

PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held in the Town Hall, Morecambe, at 6.00 p.m. on Monday, 22 May 2023, when the following Members were present:-

Roger Dennison (Mayor)

Suhir Abuhajar

Catherine Armistead

Louise Belcher

Phillip Black

Phil Bradley

Keith Budden

Ruth Colbridge

Claire Cozler

Tom Fish

Martin Gawith

Erin Hall

Chris Hanna

Prof Chris Harris

Colin Hartley

Caroline Jackson

Kate Knight

John Livermore

Sophie Maddocks

Shelagh McGregor

Hamish Mills

Jean Parr

Sue Penney

Joyce Pritchard

Robert Redfern

Grace Russell

Paul Stubbins

Sue Tyldesley

David Whitaker

Nick Wilkinson

Martin Bottoms (Deputy Mayor)

Joanne Ainscough

Mandy Bannon

Matthew Black

Gerry Blaikie

Dave Brookes

Roger Cleet

Brett Cooper

Gina Dowding

Andrew Gardiner

Alan Greenwell

Tim Hamilton-Cox

John Hanson

Paul Hart

Ross Hunter

Peter Jackson

Jack Lenox

Sally Maddocks

Sarah McGowan

Abi Mills

Paul Newton

Margaret Pattison

Catherine Potter

Sarah Punshon

Sam Riches

James Sommerville

Sandra Thornberry

Paul Tynan

John Wild

Jason Wood

11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Paul Gardner who, due to illness, had not yet been able to make his declaration of acceptance of office.

12 MINUTES

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 26 April 2023 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Wilkinson declared an 'other' interest, as set out in Section 2 paragraph 8 of Part B of the Councillors Code of Conduct, in relation to Item 17, Appointments to Outside Bodies, Partnerships and Boards. Councillor Wilkinson's interest was as a Director of the Lancaster BID.

14 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed all the newly elected Councillors to their first annual meeting of the City Council.

15 CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 4 MAY 2023

Council noted the report of the Returning Officer setting out the results of the City Council Elections held on 4 May 2023. It was noted that there was a mistake in the table which erroneously showed the wrong political group for Councillor Kate Knight who had been elected as the Conservative Party Candidate for Bare Ward.

16 SENIORITY OF MEMBERS

The Chief Executive submitted a report which set out the Seniority of Members on the City Council, following the draw made by the Mayor to determine seniority between the new Councillors elected on 4 May 2023. Council noted the report.

17 CONSTITUTION OF POLITICAL GROUPS

The constitution of political groups following the recent elections was noted by Council.

18 ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS

The Senior Manager, Democratic Support and Elections, submitted a report to advise Council of the calculations relating to the allocation of seats in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. This was to allow Council to appoint to Committees as required at the annual meeting,

It was proposed by Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor Blaikie:

"That in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 and Part 4 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990, the City Council approves the calculations and allocation of seats set out in the report, including the adjustments set out in paragraph 4 of the report."

There was no debate and the proposition was clearly carried when put to the vote.

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 and Part 4 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990, the City Council approves the calculations and allocation of seats set out in the report, including the adjustments set out in paragraph 4 of the report.

19 APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER

The Mayor asked for nominations for Leader of Cabinet/Leader of the Council for the municipal years 2023/24-2024/25.

Councillor Thornberry nominated Councillor Phil Black, seconded by Councillor Dowding. There were no further nominations.

A vote was taken as required by the Council's Constitution (Part 2, Section 4, paragraph 4.1) and the proposition to appoint Councillor Phil Black was clearly carried.

Resolved:

That Councillor Phil Black be appointed Leader of Cabinet/Leader of the Council for the municipal years 2023/24-2024/25.

20 EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS, THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report regarding the executive arrangements and the Scheme of Delegation to Officers. The report also sought approval from Council for changes to the Constitution, namely:

- revised terms of reference for the Audit Committee
- a change of title for the Personnel Committee to the People and Organisational Development Committee
- removal of the Appendix to Part 3, Section 1, the Procedure Rules for the Regulation of Remote Proceedings, which was in place during the pandemic.

