

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 22 MAY 2024

Present: Tony Page (Mayor);

Councillors Asare, Ayub, Ballsdon, Barnett-Ward, Cresswell, Cross, Davies, Dennis, Eden, Edwards, Emberson, Ennis, Gavin, Gittings, Goss, Griffith, Hacker, Hornsby-Smith, Hoskin, Juthani, Keeping, Lanzoni, Leng, Lovelock, Magon, McCann, McElroy, McEwan, McGoldrick, McGother, Mitchell, Moore, Mpofu-Coles, Naz, Nikulina, O'Connell, Rowland, D Singh, R Singh, Stevens, Tarar, Terry, Thompson, White, Williams, Woodward and Yeo.

Apologies: Councillor Keane.

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

The first business to be transacted being the election of the Mayor, it was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Emberson and CARRIED:

“That Councillor Glenn Dennis be elected Mayor of this Borough.”

No other candidate having been nominated Councillor Dennis was duly declared elected.

2. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Leng and seconded by Councillor Eden and CARRIED:

“That Councillor Alice Mpofu-Coles be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2024-25.”

3. ADDRESS BY THE MAYOR

Councillor Dennis addressed the Council.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

5. VOTE OF THANKS TO TONY PAGE AND MICHAEL HARPER

It was moved by Councillor Terry and seconded by Councillor Rowland and CARRIED:

“That the Council record their sincere appreciation of the ability, courtesy and diligence with which Tony Page has discharged his duties attached to the office of Mayor since 24 May 2023. They also record their grateful thanks to Michael Harper for the support and assistance he rendered in the capacity of Mayor’s escort throughout the Mayor’s term of office.”

6. ADDRESS BY RETIRING MAYOR

Tony Page addressed the Council.

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7. ELECTIONS 2024 REPORT

The Returning Officer submitted a report on the results of the Municipal and Police and Crime Commissioner Elections held on 2 May 2024.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

8. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Leng and seconded by Councillor Ennis and CARRIED:

“That Councillor Terry be appointed Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2024/25.”

9. CONSTITUTION; POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES; SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES; AND DELEGATIONS

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report making recommendations for the Municipal Year 2024/25 to:

- (1) appoint the Committees of the Council: the allocation of seats between Groups had to be calculated in accordance with Sections 15-17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and details had been circulated to Group Leaders before the meeting;
- (2) appoint a local Standards Committee for the authority;
- (3) agree the powers and duties of committees, sub-committees, partnerships and consultative Working Parties (Appendices A and B);
- (4) agree the general dispensation granted to all Members as set out in para. 3.17 of the report.
- (5) amend the Council's scheme of Councillors' Allowances, and confirm those Councillors who met the definition of Members having significant responsibilities in relation to the discharge of the Council's functions in terms of entitlement to Special Responsibility Allowance at Tier 4 for the financial year 2024/25;
- (6) re-establish the Remuneration Panel for the Municipal Year 2024/25;
- (7) agree Lead Councillor portfolio titles.

It was moved by Councillor Terry and seconded by Councillor Leng and CARRIED:

Resolved –

That recommendations 3.1 to 3.19 in the report by the Monitoring Officer be approved.

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10. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND LEAD COUNCILLORS AND ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS

It was moved by Councillor Terry and seconded by Councillor Leng and CARRIED:

Resolved –

- (1) That Councillor Leng be appointed the Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2024/25;
- (2) That for the Municipal Year 2024/25, the following Councillors be appointed as Lead Councillors for the services listed below:

Adult Social Care	Councillor Gittings
Children	Councillor Griffith
Education and Public Health	Councillor McEwan
Environmental Services and Community Safety	Councillor Rowland
Housing	Councillor Yeo
Leisure and Culture	Councillor Barnett-Ward
Corporate Services and Resources	Councillor Emberson
Climate Strategy and Transport	Councillor Ennis
Planning and Assets	Councillor Leng

11. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

The Monitoring Officer addressed the Council.

