

## Minutes

### COUNCIL

14 May 2015

Meeting held at Council Chamber - Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



HILLINGDON  
LONDON

Councillor Catherine Dann (Mayor in the Chair - agenda items 1 to 3)

Councillor George Cooper (Deputy Mayor - agenda items 1 to 3)

Councillor George Cooper (Mayor in the Chair - agenda items 4 to 11)

Councillor John Hensley (Deputy Mayor - agenda items 4 to 11)

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors:	Lynne Allen	Beulah East	Carol Melvin
	Teji Barnes	Ian Edwards	Douglas Mills
	Jonathan Bianco	Tony Eginton	Richard Mills
	Mohinder Birah	Duncan Flynn	John Morgan
	Wayne Bridges	Neil Fyfe	John Morse
	Tony Burles	Janet Gardner	June Nelson
	Keith Burrows	Narinder Garg	Susan O'Brien
	Roy Chamdal	Dominic Gilham	John Oswell
	Alan Chapman	Becky Haggar	Jane Palmer
	Judith Cooper	Henry Higgins	Ray Puddifoot MBE
	Philip Corthorne	Phoday Jarjussey	John Riley
	Brian Crowe	Allan Kauffman	Robin Sansarpuri
	Peter Curling	Judy Kelly	Scott Seaman-Digby
	Catherine Dann	Manjit Khatra	David Simmonds
	Peter Davis	Mo Khursheed	Jagjit Singh
	Nick Denys	Kuldeep Lakhmana	Brian Stead
	Kanwal Dheer	Eddie Lavery	Jan Sweeting
	Jazz Dhillon	Richard Lewis	Shehryar Wallana
	Jazz Dhot (in part)	Michael Markham	Michael White
	Jem Duducu	Peter Money	David Yarrow
	Janet Duncan		

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Fran Beasley, Jean Palmer, Paul Whaymand, Tony Zaman, Glen Egan, Lloyd White, Mark Braddock, Morgan Einon, Beth Rainey and Nikki O'Halloran

#### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** (*Agenda Item 1*)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ray Graham and Pat Jackson.

#### 2. **ELECTION OF MAYOR 2015/2016** (*Agenda Item 3*)

The Mayor thanked her Mayoress and Escort, her fellow Councillors, officers and the Borough's residents and volunteers for the support they had given her throughout her memorable year as Mayor. She provided the Council with some brief highlights of her Mayoral year in which she was particularly proud to announce that she had raised over £94k for Michael Sobell House.

	<p>Nominations were invited for a Mayor to hold office for the 2015/16 municipal year. Councillor G Cooper was nominated by Councillor Yarrow and seconded by Councillor Simmonds. There were no further nominations.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That Councillor George Cooper be elected as Mayor for the 2015/2016 municipal year.</b></p> <p><i>The Council adjourned for robing of the new Mayor at 7.50pm and reconvened at 8.03pm.</i></p>
3.	<p><b>ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY THE MAYOR</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The newly elected Mayor signed the declaration of acceptance of office.</p>
4.	<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>The Mayor informed the Council that he had appointed Councillor John Hensley as Deputy Mayor and that his Deputy Mayoress would be his wife, Mrs Diane Hensley.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the Deputy Mayor and the Deputy Mayoress for the year be noted.</b></p>
5.	<p><b>NEW MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>The new Mayor thanked those present for the honour of electing him. He stated that Father Nicholas Schofield from Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Michael, Uxbridge would act as the Mayor's Chaplain and advised that he would be raising money for the following charities over the forthcoming year under the theme of 'Healthy and Happy in Hillingdon':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support (HACS);</li> <li>• Life Education Centres of Hillingdon;</li> <li>• Hillingdon Brain Tumour and Injury Group;</li> <li>• Uxbridge Child Contact Centre; and</li> <li>• Hillingdon South Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.</li> </ul> <p>The Mayor's charity appeal would be formally launched on 1 July 2015 and the first fund raising event would be a Quiz Night on 8 July 2015.</p>
6.	<p><b>VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING MAYOR</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Councillor Puddifoot moved a vote of thanks to the retired Mayor, Councillor Dann, her Mayoress, Mrs Rita Kilroy, and her Escort, Councillor David Yarrow. This was seconded by Councillor Khursheed. Councillors Bianco, Corthorne, Denys, Dhillon and Yarrow spoke in support. It was noted that an additional £500 would be donated to the Mayor's charity on behalf of the Labour Group.</p> <p>The Mayor (Councillor G Cooper) presented a Past Mayor's badge to Councillor Dann and Past Mayoress'/Escort's badges to Mrs Rita Kilroy and Councillor David Yarrow.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the vote of thanks to the Outgoing Mayor, Councillor Dann, be agreed.</b></p>