Councillor Phil Black confirmed that he was not in a position to give full details of his Cabinet at that point and would provide that information at a later date. He did, however, name his Deputy Leader as Councillor Caroline Jackson.

Councillor Dowding, seconded by Councillor Caroline Jackson moved the recommendations as set out in the report. The proposition was clearly carried when put to the vote.

Resolved:

That

- a) the Council notes the executive arrangements including the executive delegations to officers, the appointment of Councillor Caroline Jackson as Deputy Leader of the Council, and that Cabinet appointments and portfolio areas will be reported by the Leader at a later date;
- b) the non-executive delegations in the Scheme of Delegation to Officers be ratified

- by Council;
- c) that Council approves the changes to the Constitution detailed in paragraph 3.0 of the report

21 APPOINTMENT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEMBERS

A list of Councillors nominated by political groups for appointment to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny bodies had been circulated at the commencement of the meeting. The list was incomplete and it was noted that the Labour Group nominations would be communicated to Democratic Support following the meeting.

The Mayor reminded Members that in accordance with the Council's Constitution only non-Cabinet members were entitled to vote on this item, therefore Councillor Phil Black and Councillor Caroline Jackson should not vote.

The nominations made by the groups for appointment to the Overview and Scrutiny bodies were proposed by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Brookes and accepted by Council when put to the vote.

Resolved:

1. That the nominations made by the Green, Liberal Democrat, Conservative and MBI groups for appointment to Overview and Scrutiny bodies be accepted.
2. That the Labour Group nominations be reported to Democratic Support following the meeting.

22 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS (Pages 10 - 12)

A list of Councillors nominated by political groups for appointment to the Council's Committees had been circulated at the commencement of the meeting. The Labour Group nominations were not included on the list and it was noted that the Labour Group administrator would pass the names to Democratic Support following the meeting. However, since there were meetings very shortly for the Audit Committee and the Planning Committee, Councillor Wood informed Council of the names of the Labour Group members for those two committees.

The Green Group reported an addition to their list, with Councillor Caroline Jackson taking a seat on the People and Organisational Development Committee. Councillor Gardiner, for the Conservative Group, informed Council that Councillor Newton would take up the seat for his group on that same Committee.

The nominations made by the groups for appointment to the Overview and Scrutiny bodies were proposed by Councillor Brookes, seconded by Councillor Dowding and accepted by Council when put to the vote. ***(See appendix to the minutes for the memberships which were reported and agreed at this meeting).***

Resolved:

1. That the nominations made by the Green, Liberal Democrat, Conservative and MBI groups for appointment to committees be accepted.
2. That the Labour Group nominations for the Audit and Planning Regulatory Committees be accepted and the membership of other committees reported to Democratic Support following the meeting.

23 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS

The Mayor asked for nominations for the Chairs of the Council's Committees, starting with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Cooper was nominated for the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bottoms. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Cooper appointed.

Councillor Hunter was nominated for the Chair of Budget and Performance Panel by Councillor Pritchard, seconded by Councillor Peter Jackson. Councillor Budden was nominated by Councillor Gardiner, seconded by Councillor Wild. The Mayor called for a vote. With 44 votes for Councillor Hunter and 6 votes for Councillor Budden, the Mayor declared Councillor Hunter appointed.

Councillor Thornberry was nominated for the Chair of Planning Regulatory Committee by Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor Hartley. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Thornberry appointed.

Councillor Sally Maddocks was nominated for the Chair of Licensing Committee by Councillor Brookes, seconded by Councillor Abi Mills. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Sally Maddocks appointed.

Councillor Harris was nominated for the Chair of the People and Organisational Development Committee by Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor Hartley. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Harris appointed.

Councillor Armistead was nominated for the Appeals Committee by Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor Bradley. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Armistead appointed.

