

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at the Guildhall Portsmouth on Tuesday, 16 May 2023 at 10.00 am

Council Members Present

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor
Councillor Hugh Mason (in the Chair)

Councillors

Yinka Adeniran	Mark Jeffery
Dave Ashmore	Abdul Kadir
Matthew Atkins	Leo Madden
Chris Attwell	Brian Madgwick
Kimberly Barrett	George Madgwick
Simon Boshier	Hugh Mason
Hannah Brent	Kirsty Mellor
Ryan Brent	Leonie Oliver
Stuart Brown	Steve Pitt
Peter Candlish	Darren Sanders
Cal Corkery	Asghar Shah
Raymond Dent	Russell Simpson
Chris Dike	John Smith
Jason Fazackarley	Judith Smyth
Charlotte Gerada	Emily Strudwick
Lewis Gosling	Benedict Swann
Graham Heaney	Mary Vallely
Ian Holder	Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE
Suzy Horton	Daniel Wemyss
Lee Hunt	Matthew Winnington

37. Introduction of new councillors

The councillors newly elected to Portsmouth City Council were introduced in turn by their respective group leaders.

38. Retiring Lord Mayor's Speech

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Canon Dr Hugh Mason, reported and reflected on his year in office.

39. Retiring Lady Mayoress' Speech

The Lady Mayoress, Ms Marie Costa, reported on her year in office.

40. Vote of Thanks to Retiring Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress

It was

Proposed by Councillor Steve Pitt

Seconded by Councillor Yinka Adeniran

That a vote of thanks be given to the retiring Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress.

It was RESOLVED unanimously that the council places on record its sincere thanks to Councillor Canon Dr Hugh Mason and Miss Marie Costa for their outstanding service to the city as Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress during their year of office.

That the Council expresses its great appreciation of the fine qualities which Councillor Canon Dr Hugh Mason had brought to the conduct of the business of this Council, his devotion to duty and the distinction and goodwill with which he carried out the many and various duties of the office of Lord Mayor.

That the Council also places on record its gratitude to Miss Marie Costa for her untiring support and help which she has given as Lady Mayoress to the Lord Mayor.

That this resolution be engrossed and be presented to Councillor Canon Dr Hugh Mason and Miss Marie Costa at this ceremony.

The retiring Lord Mayor was presented with the Council's gift of an engrossed scroll which signified the Council's appreciation of his time in office.

41. To elect the Lord Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson nominated Councillor Tom Coles for election to the office of Lord Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

The nomination was seconded by Councillor Charlotte Gerada.

As there were no other nominations, the Lord Mayor put the proposal to the vote, following which it was declared CARRIED that Councillor Tom Coles be duly elected Lord Mayor.

Councillor Tom Coles then left the room with the retiring Lord Mayor to don the Lord Mayor's robes and chain of office.

42. Investiture of the new Lady Mayoress

Mrs Nikki Coles, the new Lady Mayoress, signed a document of office witnessed by the City Solicitor.

43. New Lord Mayor takes the Chair

Councillor Tom Coles took the chair and thereupon made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the City Solicitor.

44. Presentation of the Keys of the City

The Lord Mayor received the Keys of the Fortress of Portsmouth into the safe keeping of the city.

These were presented to him by C Company, 4th Battalion Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

45. Presentation of the Portsmouth Sword

The Lord Mayor received the Portsmouth Sword, which symbolised the interdependence of the Royal Navy and the City of Portsmouth. The sword was presented to him by the Royal Navy.

46. The Lord Mayor returns thanks to the Council

The Lord Mayor thanked members of the Council for his election and detailed his ambitions for the year. He spoke about his charitable appeals for the coming year which were the Portsmouth Hospitals Charity, Home-Start Portsmouth and The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity.

47. To appoint the Deputy Lord Mayor and Deputy Lady Mayoress for the ensuing Municipal Year

Councillor Leo Madden nominated Councillor Jason Fazackarley as the Deputy Lord Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

This nomination was seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson.

There being no other nominations, the Lord Mayor put the proposal, which was CARRIED unanimously and declared Councillor Jason Fazackarley duly elected as the Deputy Lord Mayor. Councillor Fazackarley made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office., which was witnessed by the City Solicitor.

The Chief Executive announced that Councillor Fazackarley would be supported by his Deputy Lady Mayoress, Ms Helen Mitchell. The Deputy Lady Mayoress then made and subscribed a document undertaking to support the Deputy Lord Mayor in carrying out his official duties which was witnessed by the City Solicitor.

