

## Minutes of the meeting of the Council

**Date:** Tuesday, 18 May 2021

**Time:** 19:00

**Venue:** Victoria Hall, Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing, London, W5 2BY

### **Attendees:**

Councillor Munir Ahmed, Councillor Shahbaz Ahmed, Councillor Jasbir Anand, Councillor Praveen Anand, Councillor Jon Ball, Councillor Julian Bell, Councillor Josh Blacker, Councillor Deirdre Costigan, Councillor Stephen Donnelly, Councillor Abdullah Gulaid, Councillor Amarjit Jammu, Councillor Yvonne Johnson, Councillor Anthony Kelly, Councillor Mrs Seema Kumar, Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, Councillor Tariq Mahmood, Councillor Gary Malcolm, Councillor Shital Manro, Councillor Dee Martin, Councillor Peter Mason, Councillor Mohinder Midha, Councillor David Millican, Councillor Kamaljit Nagpal, Councillor Binda Rai, Councillor Aysha Raza, Councillor Mik Sabiers, Councillor Gareth Shaw, Councillor Gregory Stafford, Councillor Lauren Wall, Councillor Ray Wall, Councillor Simon Woodroffe, Councillor Anthony Young

### 1 **Election of Mayor for Municipal Year 2021/22**

It was proposed by Councillor Mason and seconded by Councillor Mahmood that Councillor Ahmed be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2021-22.

Councillor Stafford and Ball spoke in support of the nomination.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Munir Ahmed be elected for the 2021/22 municipal year.

Councillor Bell proposed, Councillor Johnson seconded and Councillors Kumar and Malcolm supported a vote of thanks to the outgoing Mayor.

**RESOLVED:** That Council thanks Councillor Abdullah Gulaid for his two years of service in the role of Mayor in 2019/20 and 2020/21.

### 2 **Appointment of Deputy Mayor for Municipal Year 2021/22**

The Mayor announced that he had appointed Councillor Mohinder Midha as his Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2021/22.

### 3 **Apologies for Absence**

Sam Bailey, Head of Democratic Services, explained that due to the ongoing COVID Pandemic it had been agreed between party whips that a proportion of each political group's members would not attend the meeting in person to minimise the risk of the spread of COVID-19. Therefore all of those that were not listed as in attendance at this meeting had tendered their apologies.

### 4 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 5 **Urgent Matters**

The Mayor explained that he had accepted items 8 and 9 on the agenda, which were Election of Leader and Constitution Change Report, as urgent items due to a change in leadership of the Labour Group which happened once the Council agenda had already been published.

The Mayor confirmed that he would move these items forward in the agenda and take them as the next items.

### 6 **Election of Leader**

The Mayor highlighted that this item was added to the Agenda as a late and urgent item.

Councillor Shaw proposed, Councillor Costigan seconded and Council

**RESOLVED:** To elect Councillor Peter Mason as Executive Leader of the Council in place of Councillor Julian Bell for the period up until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

### 7 **Changes to the Constitution**

The Mayor confirmed this item was added to the agenda as a late and urgent item, and that there was a further urgent update published which corrected the names of the cabinet portfolios.

**RESOLVED:** That Council

1. Considered the contents of this report.
2. Approved the changes to the constitution outlined in appendix one.
3. Approved the change to the Members' Allowances Scheme, set out in appendix two

## 8 **Matters to be Considered in Private**

There were no matters to be considered in private.

## 9 **Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor welcomed the three new Councillors elected at by-elections on 6 May to their first Council meeting.

The Mayor congratulated the new leader and cabinet on their appointments and thanked the outgoing leader and cabinet members for their work.

The Mayoral charity was announced, which was Home-Start Ealing.

## 10 **Cabinet Portfolios and Opposition Leaders and Deputy Leaders**

The Mayor confirmed that Councillor Costigan had been appointed the Statutory Deputy Leader, and that this would be reflected in updated appointments paperwork.

It was raised that the appointments paperwork had not been circulated sufficiently in advance to ensure that any errors be corrected. Therefore it was proposed that delegation be given for the Chief Executive to take the final decision on appointments, following consultation with the party whips, after the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to agree any relevant appointments in the Cabinet Portfolios and Opposition Leaders and Deputy Leaders document after the meeting, in consultation with the party whips.

## 11 **Appointments to Committees and Panels**

It was raised that appointments needed further checking as they had been circulated shortly before the meeting. This was due to the change in administration and group meetings taking place close to

Council. Therefore a delegation to the Chief Executive was proposed to agree appointments after the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to agree appointments to Committees and Panels after the meeting, in consultation with the party whips.

## 12 **Representatives on Other Bodies**

It was noted that, similar to the other appointments paperwork, it would be appropriate to delegate this decision to the Chief Executive after the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to agree appointments after the meeting, in consultation with the party whips.

## 13 **Committee Meetings after 7 May 2021**

**RESOLVED:** That Council

1. Noted the position on virtual meetings.
2. Agreed the principles for decision making, set out at paragraph 2.3 below.
3. Agreed that, so far as practicable, in-person attendance at meetings should be kept to a minimum.
4. Agreed that, where the law permits it, meetings should continue to take place in virtual-only format.
5. Noted that the Director of Legal and Democratic Services will put in place arrangements for all public meetings of council, cabinet, committees or panels to be live streamed.
6. Agreed that, where permitted by law, third party and officer attendees at public meetings should be permitted to attend virtually.
7. Noted that the Director of Legal and Democratic Services will keep the position under review and report back as appropriate.

## 14 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was due to take place on 22 June 2021.

15

## **Duration of Meeting**

7.10pm to 8.25pm.