Councillor Stubbins was nominated for the Chair of the Audit Committee by Councillor Brookes, seconded by Councillor Sally Maddocks. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Stubbins appointed.

Councillor Hamish Mills was nominated for the Chair of the Standards Committee by Councillor Brookes, seconded by Councillor Sally Maddocks. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Hamish Mills appointed.

Councillor Whitaker was nominated for the Chair of Council Business Committee by Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor Cozler. There were no further nominations. The Mayor declared Councillor Whitaker appointed.

Resolved:

That the following Councillors be appointed Chairs of the undermentioned Committees for 2023/24:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Cooper
Budget and Performance Panel	Councillor Hunter
Planning Regulatory Committee	Councillor Thornberry
Licensing Committee	Councillor Sally Maddocks
People and Organisational	Councillor Harris

Development Committee	
Appeals Committee	Councillor Armistead
Standards Committee	Councillor Hamish Mills
Audit Committee	Councillor Stubbins
Council Business Committee	Councillor Whitaker

24 APPOINTMENT OF AN ARMED FORCES CHAMPION

The Mayor asked for nominations for the role of Armed Forces Champion for the four year period 2023/24 to 2026/27.

Councillor Cooper nominated the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Dowding. There were no further nominations, therefore the Mayor was appointed.

Resolved:

That the Mayor, Councillor Dennison, be appointed Armed Forces Champion for the City Council for a four year term of office from 2023/24 to 2026/27.

25 APPOINTMENT OF A DISABILITY CHAMPION

The Mayor asked for nominations for the role of Disability Champion for the four year period 2023/24 to 2026/27.

Councillor Wood nominated Councillor Cozler, seconded by Councillor Parr. Councillor Brookes nominated Councillor Abi Mills, seconded by Councillor Sally Maddocks.

At this point, it was queried whether the role could be shared, rather than voted upon. Advice was given from the Monitoring Officer that, since Council had two candidates duly proposed and seconded in line with Council procedure rules, the next action should be to go to the vote, unless those propositions were withdrawn by Councillor Wood, Councillor Brookes and their seconders. The proposers and seconders then withdrew their nominations at that point and requested a short adjournment. The Mayor agreed to their request to adjourn the meeting for two minutes to allow both parties time to come to some agreement.

There was a two minute adjournment from 6.35pm to 6.37pm

Upon reconvening, it was reported that no agreement had been reached and the two candidates were once again nominated and seconded by the same Councillors.

The Mayor called for a vote. With 24 votes for Councillor Cozler and 25 votes for Councillor Abi Mills, the Mayor declared Councillor Abi Mills appointed.

Resolved:

That Councillor Abi Mills be appointed Disability Champion for the City Council for a four year term of office from 2023/24 to 2026/27.

26 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES, PARTNERSHIPS AND BOARDS (INCLUDING LANCASHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL)

The Senior Manager, Democratic Support and Elections had submitted a report setting out

the list of appointments to outside bodies, partnerships and boards, including the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel.

Councillor Wood proposed:

“That this item be deferred until the June Council meeting.”

His proposition was seconded by Councillor Phil Black.

There was no debate. A vote was taken on the proposition, which was clearly carried.

Resolved:

That appointments to outside bodies, partnerships and boards be deferred until the next Council meeting on 21 June 2023.

Mayor

(The meeting finished at 6.45 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these minutes,
please contact Debbie Chambers, Democratic Services - email dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk**

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Over all the 78 Committee places, groups should have the following seats: Labour 31, Green 27, Liberal Democrats 9, Conservative 7, MBI 4. Figures shown on each table with the Group's names are for the places that groups would have on that committee if it was calculated separately and individually. Groups must have regard to these figures whenever adjustments are required, so that these proportions are reflected as far as possible. Figures in red in brackets show the actual number the group has on the Committee following the necessary adjustments in the calculation.