7. **REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES** (*Agenda Item 8*)

**(i) AMENDMENT TO THE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

Councillor Puddifoot moved the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Simmonds, and it was:

**RESOLVED:** That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make the following amendments to the Constitution to give effect to the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015:

**Article 4 - The Full Council**

**4.04 Terms of Reference**

**(k) To confirm the appointment or dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service;**

***(l) To confirm the dismissal of the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer***

***(Renumber the remaining provisions accordingly).***

**Part 3 - Scheme of Delegation to Officers:**

**Proper Officers for the Purposes of the Constitution:**

***9. Officers who will issue and accept invitations from independent persons to constitute and administer a Panel in accordance with Section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the purposes of advising the Council on matters relating to the dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer:***

***Head of Human Resources and Head of Democratic Services.***

**Part 4 (F) Officer Employment Procedure Rules:**

**11. Disciplinary Action Against the Council's Statutory Officers (*as prescribed by Schedule 3 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015*);**

**(a) No disciplinary action in respect of the Council's Chief Executive, its Monitoring Officer or its Chief Finance Officer (as defined in Regulation 2 of the Local Authorities [Standing Orders] [England] Regulations 2001), except action described in paragraph (b) below, may be taken by the Council, or by a Committee, a Sub-Committee, a Joint Committee on which the Council is represented or any other person acting on behalf of the Council, other than in accordance with the following procedure: a recommendation in a report made by a designated independent person under Regulation 7 of the above-mentioned Regulations (Investigation of alleged misconduct).**

***i) The Head of Democratic Services and the Head of Human Resources acting on behalf of the Council will invite relevant independent***

*persons to be considered for appointment to an Independent Panel, with a view to appointing at least two such persons to the Panel.*

- ii) In paragraph i) “relevant independent person” means any independent person who has been appointed by the Council or, where there are fewer than two such persons, such independent persons as have been appointed by another authority or authorities as the Council considers appropriate.*
- iii) Subject to paragraph iv), the Council must appoint to the Panel such relevant independent persons who have accepted an invitation issued in accordance with paragraph i) in accordance with the following priority order—*
  - a relevant independent person who has been appointed by the Council and who is a local government elector;*
  - any other relevant independent person who has been appointed by the Council;*
  - a relevant independent person who has been appointed by another authority or authorities.*
- iv) The Council is not required to appoint more than two relevant independent persons in accordance with paragraph iii) but may do so.*
- v) The Panel must be appointed at least 20 working days before the meeting of the Council to consider whether or not to approve a proposal to dismiss the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer or Chief Finance Officer.*
- vi) Before Full Council votes on whether or not to approve a dismissal, it must take into account, in particular—*
  - any advice, views or recommendations of the Panel;*
  - the conclusions of any investigation into the proposed dismissal; and*
  - any representations from the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer or Chief Finance Officer, as appropriate.*
- vii) Any remuneration, allowances or fees paid by the Council to an independent person appointed to the Panel must not exceed the level of remuneration paid to the Standards Committee Independent Person.*

