

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

MAY 2015 AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors J. M. L. A. Griffiths (Chairman), S. J. Baxter, C. Allen-Jones, C. J. Bloore, M. T. Buxton, S. R. Colella, B. T. Cooper, G. N. Denaro, M. Glass, C.A. Hotham, R. E. Jenkins, H. J. Jones, P. Lamma, L. C. R. Mallett, K.J. May, C. M. McDonald, P. M. McDonald, S. R. Peters, S. P. Shannon, M. A. Sherrey, R. D. Smith, C. J. Spencer, C. B. Taylor, P.L. Thomas, M. Thompson, L. J. Turner, S. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker

1\15 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Prior to the election of Chairman, the outgoing Chairman held a minutes silence in memory of two former Chairmen of the Council, Mr D. Hancox and Mr. C. J. Tidmarsh.

Members and officers stood in silence in tribute to their memories.

It was proposed by Councillor C. B. Taylor and seconded by Councillor B. T. Cooper and

RESOLVED that Councillor C. J. Spencer be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

Councillor S. J. Spencer signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked Members of the Council for electing her to the Office of Chairman.

Councillor C.J Spencer – in the chair

2\15 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed by Councillor M. A. Sherrey and seconded by Councillor P. L. Thomas and

RESOLVED that Councillor H. J. Jones be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuring year.

Councillor H. J. Jones signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked Members of the Council for electing her to the office of Vice Chairman.

3\15 **VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING OFFICE HOLDERS**

The Chairman paid tribute to the retiring Chairman, Councillor J. M. L. A. Griffiths and presented her with a bouquet of flowers as a mark of the Council's appreciation of her acting as Chairman over the past five years and it was proposed by the Chairman and

RESOLVED that the thanks of the Council be tendered to Councillor J. M. L. A. Griffiths for services rendered as Chairman of the Council.

Former Councillor J. A. Ruck having been presented by Councillor C. J. Spencer with a Past Civic Head's badge, then concluded his year in office.

It was proposed by the Chairman and

RESOLVED that the thanks of the Council be tendered to former Councillor J. A. Ruck for services rendered during his term of office as Civic Head.

The Chairman presented Ms. J. Putsman with a past consort's badge and a small gift as a mark of the Council's appreciation of her acting as consort to the Civic Head during the past year.

4\15 **ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor C. B. Taylor and seconded by Councillor R. D. Smith and

RESOLVED that Councillor M. A. Sherrey be elected as Leader of the Council for a period of four years until the Annual meeting of the Council following the local elections in 2019.

Councillor M. A. Sherrey thanked Members of the Council for electing her to the office of Leader of the Council.

5\15 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R. J. Deeming, R. L. Dent and R. J. Laight.

6\15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

7\15 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council meeting held on 25th February 2015 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25th February 2015 be approved as a correct record.

8\15 **TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND/OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE**

The Chairman announced that her Chaplain for the year would continue to be Bev Robinson, who unfortunately was unable to attend this evening's meeting due to a prior engagement. Her Consort would be her husband, Mr John Spencer. The Chairman also announced that her charities for the ensuing year would be:

- The Basement Project; and
- Libby Mae's Little Angels – who provide resources for the Neo Natal unit at Birmingham Women's Hospital and other local units.

Representatives from both charities would be available at the end of the meeting to provide further information.

There were no other announcements.

9\15 **TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER INCLUDING APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE CABINET**

- (a) The Leader announced that the Deputy Leader would be Councillor C. B. Taylor.
- (b) The Leader announced that the membership of the Cabinet would be as follows for the ensuing year:

Councillor M.A Sherrey	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, Community Safety and Partnerships.
Councillor C.B Taylor	Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Planning Services and Housing.
Councillor G. Denaro	Portfolio Holder for Finance, ICT, HR and Enabling Services.
Councillor R. Dent	Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Regeneration and the Town Centre.
Councillor R. Laight	Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture services
Councillor P. Whittaker	Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services and Worcestershire Regulatory Services

10\15 **CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION**

This item was deferred and would be discussed at the meeting to be held on 17th June 2015.

11\15 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES 2015-16**

The Council adjourned for 10 minutes between 6.35 and 6.45pm in order to enable councillors to read the appendix to the report which set out proposals for the political balance of the Council.

