

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 17 MAY 2010

Present: Councillors Allen, Arculus, Ash, Benton, Burton, Cereste, Collins, M Dalton, S Dalton, D Day, S Day, Dobbs, Eley, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Fower, Goldspink, Goodwin, Harrington, Hiller, Holdich, Hussain, Jamil, Khan, Kreling, Lamb, Lee, Lowndes, Miners, Morley, Nash, Nawaz, Newton, North, Over, Peach, Rush, Saltmarsh, Sanders, Sandford, Scott, Seaton, Serluca, Shaheed, Sharp, Simons, Stokes, Swift, Thacker, Todd, Walsh, Wilkinson and Winslade.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J R Fox, J A Fox, Lane and Murphy.

2. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010 / 2011

The Retiring Mayor requested nominations for the election of Mayor for 2010 / 2011.

Councillor Sharp was nominated and seconded.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Sharp was duly elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2010/2011.

The Mayor made and signed his Declaration of Office. The retiring Mayor, Councillor Walsh invested the Mayor with his Chain of Office and the retiring Mayoress Laura Walsh invested the Mayoress, Mrs Doris Marchant, with her Chain of Office.

3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010 / 2011

The Mayor requested nominations for the election of Deputy Mayor for 2010 / 2011.

Councillor Saltmarsh was nominated and seconded.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Saltmarsh was duly elected Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2010 / 2011.

The Deputy Mayor made and signed her Declaration of Office. The Mayor invested the Deputy Mayor with her Chain of Office and the Mayoress invested the Deputy Mayor's Consort, Mr Norman Saltmarsh with his Chain of Office.

4. INVESTITURE OF BADGES OF OFFICE AND VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND MAYORESS

Councillor Cereste proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor Councillor Walsh. He also paid tribute to the retiring Mayoress and to the retiring Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress. This was endorsed by Councillor Swift.

In responding to the vote of thanks, Councillor Walsh stated that she felt enriched by the experiences she had had during her term of office. She thanked Members for the confidence they had placed in her in electing her as Mayor and paid tribute to the retiring Mayoress, the Deputy Mayor and the Deputy Mayoress for their support.

Councillor Walsh expressed her thanks and appreciation to staff for their help and support throughout her term of office.

The Mayor invited Councillor Walsh to receive her Badge of Office in recognition of her service to the City. Upon receiving her Badge of Office, Councillor Walsh presented the retiring Mayoress and the retiring Deputy Mayor with their Badges of Office and the retiring Deputy Mayoress with a gift.

A special award was presented by Councillor Walsh to Lisa Schwarz for her outstanding contribution to the community.

The Mayor thanked all Members for their support in electing him as Mayor and expressed his pride at becoming the first Independent Mayor of Peterborough. He introduced his Chaplain, Major Maddern from the Salvation Army and confirmed his chosen charities for his term of office as Diabetes UK, Macmillan Cancer Support and the installation of a War Memorial in the city centre.

The Mayor confirmed his agreement to a proposal (which had received support from all Group Leaders) to proceed directly from the ceremonial proceedings to the remaining items of business on the agenda.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AND COUNCIL MEETING HELD 14 APRIL 2010

The minutes of the meetings held 14 April 2010 were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There were no further announcements.

8. RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS HELD 6 MAY 2010

The results of the election of a Member of Parliament for Peterborough and Member of Parliament for North West Cambridgeshire, together with the results of the local elections were noted.

9. POLITICAL GROUPS AND GROUP OFFICERS 2010 2011

Political Groups and membership for the Municipal Year 2010 / 2011 were noted. The political balance of the Council was noted as follows: Conservative Group 40, Peterborough Independent Forum 9, Liberal Democrat Group 3, Labour Group 3, English Democrats Group 2.

10. ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS

Councillor Cereste was nominated and seconded as Leader of the Council. There being no other nominations, Councillor Cereste was duly elected.

Councillor Cereste thanked all Members for their support in respect of various issues during the past year and stated his intention to strengthen the work of the Cabinet for the forthcoming year. He drew Members' attention to the tabled papers appended to the Order Paper and presented his Scheme of Delegations advising that he would be taking responsibility for a portfolio focusing on growth, strategic planning and economic development. He named his Cabinet Members and their responsibilities and highlighted the administration's priorities for the Municipal Year ahead.

Councillors Swift, Fower, Goldspink responded to the Leader's speech. Councillor Khan moved the following amendment to the seat allocations, which had received the support of Councillor Swift:

'That the Labour group be allocated a seat on the Scrutiny Commission for Health Issues, rather than a seat on the Audit Committee, and that the Peterborough Independent Forum be allocated a seat on the Audit Committee rather than on the Scrutiny Commission for Health Issues'.

As a consequence of the above, Councillor Khan requested that he be appointed as the Labour representative on the Scrutiny Commission for Health Issues and that Councillor Harrington be appointed to the Audit Committee.

RESOLVED:

1. To elect Councillor Cereste as Leader of the Council
2. To note the appointment of Cabinet Members and the Leader's Scheme of Delegations;
3. To approve the Council's Committee structure and the revised Programme of Meetings for 2010 / 11;
4. To agree the terms of reference to Committees and Commissions and the Council's Scheme of Delegations;
5. To agree the allocation of seats to political groups calculated in accordance with political balance rules;
6. To approve the appointment of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Committees, and Chairmen of Neighbourhood Councils;
7. To agree Committee Memberships for 2010 / 2011 (including the Joint Committee to Appoint Representatives to the Police Authority and Combined Fire Authority) and co-opted members; subject to the amendment in respect of seat allocations to the Scrutiny Commission for Health Issues and the Audit Committee as proposed by Councillor Khan;
8. To delegate consequential updating of the Constitution to the Solicitor to the Council arising from paragraphs 1 to 8 above.

The Mayor
18.30 – 19.40