

Cheltenham Borough Council Council Minutes

Meeting date: 20 May 2024

Meeting time: 2.30 pm - 2.55 pm

In attendance:

Councillors:

Paul Baker (Vice-Chair), Frank Allen, Glenn Andrews, Victoria Atherstone, Adrian Bamford, Garth Barnes, Dilys Barrell, Graham Beale, Angie Boyes, Jackie Chelin, Barbara Clark, Julia Chandler, Flo Clucas, Ashleigh Davies, Chris Day, Iain Dobie, Jan Foster, Juan Carlos Garcia Clamp, Steve Harvey, Rowena Hay, Sandra Holliday, Martin Horwood, Peter Jeffries, Tabi Joy, Alisha Lewis, Cathal Lynch, Andy Mutton, Tony Oliver, Ben Orme, Helen Pemberton, Richard Pineger, Julie Sankey, Stan Smith, Izaak Tailford, Julian Tooke, Simon Wheeler, Suzanne Williams and Dr David Willingham

Also in attendance:

Claire Hughes (Director of Governance and Customer Services and Monitoring Officer) and Gareth Edmundson (Chief Executive)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Collins and Steinhardt.

2 Communications by the retiring Mayor

The Mayor thanked Members for making it such a pleasure to chair Council meetings over the past year, and also the Chief Executive and council officers – in particular Jennie Ingram and Democratic Services – for all their support. He gave special thanks to the Mayor's officer, Bob Bishop, on his retirement, saying that returning councillors and previous mayors would know him well for all his support over the years, particularly helping civic occasions to run smoothly. He said he would be much missed and wished him a happy retirement.

He went on to welcome all new Members to their first Council meeting, especially Councillors Pemberton and Day, representing Battledown ward, and wished the incoming Mayor every success for the municipal year ahead.

3 Election of Mayor 2024-25 (Chair of Council)

On behalf of the Council, the Leader thanked the Mayor for being an efficient Chair of Council and a superb Mayor.

She called on Councillor Harvey to move the motion proposing Councillor Baker as the new Mayor.

Councillor Harvey echoed the Leader's thanks, and said he was honoured to propose that Councillor Baker as Mayor of Cheltenham for the upcoming municipal year. Councillor Smith was happy to second the nomination, and added his thanks to the outgoing Mayor for his time in office..

**RESOLVED (unanimously) THAT
Councillor Paul Baker be, and is hereby, elected Mayor of the Borough of Cheltenham and Council Chair for the ensuing Municipal Year.**

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Baker on his appointment and invited him to take over the chair.

The Chief Executive asked the newly-elected Mayor to sign a declaration of acceptance of the office of Council Chair 2024-25.

4 Election of Deputy Mayor 2024-25 (Vice-Chair of Council)

The Mayor invited Councillor Atherstone to propose Councillor Dr David Willingham as Deputy Mayor for the upcoming municipal year. The motion was formally seconded by Councillor Boyes.

RESOLVED (unanimously) THAT

Councillor Dr David Willingham be, and is hereby, elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Cheltenham and Council Vice Chair for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Dr Willingham on his appointment and invited him to take his seat.

The Chief Executive asked the newly-elected Deputy Mayor to sign a declaration of acceptance of the office of Council Vice-Chair 2024-25.

5 Declarations of interest

There were none.

6 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 March 2024 were approved as a true record by all Members who had attended, and signed accordingly.

7 Communications by the Mayor

The Mayor thanked all Members for their confirmation today, saying that being elected Mayor was an honour and privilege he would never have imagined when growing up in St Paul's. He was looking forward to getting out and about in Cheltenham's many different communities, and to supporting four fantastic local charities:

- Cheltenham Welcomes Refugees, of which he is a founding trustee;
- Aim Up, formerly St Vincent's and St George's Association, an amazing charity which works with disabled adults in the community;
- The Friends of Sandford Park, who have been instrumental in raising funds to improve the park;
- Cheltenham CCP (Caring for Communities and People), a well-established charity set up many years ago, to help people through homelessness, family breakdown and exclusion.

He said his charity committee has been up and running for some months and has many exciting events planned to raise money for the charities in the year ahead.

8 Appointment of the Leader of the Council

The Mayor invited Councillor Jeffries to formally propose Councillor Hay as Leader of the Council for the next four years. Councillor Jeffries said it gave him great pleasure to do so, and the motion was formally seconded by Councillor Joy.

