

# **Annual Council Minutes**

Date: 12 May 2014

Time: 6.30 am - 7.05 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillor I L McEnnis (in the Chair)

Councillors Mrs J A Adey, K Ahmed, Z Ahmed, M Angell, D A Anson MBE, D H G Barnes, I Bates, D J Carroll, Mrs L M Clarke OBE, A D Collingwood, R B Colomb, C A Ditta, R Farmer, M A Foster, R Gaffney, J Gibbs, S Graham, A R Green, G C Hall, M Hanif, C B Harriss, A E Hill, M Hussain, M E Knight, S P Lacey, Mrs J D Langley, Ms P L Lee, Mrs W J Mallen, J A Malliff, H L McCarthy, I L McEnnis, R Metcalfe, Mrs D V E Morgan, Mrs M L Neudecker, S F Parker, B E Pearce, B R Pollock JP, J L Richards OBE, R J Scott, C Shafique MBE, A Slater, T Snaith, Mrs J E Teesdale, P R Turner, Ms J D Wassell, R Wilson and Ms K S Wood

Also Present: Honorary Aldermen J M Blanksby, P Cartwright, D A E Cox, Mrs P Priestley and R Pushman.

# 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs J E Teesdale that Councillor Mrs L M Clarke OBE be elected as Chairman of the Council for 2014/15.

The proposer gave a brief history of Councillor Mrs Clarke's background, stating that she had been active in local politics for many years being first elected to WDC in 1991 for the then Cressex and Frogmoor and now Abbey Ward. Councillor Mrs Clarke had served as the Leader of the Council for 8 years between 2003-2011. She had also been a County Councillor since 2001 and had served as the Chairman of its Overview and Scrutiny Committee. In addition Councillor Mrs Clarke was a Charter Trustee for High Wycombe Town and served as its Mayor between 1994/5.

The proposer went on to state that Councillor Mrs Clarke was also politically active on a national level and had become Chairman of the Women's Local Government Society in 2007, in which capacity she had recently appeared as a guest on Radio 4's Women's Hour. Councillor Clarke has been awarded the OBE in 2013 for her services to Local Government and the Women's Local Government Society.

Councillor R J Scott stated that Councillor Mrs Clarke had a long list of achievements, and was sure to give her all to WDC, during her Chairmanship as she had always done. Therefore it would give him great pleasure in seconding the proposal.

There being no other nominations, and upon being put to a vote it was:

**RESOLVED** That: That Councillor Mrs L M Clarke OBE be elected as Chairman for the Municipal Year 2014/15.

Councillor Clarke thereupon accepted office, made the necessary declaration and was presented with the Chairman's Chain, and Mr Clarke was presented with the Chairman's consort badge and a gift.

# Councillor Mrs L M Clarke OBE in the Chair

The Chairman addressed the meeting and thanked the Council for bestowing this honour upon her for the forthcoming year. She also thanked Councillors Mrs Teesdale and Councillor Scott for their kind words. She stated that she would endeavour to uphold the customs and practices of the office to which she had been elected. The Chairman then gave a brief mention to a local charity (Kids In Sport) which assisted young disadvantaged people into sport, and which she would be supporting during her Chairmanship. Further information regarding this would be made available at the next Council meeting.

Councillor R J Scott, proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman, who he stated had stepped into the breach last July following the untimely passing of Councillor Emmett, and had treated the transition with great respect and dignity. Councillor Scott stated that the outgoing Chairman's enthusiasm and commitment to the role was second to none, and had represented the District superbly. He stated that on behalf of the Council, it gave him great pleasure to propose a vote of thanks for his time as Chairman.

Councillor A D Collingwood echoed Councillor Scott's words adding that he had performed an excellent job under very sad circumstances.

In responding Councillor McEnnis expressed his humble thanks, stating it had been a wonderful year with many successes, achievements and notable events. Prior to beginning the handover, he wished the Council to reflect and remember Councillor Emmett, an absent friend and colleague. He emphasised that he had been honoured and proud to have served his second term in Roger's memory.