The political balance calculations resulted in each political group being one place short, and each of the Planning and Licensing Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Board requiring one place to be filled in order to achieve balance. Councillor G. Denaro proposed that the political balance be agreed and that the Conservative group take its additional place on the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

Councillor L.C.R Mallett proposed, Councillor C. Bloore seconded an amendment, that the committee structure and sizes remain as currently set out. It was suggested that as the recent review of the constitution was due to be considered at the next meeting of the Council, it would be inappropriate to change the size of committees at this stage. Following the vote on the amendment it was declared lost.

In response to queries from Councillors, the Monitoring Officer confirmed that it was legitimate for the Council to review and determine the size of committees and this was included in the Council procedure rules for the annual meeting.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committees set out in appendix 1 to the minutes be appointed and that the representation of the different political groups on the Council on those committees be as set out in the table until the next Annual meeting of the Council, or until the next review of political representation under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act, whichever is the earlier;
- (b) That members be appointed to the Committees and as substitute members in accordance with nominations made by Group Leaders.

12\15 **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

This item was deferred for consideration at the next Council meeting. However, in the meantime an appointment needed to be made to the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee as the first meeting of this Committee was due to be held prior to the next Council meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor L. C. R. Mallett, seconded by Councillor M. A. Sherrey and

RESOLVED:

- (a) that Councillor B. T. Cooper be appointed as the Council's representative on the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and
- (b) that the appointments to the remainder of the outside bodies be deferred until the meeting of the Council on 17th June 2015.

13\15

SCHEME OF DELEGATION

RESOLVED:

The current scheme of delegation be extended pending a report to the next meeting of the Council on 17th June 2015.

The meeting closed at 7.13 p.m.

Chairman

This page is intentionally left blank

Bromsgrove District Council Annual Meeting 20th May 2015

Agenda item no. 11 – Appointment of Committees 2015-16 – Appendix 1

The Council agrees the size of Committees and the political balance allocation to each of these. The number of Committees are the same as the last Municipal year but sizes are generally smaller to reflect the reduced size of the Council following the recent local elections. The exceptions are Audit Board and Standards Committee which remain at their current sizes pending a review of the future arrangements for both functions.

The figures in brackets are the mathematical calculations. + or – figures show where there is a change in the allocation to a group or total on a Committee.

Committee	Cons 18 58.06% of total	Lab 7 22.58% of total	Independent Alliance 6 19.35% of total	Comments
Overview and Scrutiny Board	6 (6.39) Take 7 Councillors: Allen-Jones Cooper Glass Griffiths May Smith Thomas	2 (2.48) Councillors: Mallett Bloore	2 (2.13) Councillors: Steve Colella, Sue Baxter	11 11 members on Board
Licensing Committee	6 (6.39) Councillors: Cooper Griffiths Lammas May Thomas Webb	2 (2.48) Take 3 Councillors: Shannon C McDonald Buxton	2 (2.13) Councillors: Turner Peters	11 11 members on Cttee
Planning Committee	6 (6.39) Councillors: Allen-Jones Deeming Glass May Thomas Whittaker	2 (2.48) Councillors: Buxton Shannon	2 (2.13) Take 3 Councillors: Baxter Hotham Peters	11 11 members on Cttee

Audit Board	4 (4.06) Councillors: Jones Smith Thomas Webb	2 (1.58) Councillors: Thompson P McDonald	1 (1.35) TBC	7 members on Board
Standards Committee	5 (5.23) Councillors: Cooper Glass Griffiths Lammas Smith	2 (2.03) Councillors: Thompson P McDonald	2 (1.74) TBC	9 members on Committee
Electoral Matters Cttee	4 (4.06) Councillors: Allen-Jones Griffiths Jones May	2 (1.58) Councillors: Mallett Thompson	1 (1.35) Councillor Turner	7 members on Cttee
TOTAL Entitlement	32 (32.52)* *see note below	13 (12.65)	11 (10.84)	56 places available
Total mathematical calculation	31 (-1)	12 (-1)	10 (-1)	

*Number of places rounded down as overall there are 56 places available and the numerical entitlement adds up to 57. .52 of a place is less than .65 and .84.

The mathematical calculation results in each of O&S, Licensing and Planning Committees being 1 place short.

Each of the political groups is 1 place short of their overall entitlement to places. These need to be allocated to each political group to achieve the political balance