

Annual Meeting of the Council

Minutes - 18 May 2022

Attendance

Retiring Mayor Cllr Greg Brackenridge (Lab)
Retiring Deputy Mayor Cllr Sandra Samuels OBE (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Obaida Ahmed
Cllr Qaiser Azeem
Cllr Mary Bateman
Cllr Philip Bateman MBE
Cllr Olivia Birch
Cllr Dr Paul John Birch J.P.
Cllr Ian Brookfield
Cllr Paula Brookfield
Cllr Chris Burden
Cllr Craig Collingswood
Cllr Lovinyer Daley
Cllr Claire Darke
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar
Cllr Steve Evans

Cllr Val Evans
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre
Cllr Celia Hibbert
Cllr Carol Hyatt
Cllr Jasbir Jaspal
Cllr Jaspreet Jaspal
Cllr Milkinderpal Jaspal
Cllr Rashpal Kaur
Cllr Rupinderjit Kaur
Cllr Linda Leach
Cllr Asha Mattu
Cllr Barbara McGarrity QN
Cllr Louise Miles

Cllr Beverley Momenabadi
Cllr Lynne Moran
Cllr Anwen Muston
Cllr Phil Page
Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr John Reynolds
Cllr Zee Russell
Cllr Stephen Simkins
Cllr Clare Simm
Cllr Tersaim Singh
Cllr Paul Sweet
Cllr Jacqueline Sweetman
Cllr Gillian Wildman

Conservative

Cllr Simon Bennett
Cllr Adam Collinge
Cllr Jonathan Crofts
Cllr Wendy Dalton
Cllr Christopher Haynes
Cllr Sohail Khan
Cllr Andrew McNeil

Cllr Andrew Randle
Cllr Mak Singh
Cllr Paul Singh
Cllr Udey Singh
Cllr Wendy Thompson
Cllr Ellis Turrell
Cllr Jonathan Yardley

Employees

Tim Johnson
David Pattison

Chief Executive
Chief Operating Officer

The proceedings opened with Prayers

Item No. *Title*

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Paul Appleby, Stephanie Haynes and Susan Roberts.

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

3 Minutes of previous meeting

The retiring Mayor proposed, the retiring Deputy Mayor seconded, and it was resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 6 April 2022, be agreed as a correct record and signed accordingly by the retiring Mayor.

4 To elect a Mayor

It was proposed by Councillor Jacqueline Sweetman, seconded by Councillor Asha Mattu that Councillor Sandra Samuels OBE be elected as Mayor of the Council for the ensuing year.

Resolved:

That Councillor Sandra Samuels OBE be elected as Mayor for the 2022-2023 Municipal Year, having made the declaration of office prescribed by the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and having been invested with the Mayor's Chain of Office and Robe.

5 To appoint a Deputy Mayor

It was proposed by Councillor John Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Phil Bateman that Councillor Dr Michael Hardacre be appointed as Deputy Mayor of the Council for the ensuing year.

Resolved:

That Councillor Dr Michael Hardacre be elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2022-2023 Municipal Year having made the declaration of office prescribed by the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and having been invested with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office and Robe.

6 To pass a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress

A vote of thanks for the retiring Mayor, Councillor Greg Brackenridge and retiring Mayoress, Mrs Sureena Brackenridge, was moved by Councillor Phil Bateman and seconded by Councillor Udey Singh.

The Mayor presented Councillor Greg Brackenridge and retiring Mayoress, Mrs Sureena Brackenridge with their medallions of office and resolution of thanks. Councillor Greg Brackenridge responded to the vote of thanks.

Resolved:

That the Council expresses to Councillor Greg Brackenridge and Mrs Sureena Brackenridge its appreciation of the service they have rendered to the Council during their term of office.

7 To receive a return of the Councillors elected on 5 May 2022

The Monitoring Officer, David Pattison, reported the name of the Councillor elected to office on the 7 April (by election) as follows:

Ward	Name	Party
East Park	Councillor Lovinyer Daley	Labour

The Monitoring Officer, David Pattison, reported the names of the Councillors elected to office on the 5 May 2022 as follows:

Ward	Name	Party
Bilston East	Councillor Stephen Simkins	Labour and Cooperative
Bilston North	Councillor Philip Henry Page	Labour
Blakenhall	Councillor Jasbinder Kaur Dehar	Labour and Cooperative
Bushbury North	Councillor Simon Anthony Austin Bennett	Conservative
Bushbury South and Low Hill	Councillor Paul David Sweet	Labour
East Park	Councillor Louise Margaret Miles	Labour
Ettingshall	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi	Labour and Cooperative
Fallings Park	Councillor Steven Wayne Evans	Labour
Graiseley	Councillor Asha Masih Mattu	Labour and Cooperative
Heath Town	Councillor Jaspreet Kaur Jaspal	Labour
Merry Hill	Councillor Carol Lesley Hyatt	Labour and Cooperative
Oxley	Councillor Sue Roberts	Labour
Park	Councillor Craig John Collingswood	Labour
Penn	Councillor Celia Hibbert	Labour and Cooperative
Spring Vale	Councillor Barbara McGarrity	Labour and Cooperative
St Peters	Councillor Obaida Parveen Ahmed	Labour
Tettenhall Regis	Councillor Sohail Khan	Conservative
Tettenhall Wightwick	Councillor Jonathan Mark Crofts	Conservative
Wednesfield North	Councillor Mary Bateman	Labour

