



Council

Monday, 22 May 2023

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Salman Akbar (Mayor), Councillor Karen Ashley (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors Imran Altaf, Joe Baker, Juliet Barker Smith, Joanne Beecham, Juma Begum, Brandon Clayton, Luke Court, Matthew Dormer, James Fardoe, Peter Fleming, Alex Fogg, Andrew Fry, Lucy Harrison, Bill Hartnett, Sharon Harvey, Chris Holz, Joanna Kane, Sid Khan, Anthony Lovell, Emma Marshall, Kerrie Miles, Gemma Monaco, Timothy Pearman, Jane Spilsbury, Monica Stringfellow, Craig Warhurst and Ian Woodall

Also Present:

Mrs Ann Isherwood (Mayor of the Borough of Redditch 2022/23)

Officers:

Peter Carpenter, Kevin Dicks, Claire Felton and Sue Hanley

Principal Democratic Services Officer:

Jess Bayley-Hill

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS

The retiring Mayor, Mrs Ann Isherwood, provided an update on the civic engagements that she had attended since the previous meeting of Council and discussed the highlights of her year serving as the Mayor of the Borough of Redditch. Mrs Isherwood thanked Members, Officers, the public and her family for the support that they had provided to her during the year. Former Councillor, Tom Baker-Price, was also thanked for supporting her in his capacity as Deputy Mayor during the 2022/23 municipal year. In addition, Mrs

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Chair

Isherwood thanked Mr Oli Glover-Waters for serving as her Mayoral cadet.

Members were advised that Mrs Isherwood had attended 320 official engagements and travelled 2,605 miles whilst serving as the Mayor of the Borough of Redditch. In total, she had raised £13,375 in support of her charity, Touchstones Support.

4. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR FOR 2023/24

Nominations for the position of Mayor of the Borough of Redditch for the 2023/24 municipal year were received on behalf of Councillors Salman Akbar and Juma Begum.

On being put to the vote, Councillor Salman Akbar was elected Mayor of the Borough for the forthcoming year. He made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office verbally and then was invested with the Chain of Office. Councillor Akbar thanked the outgoing Mayor and, on behalf of the Council, expressed gratitude for the work she had carried out as an ambassador for the town.

RESOLVED that

- 1) Councillor Salman Akbar be elected Mayor of the Borough of Redditch to serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Council; and**
- 2) the Council formally express, and record, its gratitude to former Councillor, Ann Isherwood, for her excellent service to the town as Mayor in the 2022/23 municipal year.**

5. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2023/24

Nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Redditch for the 2023/24 municipal year were received on behalf of Councillors Karen Ashley and Monica Stringfellow.

On being put to the vote, Councillor Karen Ashley was elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Redditch for the forthcoming year. She made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office verbally and was then invested with the Deputy Mayor's Badge of Office.

RESOLVED that

Councillor Karen Ashley be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Redditch to serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of Council held on Monday 27th February 2023 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Mayor.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) The Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that his wife, Mrs Abia Akbar, would be his Mayoral consort. Members were informed that the Mayor would confirm at the following Council meeting which charities he would be supporting and whether he would be nominating a chaplain to serve during his Mayoral year.

b) The Leader's Announcements

The Leader thanked former members of the Council who had stood down or who had not been returned at the local elections held in May 2023. He also welcomed all new Members who had been elected to the Council at the local elections.

c) The Chief Executive's Announcements

The Chief Executive confirmed that he had no announcements to make on this occasion.

8. LEADER'S APPOINTMENTS

The Leader presented his appointments to the Executive Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year.

RESOLVED that

the appointment by the Leader of the Deputy Leader, of Members to the Executive Committee and to the individual Portfolios be noted.

9. APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES, PANELS ETC AND THEIR CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS

Members considered the Council's political balance and nominations from the political groups to the Council's various Committees and Panels.

During consideration of this item, the Leader advised Members of an amendment to the nominations to the Electoral Matters

Committee, whereby Councillor Peter Fleming, rather than Councillor Luke Court, was being nominated to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee during the 2023/24 municipal year.

- 1) **the Political balance of the Committees of the Council be agreed;**
- 2) **the arrangement where the seats on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are not allocated in accordance with the political balance requirements be approved;**
- 3) **appointments by political group leaders to the places on each Committee etc. be noted;**
- 4) **the Council appoints Chairs and Vice-Chairs to the Committees and other bodies as set out in Appendix 2;**
- 5) **appointments to Working Groups and other bodies be agreed; and**
- 6) **the terms of reference for the Committees be confirmed.**

10. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

Members considered a report setting out proposed appointments to various outside bodies, which were tabled at the meeting (Appendix 1).

During consideration of this item, nominations were received on behalf of Councillors Alex Fogg and Sid Khan to serve as the Council's Armed Forces Champion during the 2023/24 municipal year. On being put to the vote, Members agreed that Councillor Alex Fogg should be appointed to serve as the Armed Forces Champion during the 2023/24 municipal year.