Planning Regulatory Committee **CHAIRS ARE HIGHLIGHTED**

Labour 6	Green 5	Liberal Democrats 2	Conservatives 1	MBI 1
BELCHER,	BROOKES, Dave	GREENWELL, Alan	BUDDEN, Keith	DENNISON, Roger
COZLER, Claire	FISH, Tom	PRITCHARD, Joyce		
GARDNER, Paul	McGREGOR, Shelagh			
HANSON, John	TYLDESLEY, Sue			
REDFERN, Robert	TYNAN, Paul			
THORNBERRY, Sandra				
SUBSTITUTES				
	BANNON, Mandy	HART, Paul	NEWTON, Paul	BOTTOMS, Martin
	BROOKES, Dave			

Licensing Committee (10) **NO SUBSTITUTES PERMITTED**

Labour 4	Green 3.5 (3)	Liberal Democrats 1	Conservatives 1	MBI 0.5 (1.0)
BRADLEY, Phil	HAMILTON-COX, Tim	BLAIKIE, Gerry	GARDINER, Andrew	BOTTOMS, Martin
COZLER, Claire	MADDOCKS, Sally			
HALL, Erin	RUSSELL, Grace			
PATTISON, Margaret	HAMILTON-COX, Tim			

Audit Committee

Labour 3	Green 2	Liberal Democrats 1	Conservatives 1	MBI 0
HARTLEY, Colin	McGREGOR, Shelagh	JACKSON, Peter	KNIGHT Kate	
WHITAKER, David	STUBBINS, Paul			
SUBSTITUTES				
	BROOKES, Dave	BLAIKIE, Gerry		
	FISH, Tom			

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Appeals Committee

Labour 3	Green 2 (3)	Liberal Democrats 1	Conservatives 1 (0)	MBI 0
ARMISTEAD, Catherine	FISH, Tom	HART, Paul		
	McGOWAN, Sarah			
	SOMMERVILLE, James			
SUBSTITUTES				
	JACKSON, Caroline	PRITCHARD, Joyce		
	PUNSHON, Sarah			

Council Business Committee

Labour 3	Green 2 (3)	Liberal Democrats 1	Conservatives 1 (0)	MBI 0
WHITAKER, David	ABUHAJAR, Suhir	LIVERMORE, John		
	McGOWAN, Sarah			
	STUBBINS, Paul			
SUBSTITUTES				
	DOWDING, Gina	PRITCHARD, Joyce		

People and Organisational Development Committee

Labour 3	Green 2	Liberal Democrats 1	Conservatives 1	MBI 0
HARRIS, Chris	BANNON, Mandy	HART, Paul	NEWTON, Paul	
	JACKSON, Caroline			
SUBSTITUTES				
	RICHEs, Sam	GREENWELL, Alan		
	TYLEDESLEY, Sue			

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Standards Committee

Labour 3	Green 2 (3)	Liberal Democrats 1 (0)	Conservatives 1	MBI 0
	MILLS, Hamish		NEWTON, Paul	
	RICHES, Sam			
	PUNSHON, Sarah			
SUBSTITUTES				
	MILLS, Abi			

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Labour 4 (3)	Green 3	Liberal Democrats 1	Conservatives 1	MBI 0 (1)
	ABUHAJAR, Suhir	JACKSON, Peter	WILD, John	COOPER, Brett
	LENOX, Jack			
	MILLS, Abi			
SUBSTITUTES				
	MILLS, Hamish	HART, Paul		BOTTOMS, Martin
	SOMMERVILLE, James			

Budget and Performance Panel

Labour 4 (3)	Green 3	Liberal Democrats 1	Conservatives 1	MBI 0 (1)
	MILLS, Hamish	HUNTER, Ross	BUDDEN, Keith	BOTTOMS, Martin
	SOMMERVILLE, James			
	TYNAN, Paul			
SUBSTITUTES				
	BROOKES, Dave	JACKSON, Peter		COOPER, Brett
	ABUHAJAR, Suhir			