

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the EXTRAORDINARY meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Wednesday, 26 July 2017.

PRESENT: Councillor R J West – Chairman.

Councillors J D Ablewhite, T D Alban,
K M Baker, C E Bober, D Brown,
P L E Bucknell, G J Bull, E R Butler,
R C Carter, S Cawley, B S Chapman,
Mrs S Conboy, J E Corley, S J Criswell,
J W Davies, D B Dew, Mrs A Dickinson,
M Francis, R Fuller, I D Gardener, L George,
J A Gray, S Greenall, T Hayward, R B Howe,
B Hyland, P Kadewere, Mrs R E Mathews,
D J Mead, J P Morris, J M Palmer,
P D Reeve, T D Sanderson, M F Shellens,
L R Swain, Mrs J Tavener, R G Tuplin,
D M Tysoe, D Watt and J E White.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs B E Boddington, Mrs A Donaldson, Mrs L A Duffy, D A Giles, Mrs S A Giles, R Harrison, Mrs P A Jordan and Mrs S L Taylor.

22. MEMBERS INTERESTS'

No declarations were received.

23. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

In conjunction with a report by the Managing Director (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) it was proposed by Councillor R B Howe, seconded by Councillor Mrs S J Conboy and

RESOLVED

that Councillor G J Bull be elected Executive Leader of the Council for the remainder of the Municipal Year to the Annual Meeting in May 2018.

Councillor Howe referred to his appointment as Executive Leader in May 2016 that drew upon his skills and experience to guide ideas about how the Council should be operating through a combination of vision, structured approach and customer service for the residents. He reported upon his progression with the ongoing projects of commercialisation, transformation and engagement with Town and Parish Councils, as well as the Council's role in the devolution process.

In so doing, the Council were reminded of his appointment as the

Deputy Mayor of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority in May 2017 and the difficulties associated with delivering their 100 day plan in conjunction with managing the workload as the Executive Leader. With that in mind, Councillor Howe intimated that the Council required a full time Leader and expressed his support for Councillor Bull, with shared values and principles to continue to lead the work of the Cabinet. In referring to the Combined Authority, Councillor Howe reported upon his role in ensuring Huntingdonshire was fully represented through large infrastructure projects and the wider economic development for the region.

In concluding, Councillor Howe thanked his fellow Cabinet Members for their support and wished Councillor Bull well in his future role. He also thanked the Officers of the Council and the excellent working relationship and partnership with the Managing Director that he hoped would continue going forward.

Councillor Bull informed the Council of his background being born and raised in Huntingdonshire and was honoured to lead the Council. In thanking Members for their support and trust, Councillor Bull referred to the Members role, with differing political views, but all working for the best interests of the residents. Councillor Bull thanked Councillor Howe for his leadership and friendship in terms of the effort as well as being an excellent advocate for the Combined Authority.

Focusing on the future, Councillor Bull highlighted the ongoing financial issues faced by the Council and would continue to pursue the commercialisation agenda and transformation project led by the Managing Director and excellent officers. In setting out the vision of the Council, Members noted that the authority would strive to achieve good quality services that residents required. The Council also were reminded of the need for sustainability and responding to changes, from public sector reforms through to population growth and development, meeting the requirements of affordable housing and the demands of homelessness.

In concluding, Councillor Bull informed the Council of the aims of his leadership to make Huntingdonshire an even better authority and in return for respect and support from Members welcomed the opportunity to work more closely with them.

24. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET AND DEPUTY EXECUTIVE LEADER

The Executive Leader, Councillor G J Bull, announced that he had appointed Councillors D Brown, S Cawley, Mrs A Dickinson, R Fuller, J A Gray, R B Howe and J E White to join him as Members of the Cabinet for the remainder of the Municipal Year. He also announced the Councillor R Fuller would be the Deputy Executive Leader and Vice-Chairman of the Cabinet. Councillor Bull outlined to Members how the Cabinet Portfolios would align to the Corporate Priorities as set out in Corporate Plan.

Councillor Bull presented details of the Cabinet Portfolios for the remainder of the 2017/18 Municipal Year:-

Councillor D Brown	Commercial and Shared Services
Councillor S Cawley	Transformation and Customers

Councillor Mrs A Dickinson	Community Resilience and Regulatory
Councillor R Fuller	Deputy Executive Leader and Housing and Planning
Councillor J A Gray	Strategic Resources
Councillor R B Howe	Devolution and Growth
Councillor J White	Operations

25. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

In light of the changes effected in Minute No. 23 and 24 ante, it was

RESOLVED

that Councillor R B Howe, Executive Councillor for Devolution and Growth be appointed to act as the Council's appointee to the Combined Authority and Councillor G J Bull be appointed as the substitute member.

26. VARIATIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

On the recommendation of the Executive Leader, Councillor G J Bull, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that Councillor R Harrison be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Economy and Growth) in place of Councillor K M Baker;
- (b) that Councillor R Fuller be appointed to the Development Management Committee in place of Councillor G J Bull;
- (c) that Councillor Mrs A Dickinson be appointed to the Licensing and Protection and Licensing Committee in place of Councillor R Fuller; and
- (d) that Councillor G J Bull be appointed to the Employment Committee in place of Councillor R B Howe.

The meeting ended at 7.20pm.

Chairman