

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL**ANNUAL COUNCIL
MINUTES****Date: Wednesday 23 May 2012****Time: 7.00 pm****Place: Council Chamber**

Present: The Mayor 2011/2012 (Carol Latif) and Councillors S Batson MBE DL, L Bell, P Bibby CC, J Brown, H Burrell, L Chester, B Clark, G Clark, D Cullen, J Gardner, M Gardner, L Harrington, R Henry, J Hollywell, C Hurst, PD Kissane, Mrs J Lloyd, J Lloyd CC, M McKay, J Mead, M Notley, R Parker CC, J Pickersgill, R Raynor, G Snell, S Speller, P Stuart, S Taylor CC, H Tessier, J Thomas, B Underwood, S Walker, V Warwick, A Webb and M Yarnold-Forrester.

Also present: Amy Danaher and Ali Pritchard (Youth Council)

Start/End Time: Start Time: 7.00 p.m.
End Time: 8.09 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Cherney-Craw, M Hearn and L Martin-Haugh. There were also apologies for lateness from Councillor S Batson MBE DL.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES – WEDNESDAY 29 FEBRUARY 2012

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 29 February 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

3. APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR

Before her end of year speech the Mayor 2011/2012, Councillor Carol Latif, informed Council of the sad death of Mr Jim Cockerton JP who had been the first Mayor of the Borough of Stevenage. The meeting stood for a minutes silence in his memory.

The Mayor then delivered her end of year speech. She spoke about the many engagements that she had attended and the visits she had made.

She said however that her favourite times had been those spent with charities in Stevenage.

The Mayor thanked officers for their help during the year and in particular thanked her husband Quazi for his support.

She concluded by wishing the incoming Mayor and Mayoress every success for the coming year.

Other Members congratulated her upon her year as Mayor and the service she had given to the Council.

The Mayor then called for nominations for the Office of Mayor for 2012/13.

Councillor S Taylor CC proposed Councillor J Lloyd CC as Mayor for the 2012/13 Municipal Year and this was seconded by Councillor J Gardner.

There being no other nominations, a vote was taken and it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor J Lloyd CC be elected as Mayor for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

Note: Councillors J Mead, R Parker CC and G Snell requested that their abstention in the vote to the above resolution be recorded in the Minutes.

Councillor J Lloyd CC then made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office and stated that his wife, Councillor Mrs Joan Lloyd, would be his Mayoress.

In his inaugural speech, Councillor Lloyd CC stated how proud he was to be elected to the office of Mayor of Stevenage and paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor. He spoke of the highlights of the year to come, including the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Lighting of the Beacon and the Olympics.

The Mayor also said that he intended to hold several receptions in the Mayor's Parlour during the year so that he could say thank you on behalf of the Borough to the unsung heroes of the Town who supported local charities and organisations.

The Mayor concluded by stating that the Mayoral charities for the year would be:

- Combat Stress
- N.S.P.C.C.
- Royal British Legion

4. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor then called for nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor A Webb proposed that Councillor Jack Pickersgill be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the 2012/13 Municipal Year and this was seconded by Councillor S Speller.

Following the seconding of this nomination and there being no other nominations, a vote was taken and it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Jack Pickersgill be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

Note: Councillor J Mead, R Parker CC and G Snell requested that their abstention in the vote to the above resolution be recorded in the Minutes

Councillor Pickersgill then made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office.

The Deputy Mayor thanked his proposer and seconder and announced that his wife, Mrs Margaret Davies-Pickersgill would be Deputy Mayoress for 2012/13.

5. BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Council considered a report that detailed the results of the Borough Council Elections that were held on 3rd May 2012.

In reply to comments concerning the count and the announcement of the results the Chief Executive confirmed that the arrangements put in place had met all necessary legal requirements.

It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the results of the Stevenage Borough Council Elections 2012 be noted.

6. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

Council considered a report that detailed various matters relating to the political management structure of the Council.

The recommendations contained in the report were put to the vote and it was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the Terms of Reference for the following bodies that form the political management structure of the Council, as detailed in the appendices to the report; and the size and political composition, to be agreed under the alternative arrangements provisions, be approved:
 - Children, Young People, Culture, Sport and Leisure Development and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix A) – 7 Members (5 Majority

Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group) + the Stevenage Youth Mayor (as observer).

