

Lichfield City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, On Monday 22 October 2018 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Councillors D Leytham (Mayor), B Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, C Ball, Mrs G Boyle, J Brooks, B Cocksey, D Dundas, I Eadie, Mrs J Eagland, Mrs J Greaves, P Hitchman, Mrs S James, G Johnson, Mrs A Lax, Miss J Marks, T Matthews, B McMullan, P Ray, C Spruce, A Thompson, M Warfield and R Yardley.

APOLOGIES: Councillors R Awty (CD), Mrs D Baker, C Greatorex, A Smith and Mrs L Warfield.

57 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on a number of recent civic and other engagements attended including the Battle of Britain service, Johnson Birthday celebrations and the Queens award for Voluntary Services. The Mayor also welcomed Cllr Gail Johnson as the newly elected member for Stowe Ward.

The Mayor stated that it had been 50 years since Councillor J Brooks had first been elected as a Councillor, and following a short speech from Cllr Cocksey and a standing ovation for Councillor Brooks from all members, the Mayor presented Cllr Brooks with a certificate to commemorate the occasion; he was also presented with a bound copy of the minutes from his first Council meeting and Mrs Brooks was given a bouquet of flowers. Cllr Brooks thanked the Council for marking this special occasion.

58 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

59 COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 September 2018 (Nos 43-56) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.*

60 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 30 August 2018 be received.*

61 OFFICERS' REPORT

Councillor Mrs S James congratulated all the Officers involved in the Sheriff's Ride. Councillor Thompson thanked the Museum and Heritage Officer for all her hard work to increase visitor numbers resulting in the Museum being ranked in the top 20 free attractions in the West Midlands. Cllr Matthews noted the installation of new goal posts in St Johns Ward; he also thanked the Open Spaces Officer for his quick response in resolving issues reported by members of the public. Councillor Cocksey thanked the Clerical assistant for taking over the Guildhall bookings in the absence of the Bookings Officer.

RESOLVED: *That the Report as contained in Agenda Appendix 1 be received, and that officers be commended for their informative report.*

62 STAFFORDSHIRE PENSIONS SCHEME – DISCRETIONS POLICY

Members considered the Town Clerk's report at agenda appendix two and the draft discretions policy therein.

RESOLVED: *That the City Council adopt the Employer Discretions policy as contained at Agenda appendix 2 which replaces the policy adopted on 17 June 2014.*

63 PAYMENTS BY DIRECT DEBIT

Members were asked to enter into Direct Debit payments with the following suppliers; Water Plus, Npower and HM Land Registry.

RESOLVED: That the City Council enters into direct debit payments as listed above, and that these payments be added to the schedule of direct debit payments to be considered for renewal at the meeting of the City Council to be held in June 2019.

64 AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18

Councillor Cocksey informed members that the City Council had received an unqualified report from the external auditor, Mazars and commended the Officers involved for their exemplary work.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

65 NALC SPRING CONFERENCE

RESOLVED: That Councillor A Thompson attend the NALC Spring Conference on 11 February 2019; and that the Council meet the costs of the conference fee, and related subsistence and travel expenses.

66 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Members considered the Town Clerks agenda report regarding the timescales proposed by Lichfield District Council for a Community Governance Review of the Parish of Lichfield.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk write to Lichfield District Council to formally request that they bring forward the timing of the proposed Community Governance Review, in order to allow it to take effect at the local elections due to be held in May 2019.

67 STAFFORDSHIRE PARISH COUNCILS ASSOCIATION (SPCA) AGM

RESOLVED: That the date of the SPCA AGM be noted.

68 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED: That payment of accounts be approved and confirmed as listed in Agenda Appendix 3 for the period 1 August 2018 to 31 August 2018 in the sum of £61,899.33 General Account, and £1,418.99 Imprest Account.

69 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of the confidential nature of the business next to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the Meeting.

70 VACANCY - CITY COUNCIL MARKETS OFFICER

Members considered the Town Clerk's confidential report at Agenda Appendix 4

RESOLVED:

a) The City Council note that following discussions between the Town Clerk, the Chairman of the Staffing Committee and the membership of that Committee, the vacant post of Markets Officer (part time) has been advertised with the same terms and conditions as previously advertised in 2016.

b) That delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman of the Staffing Committee to make arrangements for candidate shortlisting, interview and appointment to the vacant post.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.05 PM

MAYOR