Mrs Emmett was presented with an outgoing Chairman's badge and a bouquet. On accepting she stated that Councillor Emmett had been honoured and proud to have been elected and in being given the opportunity to serve the Council.

In concluding Councillor McEnnis thanked his successor, Councillor Mrs Clarke OBE, his consort and wife Sarah, and his Secretary Melanie Morgan.

The Chairman of the Council thereupon presented to Councillor McEnnis a past Chairman's badge and to Mrs McEnnis a bouquet.

# 2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor A R Green took the opportunity to congratulate the newly elected Chairman of the Council and went on to propose that Councillor I L McEnnis be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2014/15. Councillor Green stated that it gave him great pleasure to nominate him as he had been a steadfast and loyal member since 1999, and no other member was better placed to fulfil this role. Councillor Gibbs seconded the proposal, stating that Councillor McEnnis was orderly, efficient and proficient.

The Chairman sought any further nominations for the appointment of Vice-Chairman.

Councillor R M H Farmer, seconded by Councillor S F Parker, nominated Councillor T Snaith as Vice-Chairman for the year 2014/15. They both agreed that local residents had a great deal of respect for him, and that his former position as Mayor stood him in good stead for the appointment.

Councillor Parker reminded the Council that the Chair and Vice-Chairman of the Council were not political posts, and as such should be seen to be neutral. He requested that the Leader should adopt a more inclusive method of selection and in future consult more widely with opposition parties when considering names for the relevant position(s).

There being no other nominations and upon being put to a vote it was:

**RESLOVED:** That Councillor I L McEnnis be appointed as Vice-Chairman for municipal year 2014/15.

Councillor McEnnis thereupon accepted office, made the necessary declaration and was presented with the Vice Chairman's Badge of Office.

# 3 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Honorary Aldermen E H Collins, M B Oram and Mrs K M Peatey MBE, Councillors: M Appleyard, W J Bendyshe-Brown, A Hussain JP, D A Johncock, Mrs G A Jones, Ms R Knight J A Malliff, N B Marshall A Turner, D A C Shakespeare OBE

# 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

# 5 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman's gave mention to some forthcoming events within the district.

- (a) Weighing-in ceremony Saturday 17 May 2014 at 11:30am at Frogmoor.
- (b) RAF Freedom Parade was to take place on Wednesday 11 June with the flypast by a Lancaster over the High Street at 11:00 am.

# 6 **GROUP LEADERS**

The Council received formal notification that the Leaders and Deputy Leaders of the political groups for 2014/15 would be as follows:-

Group	Leader	Deputy Leader
Conservative	Cllr R J Scott	Cllr H L McCarthy
Labour	Cllr I Bates	Cllr Ms R Knight
Lib Democrat	Cllr B R Pollock JP	Cllr M E Knight

Independent Cllr A Turner Cllr G Hall

# 7 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE LEADER

The Executive Leader rose to present his report, but prior to confirming the Cabinet positions and postholders, outlined some of the major achievements over the last 12 months.

- Delivery of 0% increase in the Council Tax for the current financial year, the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- Confirmation of contracts for construction of the new sports centre and foodstore at Handy Cross.
- Completion of new synthetic turf pitch at John Hampden School and proposed completion of running track scheduled for June 2014.
- Confirmation for Next Store at Cressex Island.
- Commencement of the introduction of ANPR.

The leader further stated that in Wycombe businesses were growing, unemployment claimants had declining, and there were major reductions in the number of homeless families and occupants of Bed and Breakfasts. The Executive Leader was required to submit to the Annual meeting of the Council:

- details of the Executive ("Cabinet") positions and post holders
- details of any Cabinet committees
- responsibilities and schemes of delegation for executive arrangements'
- details of any joint arrangements
- appointments to outside bodies within the Cabinet's functional areas for the forthcoming year

The matters set out in (i) to (vii) below were therefore approved and submitted to the Council in order to comply with the Council's approved Leader and Cabinet Executive political management model and the Council's approved Constitution.