- Community, Health and Older People Development and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix B) – 7 Members (5 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Economy, Enterprise and Transport Development and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix C) – 7 Members (5 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Environment and Regeneration Development and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix D) – 7 Members (5 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Housing Development and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix E) – 7 Members (5 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Resources Development and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix F) – 7 Members (5 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Safer and Stronger Communities Development and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix G) – 7 Members (5 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Planning and Development Committee (Appendix H) – 13 Members (10 Majority Group, 2 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Licensing Committee (Appendix I) – 13 Members (10 Majority Group, 2 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- General Purposes Committee (Appendix J) – 13 Members (10 Majority Group, 2 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Appointments Committee (Appendix K) – 6 Members (4 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Standards Committee (Appendix L)* - 9 Members (4 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group, 3 Independent non-elected)
- Audit Committee (Appendix M) – 6 Members (4 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)
- Statement of Accounts Committee (Appendix N) – 6 Members (4 Majority Group, 1 Opposition Group, 1 Minority Opposition Group)

- Stevenage/HCC Highways Joint Member Panel (Appendix O) – 6 (1 Member from each HCC Division) + 6 HCC Members

* It was noted that the Terms of Reference and Composition of the Standards Committee may be subject to change following the implementation of the provisions in the Localism Act 2011.

2. That it be noted that Allen Holland would continue to serve as the Independent Non-Elected Chair of the Standards Committee with Ananda Hale and Emmanuel Mensah serving as Independent Non-Elected Members of that Committee until the appointment of a new Standards Committee in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011.
3. That it be noted that Brian Mitchell would continue to serve as the Independent Non-Elected Member of the Audit Committee.
4. That the dates for Council meetings for the Municipal Year, as shown at paragraph 4.10 in the report, be approved.
5. That the draft dates for other meetings as shown at Appendix P be noted.
6. That it be noted that the Leader had indicated that she did not propose to change the Executive Portfolios and existing delegations to take executive decisions as set out in the Constitution.
7. That the Leader's appointments to the Executive and allocation of Portfolios as set out at paragraph 4.6 in the report be noted.
8. That the appointment of a Youth Mayor, as detailed in paragraphs 4.7 – 4.9 of the report and the subsequent amendments to the Council's Constitution be approved.

7. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

The Chief Executive advised the Council of the appointment of Councillor Graham Clark as Leader of the Opposition and Councillor Maureen Notley as Deputy Leader of the Opposition for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

8. APPOINTMENT OF LEADERS AND DEPUTY LEADERS OF THE POLITICAL GROUPS ON THE COUNCIL

The Chief Executive advised the Council that Councillors S Taylor CC, G Clark and R Parker CC had been appointed as Leaders of the Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups respectively. It was noted that Councillors J Gardner, M Notley and G Snell would be Deputy Leaders of the Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups respectively.

9. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE/PANELS OF THE COUNCIL

A schedule of Committees was appended to the agenda. Details of those Members nominated to serve on each Committee were circulated around the Chamber.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Committees together with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the 2012/13 Municipal Year be constituted under the alternative arrangements provisions as agreed at agenda item 6, recommendation 1, as follows:

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, CULTURE, SPORT AND LEISURE DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 7 Members (5 Labour, 1 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors L Chester (Chair), G Clark (Vice Chair), L Bell, J Brown, J Mead, J Pickersgill and S Walker.

COMMUNITY, HEALTH AND OLDER PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 7 Members (5 Labour, 1 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors J Hollywell (Chair), G Snell (Vice Chair), L Bell, M Gardner, C Hurst, S Speller and J Thomas.

ECONOMY, ENTERPRISE AND TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7 Members (5 Labour, 1 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors P Stuart (Chair), P Bibby CC (Vice Chair), J Brown, L Harrington, J Mead, H Tessier and S Walker.

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7 Members (5 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors V Warwick (Chair), M Notley (Vice Chair), J Hollywell, J Pickersgill, G Snell, B Underwood and S Walker.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7 Members (5 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors M Cherney-Craw (Chair), M Yarnold-Forrester (Vice Chair), D Kissane, L Harrington, M McKay, L Martin-Haugh and G Snell.

RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7 Members (5 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors J Thomas (Chair), R Parker CC (Vice Chair), M Cherney-Craw, G Clark, J Pickersgill, S Speller and B Underwood.

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7 Members (5 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors L Harrington (Chair), M Hearn (Vice Chair), M Cherney-Craw, R Parker CC, S Speller, P Stuart and V Warwick

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 13 Members (10 Labour, 2 Conservative 1 Liberal Democrat,)

Councillors D Cullen (Chair), J Thomas (Vice Chair), P Bibby CC, J Brown, M Cherney-Craw, L Chester, G Clark, L Harrington, J Hollywell, J Pickersgill, G Snell, H Tessier and B Underwood.

LICENSING COMMITTEE – 13 Members (10 Labour, 2 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat,)

Councillors D Kissane (Chair), B Underwood (Vice Chair), L Chester, M Gardner, L Harrington, C Hurst, C Latif, M McKay, L Martin-Haugh, J Mead, M Notley, J Pickersgill and P Stuart.

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 13 Members (10 Labour, 2 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat,)

Councillors D Kissane (Chair), B Underwood (Vice Chair), L Chester, M Gardner, L Harrington, C Hurst, C Latif, M McKay, L Martin-Haugh, J Mead, M Notley, J Pickersgill and P Stuart.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE - 6 Members (4 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors S Taylor CC (Chair), G Clark, J Gardner, R Parker CC and 2 Majority Group Members (to be advised when meeting arranged)

STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 9 Members (4 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat, 3 Independent non-elected Members)

Councillors D Kissane, Mrs J Lloyd, L Martin-Haugh, J Mead, M Notley and B Underwood.

Independent, Non-Elected Members Allen Holland (Chair), Ananda Hale and Emmanuel Mensah

AUDIT COMMITTEE - 7 Members (4 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent co-opted Member)

Councillors C Latif (Chair), J Gardner (Vice Chair), D Cullen, M McKay, R Parker CC and M Yarnold-Forrester.
Independent non-elected Member, B Mitchell

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE – 6 Members (4 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillors Mrs J Lloyd (Chairman), G Clark, R Henry, J Hollywell, R Raynor and G Snell.

10. APPOINTMENT OF JOINT PANEL WITH HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

It was **RESOLVED** that the following Member Panel be appointed jointly with Hertfordshire County Council

STEVENAGE HIGHWAYS JOINT MEMBER PANEL - 6 Stevenage Borough Council Members – one from each former Action Team and 6 Hertfordshire County Council Members (those representing the 6 HCC Divisions in Stevenage).

SBC Councillors: M Cherney-Craw, M Gardner, B Underwood (SBC Lead Member), S Walker, V Warwick, M Yarnold-Forrester

HCC Councillors P Bibby CC, J Fraser CC, M Hurst CC, John Lloyd CC R Parker CC and S Taylor CC

11. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

A schedule of Council representation on Outside Bodies and other Council Appointments was appended to the agenda. Details of those Members nominated to serve on each body were circulated around the Chamber.

It was duly proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the following individuals be appointed to represent the Council on the various bodies detailed below for one year, unless otherwise stated.

AGE CONCERN (STEVENAGE) - Councillors B Underwood and C Latif

ARTS GUILD FOR STEVENAGE - Councillor H Burrell

AUTUN /INGELHEIM/ STEVENAGE ASSOCIATION - Councillors, R Henry, J Hollywell and S Batson MBE DL

BANDLEY HILL PLAY ASSOCIATION – Councillor M Gardner

BEDWELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor L Harrington

CANYON PLAY ASSOCIATION - Councillor L Bell

CHELLS MANOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor J Mead and H Burrell

COUNCIL FOR PROTECTION OF RURAL ENGLAND –
HERTFORDSHIRE SOCIETY – Councillor J Gardner

CROSSROADS CARE (Hertfordshire North) - Councillors S Speller and J Thomas

DIGSWELL ARTS TRUST BOARD - Councillor J Gardner

DOUGLAS DRIVE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION - Councillor L Martin-Haugh

