include chairs of the other scrutiny committees.

### **A3 Scrutiny Committees**

#### **Children and Families Scrutiny**

GCC members	Cons	Lib Dem	Lab	Green
	5	2	1	1

9	Chambers, Alastair	Cohen, Linda	Drew, David	Hoyland, Rebekah
	Housden, Nick	Evans, Ben		
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark			
	Miller, Andrew			
	Nelson, Emma			

### **Economic Growth Scrutiny**

GCC members	Cons 4	Lib Dem 3	Lab	Green
7	Babbage, Matt	Baker, Paul		
	Chambers, Alastair	Halifax, Rebecca		
	Morris, Dominic	Whyborn, Roger		
	Vines, Rob			

### **Environment Scrutiny**

GCC members	Cons 5	Lib Dem 3	Lab	Green 1
9	Awford, Phil	Hegenbarth, Alex		McFarling, Chris
	Morris, Dominic	Moseley, Gill		
	Patel, Saj	Whyborn, Roger		
	Preest, Alan			
	Williams, Sue			



**Fire and Rescue Scrutiny Committee**

GCC members	Cons 4	Lib Dem 2	Lab 1	Green
7	Housden, Nick	Fisher, Bernie	Thomas, Wendy	
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark	Hilton, Jeremy		
	Tipper, Brian			
	Tracey, Pam			

**Health Scrutiny**

GCC members	Cons 5	Lib Dem 3	Lab 1	Green
9	Gravells, Andrew	Brown, David	Drew, David	
	Fifield, Stephan	Cohen, Linda		
	Hirst, Stephen	Moseley, Gill		
	Preest, Alan			
	Vines, Rob			

**Adult Social Care and Communities Scrutiny**

GCC members	Cons 5	Lib Dem 2	Lab 1	Green 1
9	Chambers, Alastair	Spivey, Lisa	Robinson, Steve	Cody, Cate
	Hale, Terry	Williams, Suzanne		
	Hirst, Stephen			
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark			
	Tracey, Pam			

**A4 Audit and Governance Committee**

GCC members	Cons 6	Lib Dem 3	Lab 1	Green 1
11	Babbage, Matt	Hay, Colin	Bloxsom, John	Turner, Chloe
	Fifield, Stephan	Hegenbarth, Alex		
	Hirst, Stephen	Willingham, David		
	Preest, Alan			
	Tipper, Brian			
	Williams, Sue			

**A5 Appeals Committee**

GCC members	Cons 8	Lib Dem 5	Lab 1	Green 1
15	Awford, Phil	Baker, Paul	Robinson, Steve	Hoyland, Rebekah
	Chambers, Alastair	Fisher, Bernie		
	Hale, Terry	Halifax, Rebecca		
	Hirst, Stephen	Spivey, Lisa		
	Housden, Nick	Whyborn, Roger		
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark			
	Preest, Alan			
	Vines, Rob			

**A6 Appointments Committee**

GCC members	Cons 4	Lib Dem 2	Lab 1	Green
7	Harman, Tim	Halifax, Rebecca	Thomas, Wendy	
	Hawthorne, Mark	Hodgkinson, Paul		
	Norman, Dave			
	Stowe, Lynden			

At least one member of the Appointments Committee must be a member of the Cabinet.

**A7 Constitution Committee**

GCC members	Cons 5	Lib Dem 3	Lab 1	Green
9	Hawthorne, Mark	Hay, Colin	Bloxsom, John	
	Norman, Dave	Hilton, Jeremy		
	Robinson, Philip	Hodgkinson, Paul		
	Stowe, Lynden			
	Miller, Andrew			

**A8 Planning Committee**

GCC members	Cons 8	Lib Dem 5	Lab 1	Green 1
15	Awford, Phil	Brown, David	Morgan, Graham	McFarling, Chris
	Chambers, Alastair	Baker, Paul		
	Hale, Terry	Cohen, Linda		
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark	Fisher, Bernie		
	Morris, Dominic	Moseley Gill		
	Tracey, Pam			
	Vines, Rob			
	Williams, Sue			

**A9 Regulatory Committees****Commons and Rights of Way Committee**

GCC members	Cons 5	Lib Dem 2	Lab 1	Green 1
9	Awford, Phil	Hegenbarth, Alex	Morgan, Graham	Hoyland, Rebekah
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark	Willingham, David		
	Morris, Dominic			
	Vines, Rob			
	Williams, Sue			

**Safety and Licensing Committee**

GCC members	Cons 5	Lib Dem 3	Lab	Green 1
9	Chambers, Alastair	Halifax, Rebecca		Cody, Cate
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark	Spivey, Lisa		
	Nelson, Emma	Willingham, David		
	Patel, Saj			
	Vines, Rob			

**Traffic Regulation Committee**

GCC members	Cons 5	Lib Dem 2	Lab 1	Green 1
9	Fifield, Stephan	Whyborn, Roger	Robinson, Steve	Turner, Chloe
	Preest, Alan	Williams, Suzanne		
	Tipper, Brian			
	Tracey, Pam			
	Williams, Sue			

**A10 Pension Committee**

GCC members	Cons 4	Lib Dem 2	Lab 1	Green
7	Babbage, Matt	Brown, David	Thomas, Wendy	
	Mackenzie-Charrington, Mark	Hay, Colin		
	Preest, Alan			
	Stowe, Lynden			

**A11 Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel**

	Cons 2	Lib Dem 1	Lab 1
4	Patel, Sajid	Harris, Joe	Robinson, Steve
	Tipper, Brian		