

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Urban Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield,

on Thursday, 25th May, 2023 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillor David Walters in the Chair;

Councillors Kier Barsby, Jamie Bell, Will Bostock, Ian Briggs, Jodine Cronshaw, Samantha Deakin, Anna Ellis, Paul Grafton, Julie Gregory, Dale Grounds, Arnie Hankin, Oliver Hay, Vicki Heslop, Tom Hollis, Christopher Huskinson, Dawn Justice, Sarah Lewsey, Trevor Locke, Rachel Madden, Sarah Madigan, Gordon Mann, Cathy Mason, Andy Meakin, Nicholas Parvin, Matthew Relf, Phil Rostance, Dave Shaw, John Smallridge, Helen-Ann Smith, Lee Waters, John Wilmott and Jason Zadrozny.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Andy Gascoyne and Warren Nuttall.

Officers Present: Craig Bonar, Lynn Cain, Ruth Dennis, Theresa Hodgkinson, Peter Hudson, Jas Hundal, Mike Joy, David Needham and Shane Wright.

C.1 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests and/or Non-Registrable Interests

The Executive Director for Governance and Monitoring Officer, on behalf of all Members and officers' present at the meeting, declared a general Non Registrable Interest in respect of agenda item 15 relating to Political Assistants. The former Political Assistant, present at the meeting and sat in the public gallery, declared that she would be leaving the room whilst the item was discussed and voted upon.

C.2 Election of Chairman of the Council

RESOLVED

that Councillor Dale Grounds be elected Chairman of the Council until the next Annual Meeting.

C.3 Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the Chairman

The newly elected Chairman subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman pursuant to the provisions of Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972 and thanked Members of the Council for his appointment.

Councillor Grounds thanked everyone present for giving him the opportunity to represent the Council and advised that his chosen charities for the year would be Ducklings: the Charity of the Nottingham Children's Hospital School and Enlighten the Shadows, a men's mental health group.

C.4 Vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman

Councillor Jason Zadrozny led the tributes and thanks to the retiring Chairman, Councillor Walters, and welcomed Councillor Grounds into his new role.

The following Councillors also expressed their thanks and gratitude to Councillor Walters:

Cllr. Matthew Relf
Cllr. Tom Hollis
Cllr. Phil Rostance
Cllr. Helen-Ann Smith
Cllr. Arnie Hankin.

Councillor Walters took the opportunity to address Council and thanked officers and everyone in attendance at the meeting for their kindness and support throughout the previous year.

C.5 Election of Vice Chairman of the Council

RESOLVED
that Councillor Arnie Hankin be elected Vice Chairman of the Council until the next Annual Meeting.

C.6 Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the Vice Chairman

The newly elected Vice Chairman subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Vice Chairman pursuant to the provisions of Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972 and thanked Members of the Council for his appointment.

C.7 Minutes

RESOLVED
that the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 2 February and 2 March 2023, as now submitted, be received and approved.

C.8 Chairman and Head of Paid Service Announcements

The Chief Executive gave her heartfelt thanks to the previous Chairman of the Council and offered her sincere well wishes to the new Chairman and Vice Chairman as elected.

C.9 Election of Leader of the Council

RESOLVED

that subject to the requirements of the Council's Constitution and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.1 (vii), Councillor Jason Zadrozny be appointed Leader of the Council for a four year term of office.

C.10 Composition of the Council

RESOLVED

that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.1(viii) and (ix), Council notes the composition of the Executive for the coming year, the names of Members appointed to the Cabinet (as outlined below) and the Scheme of Delegation for the Discharge of Executive Functions as advised by the Leader of the Council:-

<u>Cabinet (10)</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Executive Responsibility For:</u>
Jason Zadrozny	Leader of the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corporate Strategy and Performance• Strategic Partnerships• Corporate Risk Management• Corporate Communications• Website Content and Social Media
Helen-Ann Smith	Deputy Leader and Executive Lead Member for Community Safety and Crime Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To deputise for the Leader• Community Safety Partnership• Anti-Social Behaviour• Community Protection• Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Children• CCTV• Community Cohesion• Combating Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
Tom Hollis	Deputy Leader and Executive Lead Member for Strategic Housing and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To deputise for the Leader• Housing Strategy• Housing Development• Housing Options• Disabled Facilities Grants• Environmental Health Services• Licensing• Building Control• Empty and Dilapidated

		<p>Properties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Sector Enforcement • Climate Change
John Wilmott	Executive Lead Member for Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Services • Scrutiny and Democratic Services • Electoral Services • Internal Audit • HR and Payroll • Health and Safety • Emergency Planning and Business Continuity
Rachel Madden	Executive Lead Member for Finance, Revenues and Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Strategy – including Medium Term Financial Strategy • Treasury Management • Capital Strategy and Programme • Revenues and Benefits • Commercial Property • Financial Governance • Strategic Procurement • Towns Fund – Automated Distribution and Manufacturing Centre (ADMC)
Andy Meakin	Executive Lead Member for Social Housing and Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Housing Regulation • HRA Business Plan • Tenancy Support, Management and Engagement • Housing Repairs • Maintenance of Non-Domestic Assets • Housing Capital Investment • Aids and Adaptations
Christopher Huskinson	Executive Lead Member for Leisure, Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Leisure (including outdoor sports provision) • Health and Wellbeing • Arts, Heritage, Tourism and Culture • Corporate Events

