

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**ANNUAL MEETING****4.30PM – 15 MAY 2008****HOVE TOWN HALL****MINUTES**

Present: Councillor Mrs Theobald (Mayor for items 1 to 3); Councillor Peltzer Dunn (Mayor for items 4 to 9); Councillors Alford, Allen, Barnett, Bennett, Mrs Brown, Carden, Caulfield, Mrs Cobb, Davey, Davis, Mrs Drake, Duncan, Elgood, Fallon-Khan, Fryer, Hamilton, Harmer-Strange, Hawkes, Hyde, Janio, Kemble, Kennedy, Kitcat, Lainchbury, Lepper, McCaffery, Marsh, Meadows, Mears, Mitchell, Morgan, Mrs A Norman, K Norman, Older, Oxley, Pidgeon, Randall, Rufus, Simpson, Simson, Smart, Smith, Steedman, Taylor, G Theobald, Turton, Wakefield-Jarrett, Watkins, Wells, West, Wrighton and Young.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1.1 No declarations of interest were made.

2. MAYORAL REPORT 2007-2008

2.1 Prior to moving the Mayoral Report, the Mayor informed the council of the recent death of ex-councillor Ted Furey and noted that a remembrance service was due to be held on the 19 May at St. George's Church.

2.2 The Mayor moved that the Mayoral Report for 2007-2008 be received.

2.3 The motion was carried.

3. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2008/2009

3.1 The Mayor having invited nominations for the position of Mayor of Brighton & Hove City Council for the municipal year 2008/2009 the following proposal was submitted:-

Councillor Garry Peltzer Dunn proposed by Councillor Mrs Brown, seconded by Councillor Mears.

3.2 The Mayor declared that, there being no other nominations, Councillor Garry Peltzer Dunn be duly elected Mayor of Brighton & Hove City Council for the forthcoming municipal year. Councillor Garry Peltzer Dunn then made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3.3 The Council agreed.

COUNCILLOR GARRY PELTZER DUNN IN THE CHAIR

3.4 The Mayor thanked the Council for his appointment.

3.5 Councillor Ken Norman moved a Vote of Thanks to Councillor Carol Theobald, the retiring Mayor. The Motion, which was seconded by Councillor Oxley, was carried.

3.6 The Mayor presented Councillor Carol Theobald and Councillor Geoffrey Theobald with commemorative badges in recognition of their year of office.

3.7 Councillor Carol Theobald thanked the Council.

4. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2008/2009

4.1 The Mayor moved that the Council appoint Councillor Carol Theobald as Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming municipal year. The Motion was seconded by Councillor Oxley.

4.2 The Mayor declared that, there being no other nominations, Councillor Carol Theobald be duly elected as Deputy Mayor of Brighton & Hove City Council for the forthcoming municipal year.

4.3 The Council agreed.

4.4 Councillor Carol Theobald made and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Mayor presented the Deputy Mayor with her badge of office.

5. MINUTES

5.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 April 2008 be approved and signed as a correct record of the proceedings, subject to the inclusion of the word ‘Old’ prior to London Road in paragraph 59.9.

6. MAYOR’S COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 The Mayor informed the Council that the Reverend Stephen Terry had consented to be his Chaplain for the forthcoming year and that the Reverend Felix Mascarenhas had consented to be his Deputy Chaplain for the forthcoming year.

6.2 The Mayor reported that the Mayoral Charities for his year of office would be:

The Martlets
Rocking Horse Appeal – 40th Anniversary
Sussex Heart Trust
Alzheimer Society – Brighton and Hove Branch

6.3 The Mayor invited all Members of the Council to attend the Civic Eucharist Service at St Nicholas' Church, Brighton on Sunday, 18 May at 10.30am.

7. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS

7.1 The Mayor invited Councillor Oxley to propose Councillor Mears as the Leader of the Council for the term of the council, May 2008 – May 2011, in accordance with the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

7.2 Councillor Oxley formally proposed that Councillor Mears be appointed as the Leader of the Council for 2008-2011.

7.3 Councillor Geoffrey Theobald formally seconded the proposal.

7.4 Councillor Taylor stated that the council had to consider an important matter in appointing the Leader of the Council, which was a significant change to previous years because of the decision to move to a new style Leader & Cabinet. He noted that the council had decided to adopt a new constitution and expressed his concern over the process for appointing a Leader as part of the Mayor-Making and Annual Council, as it did not provide for political debate on the matter of the Leader.