# i) Cabinet positions and post holders

- (a) It was noted that the Executive Leader had appointed Councillor H L McCarthy as Deputy Executive Leader for the purpose of carrying out the Leader's statutory functions (including e.g. appointing and removing Cabinet Members and Deputy Executive Leader, delegating executive functions to Cabinet, to Cabinet Members or to officers, agreeing or objecting to senior appointments and dismissals);
- (b) It was noted that the Leader had appointed Councillor H L McCarthy as Deputy Leader for the purpose of carrying out the remaining (Portfolio) functions of the Leader as set out in the terms of reference and responsibilities of Cabinet Members in the event that the Leader was unable to act through absence, illness, legal disability or conflict of

interest, or the circumstances were so urgent that it was appropriate for a Deputy Leader to take a decision in order to protect the interests of the authority or its area.

Name	Address	Ward represented	Position
Councillor R J Scott	Fulshaw Court Mill Road Marlow Bucks SL7 1QB	Marlow South East	Executive Leader of Council
Councillor H L McCarthy	Snowshill North Road Widmer End High Wycombe HP15 6ND	Hazlemere North	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategy
Councillor M A Foster	Jasmin Cottage Cherry Tree Close Speen Princes Risborough Bucks HP27 0TB	Lacey Green, Speen and The Hampdens	Cabinet Member for Finance
Councillor J M Gibbs	185a Main Road Naphill High Wycombe Bucks HP14 4SD	Stokenchurch and Radnage	Cabinet Member for Community
Councillor A R Green	2 Totteridge Drive High Wycombe Bucks HP13 6JH	Terriers and Amersham Hill	Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration
Councillor M Hussain JP	19 Mendip Way Downley High Wycombe Bucks	Abbey	Cabinet Member for HR, ICT and Customer Services
Councillor N B Marshall	Old Kiln House Marlow Common Marlow Bucks SL7 2QP	Marlow North and West	Cabinet Member for Planning and Sustainability
Councillor Mrs J E Teesdale	43 Green Lane Radnage High Wycombe Bucks HP14 6DJ	Chiltern Rise	Cabinet Member for Environment

(c) It was noted that the Leader of the Council had made the following appointments in respect of Cabinet positions and post holders:

# ii) Cabinet terms of reference and responsibilities of individual portfolio holders

As set out in Part 2 of the Constitution.

# iii) Cabinet Committee terms of reference

There would be no Cabinet Committees in 2014/2015.

# iv) Schemes of Delegation of Executive Functions to Officers

As set out in Part 2 of the Constitution.

#### v) Joint Arrangements

There were three schemes for joint arrangements with one or more other local authorities. These were in respect of the Chilterns Crematorium Joint Committee, Bucks Joint Waste Committee and the Chiltern and Wycombe Joint Waste Collection Committee. Details of the arrangements for all these bodies could be found in Part 2 of the Constitution.

#### **Representation:**

Chilterns Crematorium Joint Committee – Councillor A R Green and Councillor H L McCarthy.

Bucks Joint Waste Committee – Councillor C B Harriss, Councillor Mrs J E Teesdale and Councillor Z Ahmed (Standing Deputy).

Chiltern and Wycombe Joint Waste Collection Committee – Councillor C B Harriss, Councillor Mrs J E Teesdale and Councillor Z Ahmed (Standing Deputy).

# vi) Appointments to Outside Organisations

The organisations to which the Cabinet made appointments were as set out below. The Council was asked to note the following appointments for the periods set out.

# Local Authority Appointments (until May 2015)

1. Local Government Association

2.

General Assembly (1)	Councillor R J Scott
General Assembly (Standing Deputy) (1)	Councillor H L McCarthy
Rural Commission Voting Member (1)	Councillor J A Savage
Rural Commission Non-Voting Member (1)	Councillor W J Bendyshe-Brown
Urban Commission Voting Member (1)	Councillor D A C Shakespeare OBE
Voting Member (1) Urban Commission	Shakespeare OBE