Samantha Deakin	Executive Lead Member for Parks and Environmental Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streets • Parks and Open Spaces • Waste Management • Recycling • Fleet Transport • Cemeteries
Vicki Heslop	Executive Lead Member for Customer and Digital Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer Experience • Digital Services Transformation • ICT and IT Strategy, Security, Operations and Website Platform
Matthew Relf	Executive Lead Member for Growth, Regeneration and Local Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discover Ashfield Board • Regeneration and Economic Growth • Business Support • Town Centres • Markets • Car Park Strategy • Strategic Planning – Local Plan • Development Advice & Management

C.11 Appointment of Committees

Council was requested to determine the appointment of Committees including Chairmen, Vice Chairmen and membership seats for the ensuing year as per the Committee Membership Schedule as circulated.

RESOLVED that

- a) in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.3 (i) and (iv), the following Committees be appointed for the ensuing year:-

Principal Select Committee
 Inward Focus Select Committee
 Outward Focus Select Committee
 Planning Committee
 Licensing Committee
 Audit Committee
 Local Joint Consultative Committee
 Chief Officers' Employment Committee
 Standards and Personnel Appeals Committee
 Charities Committee
 Local Plan Development Committee

- b) as a result of (a) above, the following appointments for Chairmen, Vice Chairmen and membership seats be approved:-

Principal Select Committee (7)
(6 Ashfield Independents, 1 Conservative)

Kier Barsby (Chairman)
Jodine Cronshaw
Julie Gregory (Vice Chairman)
Trevor Locke
Warren Nuttall
Phil Rostance
John Smallridge

Outward Focus Select Committee (7)
(7 Ashfield Independents)

Jamie Bell
Will Bostock
Paul Grafton
Sarah Lewsey (Vice Chairman)
Gordon Mann
Dave Shaw (Chairman)
Lee Waters

Inward Focus Select Committee (7)
(6 Ashfield Independents, 1 Labour)

Ian Briggs
Jodine Cronshaw
Andy Gascoyne
Oliver Hay (Chairman)
Sarah Madigan
Cathy Mason
David Walters (Vice Chairman)

Planning Committee (9)
(9 Ashfield Independents)

Jamie Bell (Vice Chairman)
Samantha Deakin
Arnie Hankin
Rachel Madden
Sarah Madigan (Chairman)
Andy Meakin
John Smallridge
Helen-Ann Smith
Jason Zadrozny

Licensing Committee (10)
(9 Ashfield Independents, 1 Conservative)

Jamie Bell
Ian Briggs
Jodine Cronshaw
Paul Grafton
Julie Gregory
Dale Grounds
Dawn Justice
Sarah Madigan
Warren Nuttall (Chairman)
John Wilmott

Audit Committee (7)
(6 Ashfield Independents, 1 Conservative)

Will Bostock (Chairman)
Anna Ellis
Dawn Justice
Sarah Lewsey
Trevor Locke
Nicholas Parvin
John Smallridge

Charities Committee (7)
(6 Ashfield Independents, 1 Labour)

Ian Briggs
Julie Gregory
Vicki Heslop
Sarah Lewsey
Gordon Mann (Chairman)
Cathy Mason
David Walters

Chief Officers' Employment Committee (7)
(7 Ashfield Independents)

Jodine Cronshaw (Chairman)
Samantha Deakin
Tom Hollis
Christopher Huskinson
Rachel Madden
Helen-Ann Smith
Jason Zadrozny

Standards and Personnel Appeals Committee (7)
(6 Ashfield Independents, 1 Conservative)

Kier Barsby
Jamie Bell
Paul Grafton
Oliver Hay
Phil Rostance
Dave Shaw
Lee Waters (Chairman)

Local Plan Development Committee (9)
(9 Ashfield Independents)

Samantha Deakin
Paul Grafton (Chairman)
Arnie Hankin
Christopher Huskinson
Gordon Mann
Matthew Relf
John Smallridge (Vice Chairman)
Helen-Ann Smith
Jason Zadrozny

Local Joint Consultative Committee (7)
(Not subject to political balance rules)

Vicki Heslop
Tom Hollis
Christopher Huskinson
Rachel Madden
Andy Meakin
Matthew Relf
John Wilmott

C.12 Schedule of Council, Cabinet and Committee Meetings

Council was requested to approve the updated Schedule of Council, Cabinet and Committee Meetings for 2023/24 as circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED

that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.1(x), the Schedule of Council, Cabinet and Committee meetings for 2023/24, as circulated at the meeting, be approved.