RESOLVED (unanimously) THAT

Councillor Rowena Hay be appointed Leader of Cheltenham Borough Council for the ensuing four years

9 Communications by the Leader of the Council

The Leader thanked Members for electing her to this great role, which came with great responsibility, shared by all councillors. She thanked Bob Bishop, the Mayor's officer, wishing him well in retirement, and welcomed all new Members on both sides of the Chamber.

The Mayor added his thanks to Bob for his many years of service, and was sorry that he had chosen to retire now, just as he was taking office as Mayor.

10 To note the membership of the Cabinet, including the Deputy Leader

The Leader invited Members to note the membership of the Cabinet:

- Deputy Leader / Major Development and Housing Delivery – Councillor Jeffries
- Climate Emergency – Councillor Dobie
- Economic Development, Wellbeing and Culture – Councillor Horwood
- Finance and Assets – Councillor Lewis
- Housing and Customer Services – Councillor Clucas
- Planning and Building Control – Councillor Collins
- Safety and Communities – Councillor Atherstone
- Waste, Recycling and Public Realm – Councillor Tailford

The Mayor congratulated all new Cabinet members on their appointments.

11 To establish and appoint to the following committees

The Mayor invited Members to establish and appoint the committees and the nominations for Chairs and Vice-Chairs as set out in the supplement.

Members voted unanimously to approve the appointments and nominations.

12 To appoint the following Joint Committees (including substitutes)

The Mayor invited Members to appoint the joint committees as set out in the supplement, including substitutes.

Members voted unanimously to approve the appointments.

13 To appoint to the following Advisory Panels and Working Groups

The Mayor invited Members to appoint the Advisory Panels and Working Groups as set out in the supplement.

Members voted unanimously to approve the appointments.

It was noted that no vote was required for the remainder of the appointments to CIL, One Legal, Member Development Panel, Planning and Liaison Member Working

Group, Budget Working Group, Asset Management Working Group and Member ICT.

14 To appoint to the following Member Champion roles

The Mayor invited Members to appoint to the Member Champion roles as set out in the supplement.

Members voted unanimously to approve the appointments

15 To receive petitions

There were no petitions.

16 Any other item the Mayor determines as urgent and which require a decision

There were no urgent items.

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COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Planning Committee		
<i>11 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Garth Barnes (Ch)	
2	Paul Baker (VCh)	
3	Frank Allen	
4	Glenn Andrews	
5	Adrian Bamford	
6	Barbara Clark	
7	Andy Mutton	
8	Tony Oliver	
9	Simon Wheeler	
10	Suzanne Williams	
11		Jan Foster

Licensing – Full Committee		
<i>10 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	David Willingham (Ch)	
2	Angie Boyes (VCh)	
3	Dilys Barrel	
4	Steve Harvey	
5	Helen Pemberton	
6	Richard Pineger	
7	Julie Sankey	
8	Steve Steinhardt	
9	Simon Wheeler	
10		Tabi Joy

Licensing Sub-Committee – Miscellaneous		
<i>5 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Angie Boyes	
2	Helen Pemberton	
3	Julie Sankey	
4	Simon Wheeler	
5	David Willingham	

Audit, Compliance and Governance Committee		
<i>7 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Adrian Bamford (Ch)	
2	Ben Orme (VCh)	
3	Chris Day	
4	Cathal Lynch	
5	Julian Tooke	
6	David Willingham	
7		Ashleigh Davies

Standards Committee		
<i>7 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Garth Barnes	
2	Dilys Barrell	
3	Sandra Holliday	
4	Alisha Lewis	
5	Tony Oliver	
6	Julie Sankey	
7		Ashleigh Davies

Overview and Scrutiny Committee			
<i>10 Members</i>			
	LibDem	Green	PAB
1	Jackie Chelin (VCh)		
2	Frank Allen		
3	Graham Beale		
4	Chris Day		
5	Julia Chandler		
6	Juan Carlos Garcia Clamp		
7	Sandra Holliday		
8	Richard Pineger		
9		Tabi Joy (Ch)	
10			Stan Smith