	Partnership Standing Deputy (1)	Councillor A R Green
3.	South East England Councils (1)	Councillor A R Green
	Standing Deputy (1)	Councillor Mrs L M Clarke OBE
4.	Red Kite Board (3)	Councillor I L McEnnis Councillor J L Richards Mr C D Watson
5.	South East Employers (1)	Councillor J A Malliff
6.	Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel (1)	Councillor W J Bendyshe- Brown
7.	Wycombe Rent Deposition Guarantee Scheme (1)	
Otł	ner Local Authority Appoi	ntments until May 2015
1.	BCC Public Health Overvi and Select Committee (1)	ew Councillor A R Green
2	Bucke Health and	

- Bucks Health and Wellbeing Board (1)
  Councillor Mrs J A Adey
  Healthy Communities
- Partnership (1)

Councillor Mrs J A Adey

#### vii) Deputy Cabinet Members

The following were appointed to assist the relevant Cabinet Member:

#### Community

Councillor Ms J A Adey (Community and Health) Councillor Z Ahmed (Housing)

**Economic Development & Regeneration** Councillor W J Bendyshe-Brown

#### Environment

Councillor C B Harriss

**Finance** Councillor P R Turner

HR, ICT & Customer Services Councillor R Metcalfe

# **Planning & Sustainability**

Councillor D A Johncock

# 8 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Committees of the Council were appointed annually under Section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972.

In accordance with Sections 15 to 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, it was the duty of the Council (save in relation to certain Committees where different arrangements are approved by the Council) to make appointments to Committees which reflected the representation of different political groups on the Council and in accordance with the wishes of those political groups.

**RESOLVED:** That (i) the following Committees be appointed with the memberships as set out below in accordance with political balance requirements as notified by Group Leaders. The terms of reference were as set out in Parts 1 and 2 of the Constitution:

- (ii) the appointments be for the forthcoming year
- (iii) the positions of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be as set out.

(Up to 18	Chairman:		Cllr R H W Gaffney
Members Total)	Vice Chairman:		Cllr Mrs J D Langley
Conservative -	Members	1	Cllr D H G Barnes
Up to 12		2	Cllr D J Carroll
Members		3	Cllr R H W Gaffney
		4	Cllr A E Hill
		5	Cllr A Hussain JP
		6	Cllr Mrs J D Langley
		7	Cllr Mrs W J Mallen
		8	Cllr Ms K S Wood
		9	Cllr Ms M L Neudecker
		10	Cllr J L Richards OBE
		11	Cllr J A Savage
		12	Cllr R Wilson
Conservative	Standing	1	Cllr D A Anson MBE
	Deputies	2	Cllr M C Appleyard

# (i) Improvement and Review Commission

		3 4 5 6	Cllr Mrs G A Jones Cllr Ms S Manir Cllr D M Watson Cllr J Malliff
Labour	Member	1	Cllr K Ahmed
2 Members		2	Cllr I Bates
Labour	Standing	1	Cllr Ms R Knight
	Deputies	2	Cllr M Hanif
Liberal	Member	1	Cllr Ms P L Lee
Democrat		2	Cllr A Slater
3 Members		3	Cllr T Snaith
Liberal	Standing	1	Cllr R M H Farmer
Democrat	Deputies	2	Cllr S F Parker
Independent Group	Member	1	Cllr G C Hall
1 Member			
Independent Group	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr A Turner

# (ii) Standards Committee

(Up to 8 Members Total)	Chairman: Vice Chairman:		Cllr A D Collingwood Cllr D J Carroll
Conservative –	Members	1	Cllr D J Carroll
Up to 6		2	Cllr A D Collingwood
Members		3	Cllr Mrs G A Jones
		4	Cllr J A Savage
		5	Cllr D A C Shakespeare OBE
		6	Cllr R Wilson
Labour 1 Member	Member	1	Cllr I Bates
Liberal Democrat 1 Member	Member	1	Cllr Ms J D Wassell