7.5 The Mayor noted that there were no other nominations for the position of Leader of the Council and therefore put the motion to the council.

7.6 The motion was carried.

7.7 Councillor Mears thanked the Council for her appointment as the Leader of the Council and stated that she wished to thank the out-going Leader, Councillor Oxley for his leadership during the last year. She had been proud to serve under him in the new Administration and was extremely proud and honoured to have been appointed as the new Leader. She was determined to maintain the open and transparent way of working that had been developed as part of the new constitution.

7.8 The Mayor moved that for the municipal year 2008/2009 the following appointments of Councillors be as specified:

(a) Deputy Leaders of the Council	Councillor Mrs Vanessa Brown Councillor Mrs Denise Cobb
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(b) Leader of the Opposition	Councillor Gill Mitchell
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(c) Convenor of the Green Group Councillor Keith Taylor

(d) Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group Councillor Paul Elgood

7.9 The motion was carried.

8. REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

8.1 The Mayor moved that:

- (i) For the municipal year 2008/2009 the following Committees and Sub-Committees be constituted and appointed to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council and the number of Members and allocation of seats to the Party Groups (apart from co-opted Members) be as specified:

Committee/Sub-Committee	Seats	Con	Labour	Green	Lib/Dem	Ind
Governance	10	5	2	2	1	
Audit	10	5	2	2	1	
Licensing*	15	8	3	3	1	
Planning	12	6	3	3		
Overview & Scrutiny Commission	10	4	2	2	1	1
Adult Social Care & Housing Overview & Scrutiny	8	4	2	2		
Children & Young People Overview & Scrutiny	8	4	2	2		
Culture, Tourism & Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny	8	3	3	2		
Environment & Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny	8	4	2	2		
Health Overview & Scrutiny	8	4	2	2		
Total	97	47	23	22	4	1

<i>Licensing 2003 Act* - has the same membership as Licensing and does not come into the equation for the allocation of seats</i>	15	8	3	3	1	
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Other Bodies						
Standards Committee	6	3	2	1		
Personnel Committee	3	1	1	1		

(ii) (a) That with regard to (i) above and subject to (b) and (c) below, all Members of the Council be appointed as Substitute Members of each Committee of the Council in accordance with Standing Orders.

(b) No Member may act as a Substitute Member of the Planning Committee or the Personnel Committee unless he/she has received the appropriate training to enable them to serve on the respective Committee.

(c) There are restrictions on membership of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees as set out in the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure rules.

(iii) That the existing co-optees on the Planning Committee, the Children & Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee be re-appointed, providing that the Overview & Scrutiny Commission may appoint additional non-voting co-optees to the Children & Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

(iv) That those appointments listed in appendix 3 being the responsibility of the Executive will be made by the Leader of the Council.

8.2 Councillor Randall referred to the appointment list for outside bodies and stated that with regard to the membership of the South Downs Joint Committee, the Green Group believed that there should be one representative from the three main Groups on the Council. He therefore wished to move an amendment to that effect as detailed in appointment No.57 of the list of appointments which showed four nominations, with Councillor West being the Green Group's nominee.

8.3 Councillor Fryer formally seconded the proposal.

8.4 The Mayor noted that an amendment had been moved and proposed that a simple vote by show of hands for each nominee be taken in respect of the appointments to the South Downs Joint Committee.

8.5 The Head of Democratic Services called each nominees' name in alphabetical order and a count was taken of the votes in favour of each nominee and the following three Members were duly appointed as the council's representatives to the South Downs Joint Committee:

Councillors Davis, Norman and Theobald.

8.6 Councillor Taylor referred to the appointment of Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the various committees listed in the report and stated that there was in balance between the Conservative and Labour held posts compared with those of Green Councillors. In this respect the Green Group could not support the recommendations.

8.7 The Mayor then noted that the remaining appointments as detailed in the report had been moved and put them to the vote.

8.8 The motion was carried.

Note: Councillors Taylor, Davey, Duncan, Fryer, Kennedy, Kitcat, Randall, Rufus, Steedman, Wakefield-Jarrett, West and Wrighton wished their names recorded as having abstained from voting on the appointments of Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen.

9. CLOSE OF MEETING

9.1 The Mayor closed the meeting and invited the assembled company to join him in the Banqueting Suite of the Town Hall for refreshments.

The meeting concluded at 5.50pm.

Signed

Mayor

Dated this

day of

2008