

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the COUNCIL held in Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Wednesday, 23 May 2018.

PRESENT: Councillor R J West – Chairman.

Councillors J D Ablewhite, T D Alban,
B S Banks, L A Besley, Mrs M L Beuttell,
G J Bull, E R Butler, S Bywater,
B S Chapman, J R Clarke, Mrs S Conboy,
J C Cooper-Marsh, S J Corney, S J Criswell,
J W Davies, D B Dew, Ms A Diaz,
Mrs A Dickinson, R Fuller, Dr P L R Gaskin,
D A Giles, Mrs S A Giles, J A Gray,
M S Grice, K P Gulson, M J Humphrey,
Dr N Johnson, Mrs P A Jordan, P Kadewere,
H V Masson, D J Mead, J Neish, J M Palmer,
K I Prentice, T D Sanderson, Mrs S Smith,
Mrs J Tavener, D Terry, R G Tuplin,
D M Tysoe, D R Underwood, S Wakeford,
D J Wells and J E White.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R E Bellamy, D N Keane, C J Maslen, L W McGuire, J P Morris and Mrs P E Shrapnel.

1. PRAYER

The Reverend David Busk, Vicar of the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Godmanchester opened the meeting with Prayer.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor J W Davies, seconded by Councillor J D Ablewhite, following which Councillor P Kadewere proposed an amendment and proposed Councillor N Johnson, seconded by Councillor D A Giles. Upon being put the vote the Motion by Councillor Kadewere was declared to be LOST. The former motion by Councillor Davies having been previously moved and seconded, upon being put to the vote it was further

RESOLVED

that Councillor R J West be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor West made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked Members for their support and the honour which the Council had bestowed upon him. In so doing, the Chairman also paid tribute to former Councillor R C Carter who had supported him as Vice-Chairman of the Council, the Managing Director, Corporate Directors, Senior Management Team, Democratic Services as well as

Mr D Buckridge and Mr T Batha for their tremendous support.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 26th March 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MEMBERS INTERESTS'

No declarations were received.

5. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor R J West, seconded by Councillor and J White

RESOLVED

that Councillor J W Davies be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Davies made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and expressed his gratitude to Members and those Members that nominated him in his role as Vice-Chairman of the Council.

6. LOCAL ELECTIONS: 3 MAY 2018

The report of the Returning Officer with regard to the District Council elections held on 3 May 2018 detailing persons elected to the Office of District Councillor was received and noted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book). In so doing the Chairman conveyed his appreciation to the Managing Director and her team for the excellent work undertaken in the organisation of the elections.

7. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor R Fuller, seconded by Councillor Mrs S J Conboy and

RESOLVED

that Councillor G J Bull be elected Executive Leader of the Council for the period to the Annual Meeting in May 2022.

Councillor Fuller confirmed his support for Councillor Bull and referred to his dedication, commitment and passion to deliver for the residents of Huntingdonshire. This was demonstrated by his election to the role in July 2017 following the resignation as Executive Leader by former Councillor R B Howe and referred to the recent election results in May 2018 that had demonstrated Councillor Bull's vision for Huntingdonshire.

Councillor Mrs Conboy referred to her position as Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group and her seconding of the motion that spoke volumes for support of Councillor Bull as Executive Leader. In so doing, Councillor Mrs Conboy also stated that Councillor Bull welcomed Members contributions and the positive and constructive

relationships to take business forward.

Executive Leader, Councillor Bull thanked Members for their support and confidence in his ability as Leader. He referred to how proud he was to represent Huntingdonshire and thanked Councillors Fuller and Mrs Conboy for their kind words. Councillor Bull further outlined his approach to collegiate working and responsibility for the people of Huntingdonshire.

Councillor Bull congratulated all Members on their recent election successes and in particular welcomed the 26 new Members to the District Council in anticipation of their term of office being enjoyable, as well as feeling that they make a difference to their communities.

In referring to the uncertainty of the future with Brexit on the horizon, Councillor Bull confirmed the certainty of reduction in Central Government funding and more reliance on own resources with a focus on looking at opportunities to adopt a creative and more innovative approach. In so doing, it was noted that customers' expectations had been changing resulting in the Council developing new ways of working.

Members noted that public sector reform had changed the way other tiers of authority were delivering their services, including Cambridgeshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner assuming responsibility for the county's fire service and shared services between Huntingdonshire, South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City Councils.

In concluding, Councillor Bull reported that he relied upon other Members with their help and support in developing an agile and responsive Council, with the highest standards of probity and to work together to bring forward the benefits of devolution back to Huntingdonshire.

8. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET AND DEPUTY EXECUTIVE LEADER

The Executive Leader, Councillor G J Bull, announced that he had appointed Councillors R Fuller, J M Palmer, D M Tysoe and J White to join him as Members of the Cabinet for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor G J Bull presented details of the Cabinet Portfolios for the 2018/19 Municipal Year:-

Councillor R Fuller	Growth
Councillor J A Gray	Resources
Councillor J M Palmer	Partnership and Well-being
Councillor D M Tysoe	Digital and Customer
Councillor J White	Operations and Regulation

In response to a question from Councillor B S Chapman, the Managing Director confirmed that former Councillor D Brown had not resigned as Director of HDC Ventures Ltd.

9. REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMITTEES, ETC

A report was submitted by the Elections and Democratic Services Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) relating to the principles and proportionality to be applied to the appointment of Committees and Panels in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Part II of the Local Government Act 2000.

Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the allocation of seats on District Council Committees and Panels to political groups and non-aligned Members be determined as set out in the report now submitted.

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

Councillor T D Sanderson raised a question in relation to why the number of Overview and Scrutiny Panels had been reduced from three to two Panels, whereby the Executive Leader confirmed that this was to enable a more effective approach to overview and scrutiny of the Council. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the following Members be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels for the ensuing Municipal Year.

*Overview and Scrutiny Panel
(Performance and Growth)*

L A Besley
J C Cooper-Marsh
S Corney
D B Dew
P L R Gaskin
D A Giles
M Grice
K P Gulson
J M Morris
J Neish
S Wakeford
D J Wells

*Overview and Scrutiny Panel
(Customers and Partnerships)*

T D Alban
B S Banks
R E Bellamy
S Bywater
B S Chapman
S J Criswell
J W Davies
Ms A Diaz
K I Prentice
Ms S Smith
Ms J Tavener
D R Underwood

11. COMMITTEES

RESOLVED

(a) that Members be appointed to serve on the Corporate Governance, Development Management, Employment, Licensing and Protection, Licensing and Senior Officers Committees for the ensuing Municipal Year as follows:-

Corporate Governance Committee (12)

Councillors Ms M Beutell, E R Butler, J W Davies, P L R Gaskin, D Giles, P Kadewere, H Masson, L W McGuire, J P Morris, D J Mead, Ms S Smith and D R Underwood.

Development Management Committee (16)

Councillors J D Ablewhite, L A Besley, S M Burton, E R Butler, Mrs S J Conboy, D B Dew, K P Gulson, M Humphrey, N Johnson, C J Maslen, J Neish, K I Prentice, T D Sanderson, R G Tuplin, R J West and the Executive Councillor Member with appropriate portfolio responsibilities in an ex officio capacity.

Employment Committee (8)

Councillors B S Chapman, Ms A Dickinson, Mrs P A Jordan, D N Keane, Ms J Tavener, D Terry, R J West and the Executive Councillor Member with appropriate portfolio responsibilities in an ex officio capacity.

Licensing and Protection Committee (12)

Councillors B S Banks, J Clarke, S Corney, S J Criswell, Ms A Diaz, Ms A Dickinson, Mrs S Giles, Mrs P A Jordan, L W McGuire, D J Mead, Ms P E Shrapnel and the Executive Councillor Member with appropriate portfolio responsibilities in an ex officio capacity.

Licensing Committee (12)

Councillors B S Banks, J Clarke, S Corney, S J Criswell, Ms A Diaz, Ms A Dickinson, Mrs S Giles, Mrs P A Jordan, L W McGuire, D J Mead, Ms P E Shrapnel and the Executive Councillor Member with appropriate portfolio responsibilities in an ex officio capacity.

Senior Officers Committee (4)

Councillors Mrs S J Conboy, D A Giles, D M Tysoe and R J West.

- (b) That the following Members be nominated from which the Corporate Team Manager be authorised when necessary, to convene a meeting of the Appeals Sub-Group in include up to five Members (excluding Members of the Employment Committee) to determine appeals under the Council's disciplinary and appeals procedures –

Councillors J D Ablewhite, T Alban, R E Bellamy, S Bywater, Mrs S J Conboy, S Corney, J W Davies, Mrs S Giles, D J Mead, H Masson and Ms S Smith.

12. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY - MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

With the assistance of a report by the Managing Director (a copy of

which is appended in the Minute Book), Council were invited to make appointments/ nominations to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

Having noted that the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committees was required to reflect the balance of political parties of the constituent councils, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that Councillor G J Bull, Executive Leader of Council be appointed to act as the Council's appointee to the Combined Authority and Councillor R Fuller be appointed as the substitute member;
- (b) the Councillors D B Dew and T D Sanderson be nominated to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, with Councillors J Neish and B S Chapman nominated as substitutes;
- (c) that Councillor L W McGuire be nominated to the Audit and Governance Committee, with Councillor P L R Gaskin as the substitute member; and
- (d) that the Managing Director be authorised to make any amendments to the appointments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in consultation with the Executive Leader, should the political balance be amended by the Combined Authority between now and the next Council meeting.

13. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING : 27 JUNE 2018

It was noted that a Special Meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday, 27th June 2018 at 7.00pm.

The meeting ended at 6.30pm.

Chairman