It was moved by Councillor Terry and seconded by Councillor Leng and CARRIED:

Resolved -

- (1) That, subject to the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989, and Regulations made thereunder, the following Councillors be appointed to serve on Committees in the Municipal Year 2024/25:

Adult Social Care, Children's Services & Education Committee

Labour Councillors

Davies
Gittings
Griffith
Lanzoni
McEwan
McGoldrick
Mpofu-Coles
Naz
D Singh
Woodward

Conservative Councillors

Ballsdon

Liberal Democrat Councillor

O'Connell

Green Councillor

Cresswell
Keane
Nikulina

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Audit & Governance Committee

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>	<u>Green Councillor</u>
Asare Dennis Gittings McGoldrick Stevens	Mitchell	Moore	Williams

Health & Wellbeing Board

Leader of the Council
Lead Councillor for Education and Public Health
Lead Councillor for Adult Social Care
Lead Councillor for Children

Named Substitutes: Councillors Lanzoni, Leng, McGoldrick and Mpofu-Coles

Observers: Group Spokespersons

Housing, Neighbourhoods & Leisure Committee

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>	<u>Green Councillors</u>	<u>Independent Councillor</u>
Asare Ayub Barnett-Ward Cross Dennis Eden Gavin Hoskin Naz Rowland Yeo	Ballsdon	Thompson	Magon McCann White	Hacker

Licensing Applications Committee

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillors</u>	<u>Green Councillors</u>
Asare Dennis Edwards Leng Rowland D Singh Stevens Tarar Woodward	Mitchell	Keane Magon

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Personnel Committee

<u>Labour</u> <u>Councillors</u>	<u>Green</u> <u>Councillor</u>
Emberson Ennis Mpofu-Coles Terry (or nominees)	Williams

Investigating & Disciplinary Committee

Labour
Councillors

Emberson
Ennis
Leng
Mpofu-Coles
(or nominees)

Appeals Committee

Labour
Councillors

Edwards
Rowland
Terry
Yeo
(or nominees)

Planning Applications Committee

<u>Labour</u> <u>Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative</u> <u>Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat</u> <u>Councillor</u>	<u>Green</u> <u>Councillor</u>
Davies Ennis Gavin Hornsby-Smith Leng Lovelock Rowland Tarar Yeo	Goss	Moore	Cresswell

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Policy Committee

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>	<u>Green Councillors</u>
Barnett-Ward	R Singh	Thompson	Williams
Emberson			
Ennis			
Gittings			
Griffith			
Leng			
McEwan			
Rowland			
Terry			
Yeo			

Standards Committee

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillor</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>	<u>Green Councillor</u>
Ayub	Mitchell	Moore	Keane
Cross			Williams
Eden			
Edwards			
Gavin			
Keeping			

(Together with an independent member: Currently vacant)

Named Substitutes

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>
Leng	Thompson
Terry	

Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport Committee

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>	<u>Green Councillor</u>
Cross	Ballsdon	O'Connell	McCann
Ennis	Goss		McElroy
Griffith			Magon
Hornsby-Smith			
Juthani			
Keeping			
Lanzoni			
Leng			
McGrother			
Rowland			
Stevens			

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- (2) That the following Councillors be appointed to serve on other bodies in the Municipal Year 2024/25:

Access and Disabilities Working Group

<u>Labour</u> <u>Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative</u> <u>Councillor</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat</u> <u>Councillor</u>
Hornsby-Smith Naz Rowland	Goss	Thompson

Adult Safeguarding Panel

Membership to be drawn from the Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Education Committee on an ad hoc basis.

Alliance for Cohesion and Racial Equality

<u>Labour</u> <u>Councillor</u>	<u>Conservative</u> <u>Councillor</u>
Eden	R Singh

Appeals Pool from which Members will be drawn to serve on the Curriculum Complaints Panel or the Removal of Early Years Providers Appeals Panel, as required by regulation.

Labour Councillors

Edwards
Griffith
Hoskin
Leng
McEwan
Rowland
Terry

Arts & Heritage Forum

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative</u> <u>Councillor</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat</u> <u>Councillor</u>	<u>Independent</u> <u>Councillor</u>
Barnett-Ward Davies Rowland Stevens	Ballsdon Goss	Thompson	Hacker

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Children’s Safeguarding Panel

Membership to be drawn from the Adult Social Care, Children’s Services and Education Committee on an ad hoc basis.

