

Article 5 – Chairmanship of the Council

5.1 Role of the Chairman

5.1.1 The Chairman of the Council (and in his/her absence the Vice-Chairman) will preside as Chairman at Council meetings and have the role more particularly described in Part 3 of this Constitution.

5.2 Election of the Chairman

5.2.1 The Chairman (and Vice-Chairman) will be elected by the Council annually at the Annual Meeting from among the general body of councillors.

5.2.2 The Chairman (and Vice-Chairman) will, unless he/she resigns or becomes disqualified, continue in office until his/her successor becomes entitled to act.

5.2.3 No councillor will be entitled to hold the office of Chairman for more than two consecutive years.

5.3 Chairmanship of Council meetings

5.3.1 The Chairman will have the following responsibilities at meetings of the Council:

- 1) to preside over meetings of the Council in a non partisan way so that its business can be carried out efficiently and effectively with regard to the rights of all councillors and the interests of the community;
- 2) to uphold and apply fairly the Rules of Procedure for meetings of the Council set out in Part 4 of this Constitution; and
- 3) to promote debate on matters of concern to councillors and the local community and to permit councillors who are not members of the Cabinet to have the opportunity of questioning the Cabinet Leader and Cabinet Members about matters arising out of or in connection with the discharge of a Cabinet Function.

5.4 Ceremonial matters

5.4.1 The Chairman will act as the Council's first citizen, promote public involvement in the Council's activities and attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the Chairman and/or Council determine are appropriate

5.5 Disputes Resolution

5.5.1 The Chairman (and in his/her absence the Vice-Chairman) will also use his best endeavours to resolve disputes between the Cabinet and the Overview Committees or between full Council, an Overview Committee and the Cabinet, to the extent set out in the Cabinet Procedure Rules, Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, or the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.