# (iii) Planning Committee

(Up to 16	Chairman:		Cllr D A Johncock
Members Total)	Vice Chairman:		Cllr A E Hill
Conservative –	Members	1	Cllr Ms J A Adey
Up to 12		2	Cllr D J Carroll
Members		3	Cllr C B Harriss
		4	Cllr A E Hill
		5	Cllr A Hussain JP
		6	Cllr D A Johncock
		7	Cllr N B Marshall
		8	Cllr H L McCarthy
		9	Cllr R Metcalfe
		10	Cllr Mrs D V E Morgan
		11	Cllr Mrs J E Teesdale
		12	Cllr P R Turner
Conservative	Standing	1	Cllr Z Ahmed
	Deputies	2	Cllr Maz Hussain
		3	Cllr Mrs W J Mallen
		4	Cllr Ms M L Neudecker
		5	Cllr D M Watson
		6	Cllr Ms K S Wood
Labour 1 Member	Member	1	Cllr S Graham
Labour	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr I Bates
Liberal	Members	1	Cllr S F Parker
Democrat		2	Cllr B R Pollock JP
2 Members			
Liberal	Standing	1	Cllr C A Ditta
Democrat	Deputies	2	Cllr A Slater
Independent Group	Member	1	Cllr A Turner

1 Member				
Independent Group	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr G C Hall	

(Up to 12	Chairman:		Cllr J A Savage
Members Total)	Vice Chairman:		Cllr R Wilson
Conservative –	Members	1	Cllr M C Appleyard
Up to 8		2	Cllr A D Collingwood
Members		3	Cllr R H W Gaffney
		4	Cllr M Hussain JP
		5	Cllr Mrs G A Jones
		6	Cllr J A Savage
		7	Cllr D A C Shakespeare OBE
		8	Cllr R Wilson
Conservative	Standing	1	Cllr D A Anson MBE
	Deputies	2	Cllr Ms S Manir
		3	Cllr J L Richards OBE
Labour	Member	1	Cllr M Hanif
1 Member			
Labour	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr K Ahmed
Liberal	Members	1	Cllr R M H Farmer
Democrat 2 Members		2	Cllr Ms P L Lee
Liberal Democrat	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr M E Knight
1 Member to be drawn from Independent Group / UKIP / Independent Real Conservative	Member	1	Cllr B E Pearce
Independent	Standing	1	Cllr G C Hall
	-		

# (iv) Regulatory and Appeals Committee

Group / UKIP / Deputy Independent Real Conservative

# (v) Audit Committee

1			
(Up to 8	Chairman:		Cllr M C Appleyard
Members Total)	Vice Chairman:		Cllr J L Richards OBE
Conservative -	Members	1	Cllr M C Appleyard
Up to 6		2	Cllr A D Collingwood
Members		3	Cllr J L Richards OBE
		4	Cllr P R Turner
		5	Cllr D M Watson
		6	Cllr R Wilson
Conservative	Standing	1	Cllr D H G Barnes
	Deputies	2	Cllr I L McEnnis
		3	Cllr D A C Shakespeare OBE
Liberal Democrat 1 Member	Member	1	Cllr R M H Farmer
Liberal Democrat	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr A Slater
Labour 1 Member	Member	1	Cllr I Bates
Labour	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr Ms R Knight
External co-opte	e	1	Vacancy

# (vi) Licensing Committee

(Up to 15	Chairman:		Cllr A E Hill
Members Total)	Vice Chairman	:	Cllr I L McEnnis
Conservative	Members	1	Cllr Z Ahmed
-		2	Cllr D H G Barnes
Up to 11 Members		3	Cllr W J Bendyshe-Brown

		4	Cllr A R Green
		5	Cllr C B Harriss
		6	Cllr A E Hill
		7	Cllr Maz Hussain
		8	Cllr J A Malliff
		9	Cllr I L McEnnis
		10	Cllr R Metcalfe
		11	Cllr J L Richards OBE
Conservative	Standing	1	Cllr D J Carroll
	Deputies	2	Cllr S P Lacey
		3	Cllr D A Anson MBE
Labour	Member	1	Cllr Ms R Knight
1 Member			
Labour	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr I Bates
Liberal	Members	1	Cllr Ms P L Lee
Democrat 2 Members		2	Cllr A Slater
Liberal Democrat	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr S F Parker
Independent Group 1 Member	Member	1	Cllr A Turner
Independent Group	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr G C Hall