EAST OF ENGLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION – Leader -
By Position

EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL – Portfolio Holder
Environment and Regeneration – By Position

EAST OF ENGLAND LGA IMPROVEMENT AND EFFICIENCY PANEL –
Councillor R Henry

FEDERATION OF STEVENAGE TENANTS ASSOCIATIONS - Councillor
John Lloyd CC

GEMMS - Councillor D Kissane

GREAT ASHBY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – Councillor G Clark

HCC HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – Councillor D Cullen

HCC JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP - By Position: Portfolio
Holder for Environment & Regeneration. Plus Substitute

HERTFORD ROAD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor M
Cherney-Craw

HERTFORDSHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM STEERING GROUP -
Councillor J Gardner

HERTFORDSHIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES LEADERS
GROUP – By Position: Leader.

HERTFORDSHIRE MUSEUM PARTNERSHIP - Councillor J Gardner

HERTFORDSHIRE SUPPORTING PEOPLE COMMISSIONING BODY:
MEMBERS OVERVIEW GROUP - By Position: Portfolio Holder for
Housing

HOME-START STEVENAGE - Councillor J Gardner

KADOMA LINK COMMITTEE - Councillors J Gardner, D Kissane, H Burrell, M Notley, G Snell, and P Stuart

LIVING ROOM PROJECT - Councillor M Cherney-Craw

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) - By Position: Leader

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION UNIT - Councillor R Raynor

LGA EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL BOARD – Councillor S Batson
MBE DL

LUTON AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (VIA HLGA) –
Councillor Mrs J Lloyd

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS: GENERAL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - Councillor H Tessier

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE COLLEGE CORPORATION – Councillor S
Taylor CC

OLD STEVENAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor J Brown

OVAL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor S Walker

PIN GREEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor L Martin-Haugh

PIN GREEN PLAY ASSOCIATION - Councillor S Speller

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY GROUP (COMMUNITY SAFETY) - By
Position: Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities

SHEPHALL CENTRE - Councillor J Lloyd CC

SPORTS STEVENAGE - Councillors H Burrell and S Speller

SLL (Observer) – By Position – Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder
for Children and Young People, Culture, Sports and Leisure

ST. NICHOLAS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor R Henry

ST. NICHOLAS PLAY ASSOCIATION – Councillor M McKay

STEVENAGE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE – Councillor S Taylor CC

STEVENAGE ATS (CIVILIAN COMMITTEE) - Councillor J Lloyd CC

STEVENAGE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU - Councillors R Raynor and B
Underwood

STEVENAGE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - By Position:
Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities

STEVENAGE COMMUNITY TRUST - Councillors S Batson MBE DL and
R Henry

STEVENAGE CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES (FOUR YEAR PERIOD) -
FOUR REPRESENTATIVES - Councillors C Latif and R Raynor to 2016.

STEVENAGE CVS - Councillors D Cullen and B Underwood

STEVENAGE CREDIT UNION LTD - Councillor L Chester

STEVENAGE DISTRICT CHILDREN'S TRUST PARTNERSHIP –
Councillor H Burrell

STEVENAGE FURNITURE RECYCLING SCHEME - Councillors L Bell
and D Kissane

STEVENAGE HAVEN – Councillor D Kissane

SO STEVENAGE PARTNERSHIP – Leader / Deputy Leader – By position

STEVENAGE SHOPMOBILITY – Councillor J Thomas

STEVENAGE WORLD FORUM FOR ETHNIC COMMUNITIES -
Councillor B Underwood

SYMONDS GREEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - Councillor L Chester

TIMEBRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – Councillors H Burrell and V
Warwick (Deputy: P Stuart)

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004 – ADJUDICATION JOINT
COMMITTEE – By position, Portfolio Holder for Environment and
Regeneration. Deputy – SBC Local Member – Joint Member Panel

12. APPOINTMENT OF YOUTH MAYOR

It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Amy Lauren Danaher be
elected as Youth Mayor for the 2012/2013 Municipal Year.

Amy Danaher then made a formal acceptance of office statement.

In her speech she gave thanks to the Mayor and added that it was a great
honour to be selected for the role. She concluded by saying that she was
looking forward to a challenging year.