48. Appointment of Chaplains to the City Council

The Dean of Portsmouth, the Very Reverend Anthony Cane, and Reverend Bob White were appointed as Chaplains to the City Council.

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49. Presentation of Civic Awards

The Lord Mayor announced and presented Civic Awards to the following recipients:

- The Portsmouth Society
- Kurdish Home in Portsmouth
- Dr Jennifer Gupta

The meeting adjourned at 11.31 am and reconvened at 12.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Portsmouth Guildhall.

50. Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

51. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 March 2023

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

Seconded by Councillor Simon Boshier

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 March 2023 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

These were agreed by assent.

52. To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council, including apologies for absence

The Lord Mayor advised that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor George Fielding.

The Lord Mayor welcomed newly elected Councillors Peter Candlish, Raymond Dent, Chris Dike, Leonie Oliver, Emily Strudwick and Mary Vallely to the council and this, their first council meeting.

The Lord Mayor also welcomed Councillor Hannah Brent back to the council along with Councillors Dave Ashmore, Chris Attwell, Cal Corkery, Graham Heaney, Suzy Horton, Lee Hunt and Gerald Vernon-Jackson who had been returned for another term.

53. Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24.

No deputation requests had been received under the provisions of this standing order.

54. To elect the Leader of the City Council for a four-year term of office (unless their current term of office expires earlier)

Under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Council is required to elect a Leader of the City Council who will remain in office for four years unless their current term of office as a councillor expires earlier and also subject to the conditions set out on the agenda paper.

The Lord Mayor invited nominations for Leader of the Council.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

Seconded by Councillor Suzy Horton

That Councillor Steve Pitt be appointed Leader of the City Council.

There were no other nominations for Leader of the Council.

Following a vote, council voted unanimously that Councillor Steve Pitt be appointed Leader of Portsmouth City Council.

RESOLVED that Councillor Steve Pitt be appointed as Leader of the City Council.

Councillor Pitt gave an acceptance speech, thanking members and undertaking to work with communities to take forward the vision of a safer, greener, fairer and cleaner city. He undertook to listen to the views of members of all parties and closed by paying tribute to the service of the former Leader of the council, Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson.

55. Cabinet - In accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, to receive details from the Leader of the Council regarding Cabinet members (including Deputy Leader) and portfolios for the ensuing Municipal Year

The Leader announced his Cabinet; the details of the Cabinet (with opposition spokespersons provided by the respective Group Leaders) are attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

The Leader also announced the membership of the Health & Wellbeing Board, which was himself, Cllr Suzy Horton, Cllr Matthew Winnington and Cllr Lewis Gosling.

RESOLVED that Council noted:

- (i) the 10 portfolios (including the Leader) for the ensuing municipal year as set out in Appendix 1 attached to these minutes; and**

- (ii) **the membership of the Health & Wellbeing Board for the ensuing municipal year.**

56. Proportional Representation on Panels and Committees

The Lord Mayor proposed and the Council agreed to take agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 together regarding proportional representation on committees and panels and consequent appointment of members and standing deputies, chairs and vice-chairs and other appointments.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Steve Pitt

Seconded by Councillor Simon Boshier

1. To adopt the overall political balance of the Council; and
2. Agree the membership of the committees and panels, standing deputies, chairs and vice chairs of Committees and Panels, including appointments and other appointments.

Table 1 - Proportionality Chart (May 2023)

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Groups	No of Cllrs	Total No of Cttee Seats	Licensing Committee (15)	Planning Committee (10)	Seven committees and panels (6 each)	Scrutiny Management Panel (9)
Liberal Democrats	18	32	7	4	18	3
Conservative	8	14	2	2	8	2
Labour	7	13	2	2	7	2
Portsmouth Independents Party	6	11	2	1	6	2
Portsmouth Community Independents	2	4	1	1	2	0

Independent member	1	2	1	0	1	0
	42	76	15	10	42	9

RESOLVED that:

(1) the total number of seats on committees and panels be divided among the political groups and individual members as applicable in accordance with Table 1 above;

(2) any other bodies subject to the political proportionality rules be appointed in accordance with the proportions shown in Table 1; and

(3) the allocation of seats schedule and the membership of the committees and panels be AGREED.

The Lord Mayor moved to appoint chairs and vice-chairs of committees and the Scrutiny Management Panel and scrutiny panels for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Cllr Graham Heaney moved an amendment.

It was

Proposed by Cllr Graham Heaney

Seconded by Cllr Charlotte Gerada

That all committee chair and vice-chair positions be subject to the political proportionality rules and allocated accordingly.