Appointments and Remuneration Committee		
<i>9 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Rowena Hay (Ch)	
2	Victoria Atherstone (VCh)	
3	Paul Baker	
4	Jackie Chelin	
5	Barbara Clark	
6	Juan Carlos Garcia Clamp	
7	Peter Jeffries	
8	Andy Mutton	
9		Jan Foster

Disciplinary Committee		
<i>5 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Paul Baker	
2	Angie Boyes	
3	Julia Chandler	
4	Juan Carlos Garcia Clamp	
5	Julian Tooke	

Appeals Committee		
<i>5 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Peter Jeffries	
2	Cathal Lynch	
3	Andy Mutton	
4	Helen Pemberton	
5	Izaak Tailford	

ADVISORY PANELS / WORKING GROUPS

Treasury Management Panel		
<i>8 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Ben Orme (Ch)	
2	Frank Allen	
3	Adrian Bamford	
4	Jackie Chelin	
5	Flo Clucas	
6	Chris Day	
7	Julian Tooke	
8		Tabi Joy

Constitution Working Group		
<i>6 Members (inc. Leader as portfolio holder and 1 from each group)</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Julia Chandler	
2	Jackie Chelin	
3	Mike Collins	
4	Peter Jeffries	
5		Tabi Joy

Budget Scrutiny Working Group		
<i>7 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Glenn Andrews	
2	Adrian Bamford	
3	Angie Boyes	
4	Barbara Clark	
5	Chris Day	
6	Julie Sankey	
7		Tabi Joy

Planning and Liaison Member Working Group		
<i>9 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Frank Allen	
2	Paul Baker	
3	Garth Barnes	
4	Julia Chandler	
5	Jackie Chelin	
6	Martin Horwood	
7	Richard Pineger	
8	Julian Tooke	
9		Jan Foster

CIL Neighbourhood Panel		
<i>5 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Glenn Andrews	
2	Paul Baker	
3	Barbara Clark	
4	Tony Oliver	
5		Ashleigh Davies

Joint Monitoring and Liaison Group – Building Control		
<i>2 Members (Cabinet Member + 1)</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Simon Wheeler	
2	Mike Collins	

Joint Monitoring and Liaison Group – One Legal		
<i>2 Members (Cabinet Member + 1)</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	David Willingham	
2	Rowena Hay (Leader)	

Member Development Panel		
<i>At least 1 Member from each political group</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Jackie Chelin	
2	Helen Pemberton	
3		Ashleigh Davies

JOINT COMMITTEES

Joint District Strategic Planning Member Group		
<i>3 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Mike Collins	
2	Rowena Hay	
3	VACANCY	

Gloucestershire Health O & S Committee		
<i>1 x co-optee from CBC and substitute</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Adrian Bamford	
2	Cathal Lynch (substitute)	

Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel		
<i>1 x co-optee from CBC and substitute</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Victoria Atherstone	
2	Graham Beale (substitute)	

Gloucestershire Resources and Waste Partnership		
<i>2 Members (Cabinet + 1)</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Suzanne Williams	
2	Izaak Tailford	

CURRENT CABINET MEMBER WORKING GROUPS

Housing Supply		
<i>5 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Glenn Andrews	
2	Paul Baker	
3	Barbara Clark	
4	Suzanne Williams	
5		Ashleigh Davies

Asset Management Working Group		
<i>7 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Alisha Lewis (Ch)	
2	Victoria Atherstone (VCh)	
3	Glenn Andrews	
4	Barbara Clark	
5	Chris Day	
6	Tony Oliver	
7		Tabi Joy

MEMBER CHAMPIONS / ADVOCATES

Mental Health		
<i>Up to 4 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Victoria Atherstone	
2	Dilys Barrell	
3	Izaak Tailford	
4		Ashleigh Davies

Safeguarding		
<i>Up to 4 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Victoria Atherstone	
2	Jackie Chelin	
3	Helen Pemberton	
4		Tabi Joy

Refugee		
<i>Up to 5 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Frank Allen	
2	Jackie Chelin	
3	Peter Jeffries	
4	Julian Tooke	
5		Tabi Joy

Cycling and Walking		
<i>Up to 4 Members</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Iain Dobie	
2	Helen Pemberton	
3	Richard Pineger	
4		Ashleigh Davies

Armed Forces Covenant		
<i>1 Member (external appointment)</i>		
	LibDem	Green
1	Steve Harvey	
	Julie Sankey (substitute)	