Wednesfield South	Councillor Greg Brackenridge	Labour
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Resolved:

That the return of Councillors elected on 7 April and 5 May 2022 be noted.

8 **Welcome new Councillors and to move the vote of thanks to former Councillors**

The Mayor welcomed new Councillors to the Council and expressed the Council's appreciation of the service provided by former Councillors.

Resolved:

That the Council place on record its appreciation of the valuable service rendered to the City by former Councillors Alan Butt and Keith Inston.

9 **Communications**

1. Her Majesty the Queens' Platinum Jubilee Beacon Lighting

The Mayor was delighted to report the city were hosting a special event to mark the Platinum Jubilee on Thursday 2 June. As darkness falls at 21:45, a beacon would be lit in St Peters Square. This forms part of the global event to celebrate the Jubilee, to light up the Commonwealth. The Mayor encouraged everyone to join her for this momentous occasion.

The Mayor added a Platinum Jubilee Portrait competition was also being held which was open to all age groups with fabulous prizes to be won and encouraged all budding artists to enter.

2. Armed Forces Day

The Mayor reported Armed Forces Week 2022 would begin with a short flag raising ceremony on Monday 20 June at 11 am at the flagpole on the piazza.

The Armed Forces Day Celebration Event would take place at West Park between 12noon and 16:30 on Saturday 25 June. The celebration was free to enter and would give everyone an opportunity to say thank you for all our armed forces do for our city and the country.

3. Falklands War Memorial Service

The Mayor reported this year marked the 40th anniversary of the Falklands War and the Royal British Legion were holding a special service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in St.Peters Square, on Wednesday 15 June at 11 am. The Mayor encouraged all to attend to remember the fallen of a conflict which was still fresh in the minds of many.

4. Civic Sunday

The Mayor reported the annual Civic Sunday service would take place on Sunday 18 September at the Collegiate Church of St Peter Square. Civic Sunday was an important occasion in the city's Civic calendar. An invitation would be issued to all in due course.

5. Goodbye and Thank You

The Mayor reported that Civic Support Manager, Anita Cund had decided to move on to pastures new after almost 30 years with the Council. She thanked Anita for her service to this Council and wished her the very best of luck in her new role at Oakengates Town Council.

6. Councillor Paul Appleby

The Mayor was delighted to congratulate Councillor Paul Appleby and his wife Becky on their wedding.

Resolved:

That the Mayor's Communications be noted.

10 **Constitution Review**

Councillor Paula Brookfield, presented a report on Constitution Review for approval. The report recommended that the names and remits of scrutiny panels be amended, the purpose of this was to strengthen the scrutiny function and ensure the titles of Scrutiny Panels and remits interlink to Our City: Our Plan.

Councillor Paula Brookfield, proposed the recommendations and Councillor John Reynolds seconded the recommendations.

Resolved:

1. That the amendments to the Constitution be approved.
2. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to implement the changes.

11 **Political balance, appointment of the Cabinet, appointments to Scrutiny and Regulatory and other Committees, and appointments to outside bodies for 2022- 2023**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Ian Brookfield presented a report (report and appendices one to six were tabled) on the appointment of the Cabinet and Cabinet Panels, the Scrutiny Board and Scrutiny Panels, Regulatory and other Committees, and representation on Joint Authorities/Committees and outside bodies.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Ian Brookfield proposed the recommendations and Councillor Milkinder Jaspal seconded the recommendations.

Resolved:

1. That the political composition of the Council, and how this is applied to appointments to Council bodies, in accordance with the political balance model set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

2. That the appointment, by the Leader of the Council, of Councillors to the Cabinet, the specified lead Cabinet Member roles and Cabinet Panels set out in Appendix 2 be noted.
3. That the appointment of Councillors to the Scrutiny Board, and Scrutiny Panels, including Chairs and Vice-chairs, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report be approved.
4. That the appointment of Councillors to Regulatory, Oversight and other Committees and advisory groups, including Chairs and Vice-Chairs, as set out in Appendix 4 to the report be approved.
5. That the appointments to Joint Authorities/Committees and Outside Bodies, as set out in Appendices 5 and 6 to the report, including lead, substitute lead and voting Councillors be approved.