**In paragraph a) “disciplinary action” means ‘any action occasioned by alleged misconduct which, if proved, would, according to the usual practice of the Council, be recorded on the member of staff’s personal file, and includes any proposal for dismissal of a member of staff for any reason other than redundancy, permanent ill-health or infirmity of mind or body, but does not include failure to renew a contract of employment for a fixed term unless the Council has undertaken to renew such a contract.**

- (b) The action mentioned in paragraph (a) above is suspension of the officer for the purpose of investigating the alleged misconduct occasioning the action; and any such suspension must be on full pay**

and terminate no later than the expiry of two months beginning on the day on which the suspension takes effect.

**(ii) APPOINTMENT OF CABINET**

The appointment by the Leader of the Council of Councillor Simmonds as the Deputy Leader and the following Members as Cabinet Members for 2015/2016 was noted:

<b>Position/Portfolio</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
Deputy Leader and Education and Children's Services	David Simmonds
Central Services	Scott Seaman-Digby
Finance, Property and Business Services	Jonathan Bianco
Community, Commerce and Regeneration	Douglas Mills
Planning, Transportation and Recycling	Keith Burrows
Social Services, Health and Housing	Philip Corthorne

In addition, Members were asked to note that responsibility for Council Communications would become part of the Cabinet Portfolio of the Leader of the Council with effect from 14 May 2015.

**(iii) APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL CHAMPION**

Councillor Puddifoot moved the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Simmonds, and it was:

**RESOLVED: That Councillor Haggar replace Councillor J. Cooper as Carer's Champion.**

8. **COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP 2015/2016** (*Agenda Item 9*)

It was noted that the membership of the Hillingdon Domestic Violence Action Forum was amended to show Councillor Haggar as a Member with Councillor Barnes as substitute.

The Committee Allocations and Membership 2015/2016 was moved by Councillor O'Brien, seconded by Councillor White, and it was:

**RESOLVED: That the appointment of Committees, Sub-Committees and their memberships, as set out at Minute Annex A, be approved.**

9. **POLICY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT** (*Agenda Item 10*)

The Council received a report of the work covered by the Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committees in 2014/2015. It was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Riley, and:

**RESOLVED: That the Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committees' Annual Report 2014/2015 be endorsed.**

10. **STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL** (*Agenda Item 11*)

The Leader noted that, at last week's General Election, the UK had chosen who it was

that they wanted to represent them for the next five years. Irrespective of political stance, individuals stood as candidates in these elections because they wanted to make a difference. The day after the election, Mr Cameron had thanked Mr Clegg and his party for the part they played in the coalition Government. Mr Miliband had been magnanimous in defeat and had called Mr Cameron to wish him luck.

Councillor Puddifoot paid tribute to Councillor Khursheed and congratulated him on surviving a leadership challenge. He thanked Councillor Simmonds for being a first class Deputy Leader and the rest of the Cabinet for being a great team to captain.

The Leader advised that the achievements of the Council had been as a result of the combined effort of all individuals which had resulted in a remarkable reputation in Hillingdon for excellent facilities and sound financial management. He noted that, as a result, the Council was well placed to deal with the challenges that lay ahead with continued free weekly refuse and recycling collections, Council Tax continuing to be frozen and one of the largest schools programmes in London. Hillingdon was the only council in the country that had rebuilt or refurbished all of its libraries. In addition, the authority had built up a record level of cash reserves to deal with future challenges.

Irrespective of which side of the Chamber an individual sat, those present shared a 90% common vision for the Borough - it was the proposed delivery that differed. The Leader congratulated Councillor Oswell on becoming Deputy Leader of the opposition and thanked the opposition Members for their contribution during the year.

Councillor Puddifoot noted that continued strong political leadership and financial management in Hillingdon would ensure that the Council was in a position to achieve its aim of putting its residents first.

The meeting, which commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.38 pm.

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Lloyd White, Head of Democratic Services on 01895 556743. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.