# (vii) High Wycombe Town Committee

(23 Members in total	Chairman: Vice Chairman:		Cllr A R Green Cllr M Hussain JP
representing the High	Members	1	Cllr K Ahmed
Wycombe		2	Cllr Z Ahmed
Town wards)		3	Cllr I Bates
		4	Cllr L M Clarke OBE
		5	Cllr R B Colomb
		6	Cllr C A Ditta

-	7	Cllr R M Farmer
	8	Cllr S Graham
	9	Cllr A R Green
	10	Cllr M Hanif
	11	Cllr A E Hill
	12	Cllr A Hussain JP
	13	Cllr M Hussain JP
	14	Cllr Maz Hussain
	15	Cllr M E Knight
	16	Cllr Ms R Knight
	17	Cllr Ms P L Lee
	18	Cllr Ms S Manir
	19	Cllr S F Parker
	20	Cllr B E Pearce
	21	Cllr C Shafique MBE
	22	Cllr T Snaith
	23	Cllr Ms J D Wassell

# (viii) Personnel and Development Committee

(Up to 8 Members Total)	Chairman: Vice Chairman:		Cllr D H G Barnes Cllr Ms M L Neudecker
Conservative –	Members	1	Cllr M Angell
Up to 6		2	Cllr D H G Barnes
Members		3	Cllr Maz Hussain
		4	Cllr S P Lacey
		5	Cllr Mrs W J Mallen
		6	Cllr Ms M L Neudecker
Conservative	Standing	1	Cllr D J Carroll
	Deputies	2	Cllr M A Foster
		3	Cllr N B Marshall
Liberal Democrat	Member	1	Cllr M E Knight
1 Member Liberal	Standing	1	Cllr B R Pollock JP

Democrat	Deputy		
Labour 1 Member	Member	1	Cllr I Bates
Labour	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr Ms R Knight

# (ix) Joint Staff Committee

(Up to 5 Members Total)	Chairman: Vice Chairman:		Cllr D H G Barnes Staff Side Appointment
Conservative –	Members	1	Cllr D H G Barnes
Up to 4		2	Cllr S P Lacey
Members		3	Cllr R Metcalfe
		4	Cllr C Shafique MBE
Conservative	Standing	1	Cllr Maz Hussain
	Deputies	2	Cllr Mrs W J Mallen
Liberal Democrat 1 Member		1	Cllr C A Ditta
Liberal Democrat	Standing Deputy	1	Cllr M E Knight

# (x) Disciplinary Committee

5 Members to be drawn from the	1	Chairman or past Chairman of the Council
list of Members set out (subject to	2	A member of the Cabinet
two or more political groups	3	A Leader or Deputy Leader of an opposition party
always being represented and	4	The Chairman of a Council Committee
to the inclusion of at least one Cabinet Member)	5	The Vice Chairman of a Council Committee
	6	A member of the Personnel and Development Committee
	7	Another Back Bench Member

# (xi) JNC Staffing Matters Committee

5 Members to be drawn from the list of Members	1	Chairman or past Chairman of the Council	Cllr R J Scott (Chairman)
set out (subject to two or more	2	A member of the Cabinet	Cllr H L McCarthy (Vice Chairman)
political groups always being represented and	3	A Leader or Deputy Leader of	Cllr N B Marshall
to the inclusion of at least one	4	an opposition party The Chairman of a	Cllr D A Johncock
Cabinet Member)	-	Council Committee	Cllr B R Pollock
	5	The Vice Chairman of a Council Committee	Standing Deputies
	6	A member of the Personnel and	Cllr Ms J A Adey
		Development Committee	Cllr M E Knight
	7	Another back bench member	Cllr J A Savage

# 9 SCHEME OF DELEGATION - NON-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

**RESOLVED:** That: the Scheme of Delegation – Non Executive functions as set out in Part 2 of the Constitution be approved.

# 10 REFRESHMENTS

Members, guests and officers were invited to join the Chairman and Honorary Aldermen for refreshments.

Chairman

# The following officers were in attendance at the meeting:

- Ian Hunt
- Democratic Services Manager
- Iram Malik Karen Satterford
- Democratic Services Officer
- terford Chief Executive
- lan Westgate
- Corporate Director
- 16