

Council

**Monday, 11th May, 2015
5.00 - 5.15 pm**

Attendees	
Councillors:	Duncan Smith (Chair), Simon Wheeler, Matt Babbage, Flo Clucas, Adam Lillywhite, Chris Mason, Dan Murch, Chris Nelson, John Payne, Wendy Flynn, Andrew Chard, Paul Baker, Garth Barnes, Nigel Britter, Chris Coleman, Jacky Fletcher, Colin Hay, Tim Harman, Rowena Hay, Peter Jeffries, Steve Jordan, Andrew Lansley, Helena McCloskey, Andrew McKinlay, John Rawson, Anne Regan, Rob Reid, Chris Ryder (Vice-Chair), Louis Savage, Diggory Seacome, Malcolm Stennett, Klara Sudbury, Pat Thornton, Jon Walklett, Roger Whyborn and Suzanne Williams

Minutes

1. APOLOGIES

None received.

2. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR 2015-2016

Councillor Duncan Smith was proposed for the office of Mayor by Councillor Seacome and seconded by Councillor Rawson.

Upon a vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED that Councillor Duncan Smith be, and is hereby, elected Mayor of the Borough of Cheltenham and Council chairman for the ensuing year.

The Chief Executive invited the Mayor to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Council chairman for the ensuing municipal year 2015 – 2016.

Councillor Duncan Smith took the chair.

3. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR 2015-2016

Councillor Regan proposed Councillor Ryder for the office of Deputy Mayor, seconded by Councillor Stennett.

Upon a vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED that Councillor Chris Ryder be, and is hereby, elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Cheltenham and Council vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

The Chief Executive invited the Deputy Mayor to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Council vice-chairman for the ensuing municipal year 2015 – 2016.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 April were approved as a correct record subject to the inclusion that Councillor Mason made a specific request during the meeting that that his statement be recorded in the minutes that members on the opposite side of the chamber had made a statement to the effect that the council should not be spending money on things that the Council is not directly responsible for in the debate on the amendment for agenda item 8.

6. COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Louis Savage as the newly elected Member for Battledown ward.

Following the general election results, the Mayor indicated that he would be writing to the new Member of Parliament, Alex Chalk, to welcome him on behalf of the people of Cheltenham. He would also be writing to former MP Martin Horwood to thank him for his service to the town and to the other candidates who had stood for the Cheltenham seat, commending them for the way they had conducted themselves during the campaign.

He was aware that some members had been disappointed that nothing had been organised in the town to mark VE Day and he was determined that VJ day would be commemorated by an event in August. He welcomed the support that Councillors Ryder and Rawson had offered in organising such an event. There would also be a short ceremony for Armed Forces Day which he encouraged all members to attend.

The Mayor took this opportunity to set out his expectations for high standards of conduct in the chamber with members being respectful to each other during debates. He also expected that questions asked by Members and the public would be fully answered by those Members responsible.

He reminded Members of the launch of his charities event on 21 May and there were just a few tickets still available.

7. COMMUNICATIONS BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Leader congratulated Councillor Smith on his appointment and thanked the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Wheeler, for his excellent work for the town during his year of office. He echoed the welcome to Councillor Savage and thanks to Martin Horwood.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

None received.

9. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

None received.

10. ANY OTHER ITEM THE MAYOR DETERMINES AS URGENT AND WHICH REQUIRES A DECISION

The Mayor invited Group Leaders to announce any changes to committee membership.

Councillor Harman as the Leader of the Conservative Group, advised that Councillor Babbage would be standing down from Planning Committee and his place would be taken by Councillor Savage. Councillor Savage would also be filling the vacancy on the JNC Appeals Committee.

There were no other changes.

11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 -EXEMPT INFORMATION

Upon a vote it was unanimously approved :-

“That in accordance with Section 100A(4) Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining agenda items as it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, if members of the public are present there will be disclosed to them exempt information as defined in paragraph 3, Part (1) Schedule (12A) Local Government Act 1972, namely:

Paragraph 3; Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

12. EXEMPT MINUTES

The exempt minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2015 were approved as a correct record.

Duncan Smith
Chair