Civic Board

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>
Eden Gavin Leng Rowland Stevens Terry Yeo	Ballsdon	Moore

Cleaner Air & Safer Transport Forum

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillors</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>	<u>Green Councillor</u>
Ayub Barnett-Ward Cross Ennis Hornsby-Smith Lanzoni McGrother Rowland	Goss	Moore	McCann

Community Safety Partnership

Councillors Leng, Rowland and Terry
Observers: Other Group spokespersons

Cycle Forum

<u>Labour Councillor</u>	<u>Conservative Councillor</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>	<u>Green Councillor</u>
Barnett-Ward Cross Ennis Gittings Griffith Lanzoni	Goss	Moore	White

Foster Panel

Councillors Asare and Edwards

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Joint Health & Overview Scrutiny Committee

Councillors Gittings and McEwan

Local Joint Forum

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillor</u>
Emberson	Mitchell
Ennis	
Rowland	
Terry	

(or nominees)

Older People's Working Group

<u>Labour Councillors</u>
Gittings
Hornsby-Smith
Leng
McGoldrick
D Singh

Parenting Panel

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillor</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>
Griffith	Ballsdon	O'Connell
McGoldrick		
Mpofu-Coles		
Terry		

Planning Management Panel

<u>Labour Councillors</u>	<u>Conservative Councillor</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Councillor</u>
Davies	Goss	Moore
Gavin		
Lovelock		
(or nominees)		

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SACRE

Labour Councillors

Asare
Ayub
McEwan

Conservative Councillor

Goss

Liberal Democrat Councillor

O'Connell

Safer Reading Neighbourhood Forum

Labour Councillors

Asare
Ayub
Griffith
Hornsby-Smith
McGrother
Mpofu-Coles
Rowland

Town Twinning Group

Labour Councillors

Eden
Rowland

Conservative Councillor

Mitchell

(Mayor – ex-officio)

- (3) That the terms of reference of the above bodies be as set out in Appendices A and B to the Monitoring Officer's report on the Constitution, Powers and Duties of the Council and Committees etc;
- (4) That the following Councillors be appointed/nominated as appropriate as Chairs/Vice-Chairs of the bodies listed at (2) above:

Working Party etc	Chair/Vice Chair
Access & Disabilities Working Group	Councillor Hornsby-Smith (Chair) Councillor Naz (Vice-Chair)
Adult Safeguarding Panel	Ad hoc
Arts & Heritage Forum	Councillor Barnett-Ward (Chair) Councillor Stevens (Vice-Chair)
Children's Safeguarding Panel	Ad hoc
Civic Board	Councillor Terry (Chair) Councillor Leng (Vice Chair)
Cleaner Air & Safer Transport Forum	Councillor Cross (Chair) Councillor Ennis (Vice Chair)
Community Safety Partnership	Councillor Rowland
Cycle Forum	Councillor Cross (Chair)

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	Councillor Ennis (Vice Chair)
Local Joint Forum	Councillor Emberson (Vice-Chair)
Older People’s Working Group	Councillor Gittings (Chair) Councillor McGoldrick (Vice-Chair)
Parenting Panel	Councillor Griffith (Chair) Councillor Mpofu-Coles (Vice-Chair)
Planning Management Panel	Councillor Gavin (Chair) Councillor Davies (Vice Chair)
SACRE	Non-Councillor
Safer Reading Neighbourhood Forum	Councillor Rowland
Town Twinning	The Mayor

12. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS/VICE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Terry and seconded by Councillor Leng and CARRIED:

Resolved –

That the following be appointed Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the following Committees for the Municipal Year 2024/25:

Committee	Chair	Vice-Chair
Adult Social Care, Children’s Services & Education	Councillor Mpofu-Coles	Councillor Lanzoni
Audit & Governance	Councillor Williams	Councillor McGoldrick
Health & Wellbeing Board	Councillor McEwan	Sarah Webster
Housing, Neighbourhoods & Leisure	Councillor Eden	Councillor Hoskin
Licensing Applications	Councillor Woodward	Councillor Edwards
Planning Applications	Councillor Gavin	Councillor Davies
Personnel	Councillor Emberson	Councillor Terry
Investigating & Disciplinary Committee	Councillor Emberson	Councillor Leng
Appeals Committee	Councillor Terry	Councillor Rowland
Policy	Councillor Terry	Councillor Leng
Standards	Vacant	Councillor Edwards
Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport	Councillor Cross	Councillor Hornsby-Smith

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13. DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2024/25

It was moved by the Mayor and seconded by the Deputy Mayor and CARRIED:

Resolved –

- (1) That the calendar of meetings for the Municipal Year 2024/25, as attached to the agenda, be approved; and
- (2) That, before the day of the Annual Meeting in 2025, meetings of the Council be held at half-past six o'clock in the afternoon on 25 June, 15 October 2024, and 28 January, 25 February and 25 March 2025, unless the Mayor shall specify some other date and time.

(The meeting closed at 8.15pm).

MAYOR:.....

DATE: 27/6/24