Following debate and a vote it was

RESOLVED that the amendment was declared LOST.

The Lord Mayor invited Council to firstly agree the uncontested chair and vice-chair positions, along with the uncontested appointments and other appointments.

Council agreed to the uncontested chair and vice-chair positions, appointments and other appointments.

It was therefore

RESOLVED that the following positions be AGREED:

- 1. Cllr Mark Jeffery, Chair of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel;**
- 2. Cllr Leonie Oliver, Vice-Chair of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel;**
- 3. Cllr Kirsty Mellor, Chair of the Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel;**
- 4. Cllr Raymond Dent, Vice-Chair of the Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel,**
- 5. Cllr Brian Madgwick, Chair of the Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel,**
- 6. Cllr Russell Simpson, Chair of the Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel;**
- 7. Cllr Emily Strudwick, Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee;**
- 8. Cllr Lee Hunt, Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee;**
- 9. Cllr Cal Corkery, Chairman of the Scrutiny Management Panel;**
- 10. Cllr Leo Madden, Chair of the Governance & Audit & Standards Committee;**
- 11. Cllr Darren Sanders, Vice-Chair of the Employment Committee;**
- 12. Cllr Judith Smyth, Chair of the Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel;**
- 13. Cllr Charlotte Gerada, Vice-Chair of the Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel;**
- 14. The appointment of Cllr George Madgwick to the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority;**
- 15. The appointment of Cllr Jason Fazackarley to the Police & Crime Panel, with Cllr Ian Holder as deputy;**
- 16. The nominations and standing deputies detailed for the Langstone Harbour Board, namely:**
 - Cllr Peter Candlish**
 - Cllr Lewis Gosling**
 - Cllr Graham Heaney**
 - Cllr Abdul Kadir**
 - Cllr Mary Vallely**

- Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson
- Cllr Kimberly Barrett (standing deputy)
- Cllr Ryan Brent (standing deputy)
- Cllr Charlotte Gerada (standing deputy)
- Cllr Steve Pitt (standing deputy)
- Cllr Darren Sanders (standing deputy)

17. The nominations detailed for the Local Government Association General Assembly, namely:

- Cllr George Fielding
- Cllr Lewis Gosling
- Cllr Steve Pitt
- Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson

18. The nominations detailed for the Twinning Advisory Group, namely:

- Cllr Lee Hunt (Chair),
- Cllr Tom Coles (Vice-Chair, ex-officio Lord Mayor)
- Cllr Jason Fazackarley
- Cllr George Fielding
- Cllr Leo Madden
- Cllr Hugh Mason

Council voted on the contested chair and vice-chair positions in turn.

Licensing Committee Chair

Two nominations for the role of chair had been put forward. One nomination was for Councillor Jason Fazackarley and the other was for Councillor George Fielding.

Following a vote, the nomination for Councillor Jason Fazackarley was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Jason Fazackarley be appointed as Chair of the Licensing Committee.

Planning Committee Chair

Two nominations for the role of chair had been put forward. One nomination was for Councillor Chris Attwell and the other was for Councillor Judith Smyth.

Following a vote, the nomination for Councillor Chris Attwell was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Chris Attwell be appointed as Chair of the Planning Committee.

Scrutiny Management Panel Vice-Chair

Two nominations for the role of vice- chair had been put forward. One nomination was for Councillor Leo Madden and the other was for Councillor Graham Heaney.

Following a vote, the nomination for Councillor Leo Madden was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Leo Madden be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Management Panel.

Governance & Audit & Standards Committee Vice-Chair

Two nominations for the role of vice-chair had been put forward. One nomination was for Councillor Stuart Brown and the other was for Councillor George Madgwick.

Following a vote, the nomination for Councillor Stuart Brown was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Stuart Brown be appointed as Vice- Chair of the Governance & Audit & Standards Committee.

Employment Committee Chair

Two nominations for the role of chair had been put forward. One nomination was for Councillor Stuart Brown and the other was for Councillor Cal Corkery.

Following a vote, the nomination for Councillor Stuart Brown was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Stuart Brown be appointed as Chair of the Employment Committee.

Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel Vice-Chair

As no nominations had been received for this position in advance of the meeting, the Lord Mayor invited nominations from the floor.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Charlotte Gerada

Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That Councillor Mary Vallely be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel.

Following a vote, the nomination for Councillor Mary Vallely was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Mary Vallely be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel.

Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel Vice-Chair

As no nominations had been received for this position in advance of the meeting, the Lord Mayor invited nominations from the floor.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

Seconded by Councillor Jason Fazackarley

That Councillor John Smith be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel.

Following a vote, the nomination for Councillor John Smith was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor John Smith be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel.

Council voted on the committee seats as proposed by Councillor Steve Pitt and seconded by Councillor Simon Boshier, incorporating the chair and vice-Chair positions as already voted on.

This was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that the allocation of seats schedule and the membership of the committees and panels, including chair and vice-chair positions be AGREED.

Licensing Committee

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat	Chair	Jason Fazackarley
2. Liberal Democrat		Darren Sanders
3. Liberal Democrat		Leo Madden
4. Liberal Democrat		Dave Ashmore
5. Liberal Democrat		Leonie Oliver
6. Liberal Democrat		Stuart Brown
7. Liberal Democrat		Ian Holder
8. Conservative		Daniel Wemyss
9. Conservative		Benedict Swann
10. Labour		George Fielding
11. Labour		Asghar Shah
12. PIP		George Madgwick
13. PIP	Vice Chair	Emily Strudwick
14. Portsmouth Community Independents		Russell Simpson (<i>gifted to PIP from PCI</i>)
15. Independent Member		Yinka Adeniran - (<i>gifted to Labour</i>)
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Steve Pitt
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Kimberly Barrett
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Peter Candlish
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Lewis Gosling
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	John Smith
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Charlotte Gerada
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Mary Vallely
<i>PIP</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Raymond Dent

Planning Committee

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat	Chair	Chris Attwell
2. Liberal Democrat		Peter Candlish
3. Liberal Democrat		Gerald Vernon-Jackson
4. Liberal Democrat	Vice-Chair	Lee Hunt
5. Conservative		John Smith
6. Conservative		Hannah Brent
7. Labour		Mary Vallely
8. Labour		Asghar Shah
9. PIP		Raymond Dent
10. Portsmouth Community Independents (seat gifted to Ind Member)		Judith Smyth
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Steve Pitt
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Ian Holder
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Mark Jeffery
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Dave Ashmore
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Darren Sanders
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Lewis Gosling
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Daniel Wemyss
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Fielding
<i>PIP</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Russell Simpson

Scrutiny Management Panel

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat	Vice-Chair	Leo Madden
2. Liberal Democrat		Abdul Kadir
3. Liberal Democrat		Peter Candlish
4. Conservative		Matthew Atkins
5. Conservative		Lewis Gosling
6. Labour		Mary Vallely
7. Labour		Graham Heaney
8. PIP		Emily Strudwick
9. PIP (gifted to PCI)	Chair	Cal Corkery
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Stuart Brown
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Mark Jeffery
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Chris Attwell
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Daniel Wemyss
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Simon Boshier
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Fielding
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Charlotte Gerada
<i>PIP</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Madgwick

Governance & Audit & Standards Committee

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat	Chair	Leo Madden
2. Liberal Democrat	Vice-Chair	Stuart Brown
3. Conservative		Daniel Wemyss
4. Conservative		Benedict Swann
5. Labour		Graham Heaney
6. PIP		George Madgwick
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Chris Attwell
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Abdul Kadir
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Jason Fazackarley
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Hannah Brent
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	John Smith
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Mary Vallely
<i>PIP</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Emily Strudwick

Employment Committee

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat	Chair	Stuart Brown
2. Liberal Democrat	Vice-Chair	Darren Sanders
3. Liberal Democrat		Dave Ashmore
4. Conservative		Simon Boshier
5. Labour		Charlotte Gerada
6. Portsmouth Community Independents		Cllr Corkery
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Steve Pitt
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Hugh Mason
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Matthew Winnington
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Ryan Brent
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Benedict Swann
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Asghar Shah

Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat	Chair	Mark Jeffery
2. Liberal Democrat	Vice-Chair	Leonie Oliver
3. Liberal Democrat		Stuart Brown
4. Conservative		Matthew Atkins
5. Labour		Graham Heaney
6. Independent		Judith Smyth
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Charlotte Gerada

Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat		Leo Madden
2. Liberal Democrat		Peter Candlish
3. Conservative	Vice-Chair	John Smith
4. Labour		Yinka Adeniran
5. PIP	Chair	Russell Simpson
6. PIP		Emily Strudwick
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Stuart Brown
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Mark Jeffery
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Matthew Atkins
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Benedict Swann
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Fielding
<i>PIP</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Madgwick

Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat		Leonie Oliver

2. Liberal Democrat		Stuart Brown
3. Liberal Democrat		Peter Candlish
4. Conservative		Hannah Brent
5. PIP	Chair	Brian Madgwick
6. Labour	Vice-Chair	Mary Vallely
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Mark Jeffery
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Ryan Brent
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Matthew Atkins
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Yinka Adeniran
<i>PIP</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Chris Dike

Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat		Leo Madden
2. Liberal Democrat		Leonie Oliver
3. Conservative		Lewis Gosling
4. Portsmouth Community Independents	Chair	Kirsty Mellor
5. PIP	Vice Chair	Raymond Dent
6. Labour		Graham Heaney
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Jason Fazackarley
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Ryan Brent
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Daniel Wemyss
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Fielding
<i>PIP</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Madgwick

Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

Group	Position	
1. Liberal Democrat		Jason Fazackarley
2. Liberal Democrat		Mark Jeffery
3. Liberal Democrat (<i>seat gifted to independent member</i>)	Chair	Judith Smyth
4. Conservative		Simon Boshier
5. Labour	Vice Chair	Charlotte Gerada
6. PIP		Chris Dike
<i>Liberal Democrat</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Leo Madden
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	Graham Heaney
<i>Labour</i>	<i>Standing Deputy</i>	George Fielding

57. Urgent Business - To receive and consider any urgent and important business from Members of the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order No 26.

There was no urgent business under the provisions of this standing order.

58. Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17.

There were no questions from members under the provisions of this standing order.

59. To approve the following dates for meetings of the Council during 2023/24 municipal year to commence at 2pm unless otherwise indicated

It was

Proposed by Councillor Steve Pitt
Seconded by Councillor Simon Boshier

That the dates and times for the Council meetings for the next municipal year (2023/24) as set out in agenda item 17, be approved and that the provisional dates for 2024/25 Council meetings also set out in agenda item 17, be agreed in principle, subject to later ratification.

Upon being put to the vote this was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that:

(1) the meetings of the Council be held on the following dates in the 2023/24 municipal year to commence at 2.00 pm unless otherwise indicated:

18 July 2023	16 January 2024 (provisional)
17 October 2023	13 February 2024
14 November 2023	19 March 2024
12 December 2023	14 May 2024 (Annual) (10am)

(2) the following provisional council meeting dates for 2024/25 be agreed in principle subject to later ratification:

16 July 2024	14 January 2025 (provisional)
15 October 2024	18 February 2025
12 November 2024	18 March 2025
10 December 2024	13 May 2025 (Annual) (10am)

The meeting concluded at 1.12 pm.

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Lord Mayor

Cabinet & Opposition spokespersons for 2023/24

Portfolio	Cabinet Member (Councillor)	Opposition Group Spokespersons (Councillor)	
The Leader (incorporating the Culture, Leisure & Economic Development Portfolio)	Steve Pitt (Leader) (Liberal Democrat)	<u>Leader</u>	
		Simon Boshier Charlotte Gerada George Madgwick Cal Corkery	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP) (PCI)
		<u>Culture, Leisure & Economic Development Portfolio</u>	
		John Smith Mary Valley Russell Simpson	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP)
Children, Families & Education	Suzy Horton (Deputy Leader) (Liberal Democrat)	Ryan Brent George Fielding Chris Dike	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP)
Climate Change and Greening the City	Kimberly Barrett (Liberal Democrat)	Hannah Brent Charlotte Gerada Russell Simpson	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP)
Environmental Services	Dave Ashmore (Liberal Democrat)	Simon Boshier Asghah Shah	(Conservative) (Labour)
Safety in the Community	Ian Holder (Liberal Democrat)	Hannah Brent Yinka Adeniran Emily Strudwick	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP)
Community Wellbeing, Health & Care	Matthew Winnington (Liberal Democrat)	Lewis Gosling Graham Heaney Brian Madgwick Kirsty Mellor	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP) (PCI)
Housing and Tackling Homelessness	Darren Sanders (Liberal Democrat)	Daniel Wemyss Charlotte Gerada Raymond Dent Cal Corkery	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP) (PCI)

Planning Policy & City Development	Hugh Mason (Liberal Democrat)	Matthew Atkins George Fielding Raymond Dent	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP)
Resources	Lee Hunt (Liberal Democrat)	Benedict Swann Asghah Shah George Madgwick	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP)
Transport	Gerald Vernon-Jackson (Liberal Democrat)	Simon Boshier Graham Heaney Brian Madgwick	(Conservative) (Labour) (PIP)