C.13 Constitution Update

Council was requested to consider and approve the proposed changes to the Council's Constitution, as presented, and to note that further changes would be submitted to the July 2023 meeting for approval.

RESOLVED

that the proposed changes to the Council's Constitution for 2023/24, as outlined in the report, be received and approved.

C.14 Political Assistants

Council was requested to consider and acknowledge the criteria for the appointment of Political Assistants during the 2023-27 term of office.

RESOLVED that

- a) the information contained in the report, be received and noted;
- b) at the wish of the Ashfield Independents Leader, a political assistant post be duly allocated to the Group and form part of the Council's establishment structure for the 2023-27 term of office;
- c) at the wish of the Conservative Party Leader, the offer of a political assistant being allocated to the Group and forming part of the Council's establishment structure for the 2023-27 term of office, be declined;
- d) the 2023/24 budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) reflecting the cost of the political assistant post as allocated, be duly acknowledged.

C.15 Appointment to Outside Bodies

Council was requested to nominate/appoint representatives to the Outside Bodies listed in the schedule as circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED

that the following representatives be appointed to the under-mentioned bodies:-

<u>No.</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Representatives</u>	<u>New Term Ending</u>
1.	Ashfield Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Committee	Cllr. Jodine Cronshaw	31 May 2026 (3 year term)
2.	Ashfield Community Safety Partnership Joint Strategic Group	Cllr. Helen-Ann Smith Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2024
3.	Association for Public Service Excellence	Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2027 (4 year term)

4.	Beauvale Charity	Cllr. Dave Shaw	30 June 2027 (4 year term)
5.	Byron Charity	Cllr. Ian Briggs Cllr. Trevor Locke Cllr. Gordon Mann Cllr. Phil Rostance Cllr. Dave Shaw Cllr. Lee Waters Cllr. John Wilmott	31 May 2024 (part way through a 3 year term)
6.	D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership Board	Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
7.	Discover Ashfield Board	Cllr. Matthew Relf Cllr. Helen-Ann Smith <u>Scrutiny Member</u> Cllr. Julie Gregory	31 May 2024
8.	East Midlands Councils	Cllr. Tom Hollis Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
9.	Economic Prosperity Committee	Cllr. Matthew Relf Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
10.	Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board	Cllr. Matthew Relf	31 May 2024
11.	Greenwood Community Forest Steering Group	Cllr. Matthew Relf	31 May 2024
12.	Health and Wellbeing Board (County Council)	Helen Hollis <u>Substitutes</u> Cllr. Keir Barsby Cllr. David Walters	31 May 2024
13.	Historic England	Cllr. Nicholas Parvin	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
14.	Hucknall & District Voluntary Partnership (Under One Roof Project)	Cllr. Ian Briggs	31 May 2024

15.	Hucknall Relief in Need Charity	Cllr. Ian Briggs Cllr. Lee Waters	30 November 2024 (part way through a 3 year term)
16.	LGA District Council's Network	Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
17.	Mansfield & District Crematorium Joint Committee	Cllr. Tom Hollis Cllr. Chris Huskinson Cllr. Helen-Ann Smith	31 May 2024
18.	Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust	Cllr. Nicholas Parvin	31 May 2024
19.	Nottinghamshire Joint Waste Management Committee	Cllr. Samantha Deakin	31 May 2024
20.	Nottinghamshire Local Government Leaders' Group	Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
21.	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Cllr. Dale Grounds	31 May 2024
22.	Our Centre	Cllr. Warren Nuttall	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
23.	PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee	Cllr. Andy Meakin	31 May 2024
24.	Police and Crime Commissioner Panel	Cllr. Helen-Ann Smith <u>Substitute Member</u> Cllr. Jason Zadrozny	31 May 2027 (4 year term)
25.	Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire	Cllr. Arnie Hankin	31 May 2024
26.	Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	Cllr. David Walters	31 May 2024

27.	Teversal Grange Advisory Committee	Cllr. Jodine Cronshaw Cllr. Tom Hollis Cllr. Helen-Ann Smith	31 May 2024
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**C.16 Section 100A Local Government Act 1972:
Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED

that in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting during the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and in respect of which the Proper Officer considers the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**C.17 Funding Programme Governance:
(Exempt by virtue of Paragraph 3)**

Council was requested to consider the governance of the Council's current funding programme.

RESOLVED that

- a) the detail of the funding model and proposals to increase the borrowing and match funding towards the project outlined in the report, be approved;
- b) delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Resources Director (and S151 officer) in conjunction with the Executive Lead Member for Growth, Regeneration and Local Planning and the Executive Lead Member for Finance, Revenues and Benefits, to vary the Council's borrowing level on approved Towns Fund and Future High Street projects where, following due diligence, it is deemed economically advantageous to do so and the minimum Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of the project is not breached.

The meeting closed at 7.38 pm

Chairman.