RESOLVED that

- 1) **the Council makes appointments to the bodies listed in the appendix to the report; and**
- 2) **Councillor Alex Fogg be appointed to serve as the Council's Armed Forces Champion during the 2023/24 municipal year.**

11. **SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS**

Members considered a report relating to the content of the existing Officer Scheme of Delegations, which contained a list of powers delegated to officers by the Council. Council was advised that this report was considered at the Annual Council meeting each year and that no new delegations were proposed for Members' consideration.

During consideration of this item, concerns were raised by some Members about the scale and volume of powers that had already been delegated to Officers at the Council. Whilst it was acknowledged that some powers needed to be delegated to officers to ensure the smooth operation of Council business, concerns were raised that there was a risk that this could become too extensive.

RESOLVED that

the current version of the Officer Scheme of Delegations be agreed.

12. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

The Mayor confirmed that no urgent decisions had been taken since the previous Council meeting.

13. URGENT BUSINESS - GENERAL (IF ANY)

There was no urgent business for discussion on this occasion.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 7.41 pm

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REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**Annual Council**

22nd May 2023

**APPENDIX 1: BOROUGH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON
OUTSIDE BODIES – NOMINATIONS FOR 2023/2024****STRATEGIC APPOINTMENTS TO NOTE:**

| Organisation | Appointee 2022/23 | Appointment Requirements | Nomination 2023/24 |
|--|---|--|--|
| Local Government Association | Councillor Matt Dormer | 1 Representative (usually Leader) must be a Councillor. Term: 1 year No liability issues identified. | Councillor Dormer |
| West Mercia Police and Crime Panel | Councillor Nyear Nazir Sub: Councillor Lucy Harrison | 1 representative (Relevant Portfolio Holder) and 1 substitute. Term: 1 year No liability issues identified. | Councillor Harrison Sub: Councillor Beecham |
| Assembly of the District Councils' Network | Councillor Matt Dormer | 1 Nomination To represent the Council on the Assembly of this body which is a voice for District Councils within the Local Government Association. The Assembly of the DCN comprises the Leaders of the Member Authorities or equivalent. Term: 1 year No liability issues identified. | Councillor Dormer |
| Corporate Parenting Board <i>(Worcestershire County Council)</i> | Councillor Nyear Nazir | 1 RBC Representative (elected) <u>Must be relevant Portfolio Holder</u> Until next RBC Annual Meeting. (Monthly meetings – approx. 2 hrs each time – generally Friday mornings – 9.30a.m. start) No liability issues identified. | Councillor Harrison |
| Redditch Partnership (Local Strategic Partnership including Redditch District Collaborative) | Councillor Matt Dormer | 1 Member Representative Leader Term: 1 year No liability issues identified. | Councillor Dormer |

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**Annual Council**

22nd May 2023

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| Redditch Partnership Business Leaders Group <i>(Formerly an Economic Theme Group)</i> | Councillor Matt Dormer | Following changes this group is now operating under a new title and promoting greater links with local business leaders. For 2022/23 representatives required, by office: Leader Economic Development Portfolio Holder | Councillor Dormer |
| Redditch BID Limited <i>(Company no 11964088)</i> | Councillor Matt Dormer | 1 RBC Representative to act as a Director of the company Term: to be confirmed No liability issues identified | Councillor Dormer |
| Redditch Towns Fund Board | Councillor Matt Dormer | 1 Member Representative Leader Term: 1 year No liability issues identified. | Councillor Dormer |
| North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership | Councillor Nyear Nazir Sub: Councillor Lucy Harrison | 1 representative and one named substitute Term: 1 year Terms of Reference indicate the representative should be the relevant Portfolio Holder. Each district Council has a place on the Partnership Board as an Invitee to Participate. No liability issues identified. | Councillor Harrison Sub: Councillor Beecham |
| Waste Management Board <i>(Lead Officer – Guy Revans)</i> | Councillor Peter Fleming Sub: Councillor Emma Marshall | 1 representative Representative must be a Councillor and relevant Portfolio Holder Term : 1 year <u>Note: Meets Friday mornings - 4 times per year</u> No liability issues identified | Councillor Clayton Sub: Councillor Marshall |
| Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Board | Councillor Nyear Nazir Sub: Councillor Lucy Harrison | 1 representative and 1 substitute per council (Since Oct 2022) | Councillor Harrison Sub: Councillor Beecham |
| Health Improvement Group | Councillor Nyear Nazir Sub: Councillor Lucy Harrison | 1 RBC Representative (Elected) Relevant Portfolio | Councillor Harrison Sub: Councillor Beecham |

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**Annual Council**

22nd May 2023

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| West Midlands Combined Authority Board | Councillor Matt Dormer Sub: Councillor Craig Warhurst | 1 nomination and one substitute Leader by office | Councillor Dormer Sub: Councillor Warhurst |
| West Midlands Combined Authority Housing and Land Delivery Board | Councillor Matt Dormer Sub: Councillor Craig Warhurst | 1 RBC Representative (Elected) Relevant Portfolio <u>Must be relevant Portfolio Holder (function to include Housing and/or Land Use)</u> | Councillor Dormer Sub: Councillor Warhurst |
| West Midlands Combined Authority – Audit Risk and Assurance Committee | Councillor Tom Baker-Price Sub: Councillor Luke Court | Worcestershire Non-constituent Authorities 2022/23 Redditch Borough Council to make appointment. 1 nomination and one substitute Must be members of the majority group | Councillor Ashley Sub: Councillor Clayton |
| West Midlands Combined Authority – Economic Growth Board | Councillor Matt Dormer | Non-constituent Authorities | Councillor Dormer |
| West Midlands Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee | Councillor Mike Chalk Sub: Councillor Brandon Clayton | Worcestershire Non-constituent Authorities 2022/23 Redditch Borough Council to make appointment 1 nomination and one substitute Must be members of the majority group and ideally members of O&S | Councillor Marshall Sub: Councillor Ashley |
| West Midlands Combined Authority - Transport Delivery Overview & Scrutiny Committee | | Worcestershire Non-constituent Authorities (2023/24 Redditch to appoint) | Councillor Marshall Sub: Councillor Clayton |
| Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Partnership Assembly | Councillor Nyear Nazir | 1 representative and one named substitute Ideally Relevant Portfolio | Councillor Harrison |

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**Annual Council**

22nd May 2023

LOCAL APPOINTMENTS

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| Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee <i>(Worcestershire County Council)</i> | Councillor Michael Chalk | 1 representative (Must be a member of Redditch Borough Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee). Term: 1 year. Comprises 8 County Councillors and 6 District Councillors who scrutinise the local NHS and are consulted by the NHS on any proposed substantial changes to local health services. | Councillor Marshall |
| Redditch Highways & Transportation Forum Members Discussion Group <i>(Worcestershire County Council)</i> | Councillor Michael Chalk Councillor Andy Fry | Up to 2 Representatives (Must be Councillors) Term: To RBC AGM Role is that of non-voting observers only. No liability issues identified. | Councillor Brandon Clayton Councillor Andrew Fry |
| Worcestershire Local Access Forum <i>(Worcestershire County Council)</i> | Councillor Anthony Lovell | 1 nomination from north Worcestershire District Councils (must be a Councillor) Term : 1 year <u>(Note: Would be beneficial if the representative had a keen interest in countryside access and recreation issues.)</u> No liability issues identified. | Councillor Lovell |
| Redditch Eastern Gateway Steering Group | Councillor Anthony Lovell | 1 Representative to be a ward member for Winyates Ward Term : 1 year Group of local stakeholders set up by Stratford on Avon District Council to consider proposals regarding the Eastern Gateway Development as to reserved matters and routing strategy/survey. No liability issues identified. | Councillor Lovell |
| Citizens Advice Bromsgrove and Redditch | New 2016 No appointments made since 2017 | 1 representative and 1 substitute Appointments will be trustees of the CAB which is a charitable company limited by guarantee Term: 3 years | No nominations |

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**Annual Council**

22nd May 2023

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| Redditch Co-operative Homes | Councillors Tom Baker-Price, Andrew Fry, Bill Hartnett and Emma Marshall | 4 Nominations (must be Councillors) Term: 1 year Liability appears to be limited providing there are no breaches of duty or trust. | Councillors Altaf, Fardoe, Hartnett and Lovell |
| Redditch One World Link Executive Committee | Councillors Karen Ashley and Emma Marshall | 2 Representatives Nominations should not include the Mayor who is a Member ex-officio*. Term: 1 year Liability appears to be limited, provided there are no breaches of duty or trust. | Councillor Ashley and Marshall |
| PATROL Traffic Penalty Tribunal (Civil Parking Enforcement) | Deputy: Councillor Brandon Clayton | 1 Representative plus 1 Deputy (must be Councillors) Term: AGM to AGM No liabilities identified / unlikely to be any liabilities. | Councillor Clayton Deputy: Councillor Pearman |
| 'Where Next' Association | Councillor Anthony Lovell Councillor Sid Khan | 2 Representative must be Councillors – 2 places <i>variation previously agreed</i> Term: 1 year to Council's AGM Nature of representation: to represent the Borough Council. Liability appears to be limited. | Councillor Lovell and Councillor Spilsbury |
| Worcestershire Armed Forces Covenant Partnership | Councillor Alex Fogg | 1 Representative to serve as Armed Forces Champion. Term: 1 year to Council's AGM Nature of representation: to represent the Borough Council. | Councillor Alex Fogg |

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