

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 31 AUGUST 2016

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 2016 AT 1200 HOURS, IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM

PRESENT:

Councillor John Clancy in the Chair;

Councillors Robert Alden, Mohammed Idrees, Sharon Thompson, Ian Ward and Mike Ward.

NOTICE OF RECORDING

- 2528 The Chair advised the meeting to note that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

APOLOGIES

- 2529 Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Barry Bowles and Anne Underwood.

MINUTES

Councillor Mike Ward indicated that in the first paragraph of the preamble to Minute No 2521 it was himself, not Councillor Alden, who had referred to the membership of the Lord Mayor's Advisory Group

- 2530 With that amendment, the Minutes of the last meeting held on 28 June 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL - MEMBERSHIP

The following report of the City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No 1)

Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services, made introductory comments relating to the report and, in response to Members comments, explained that,

due to having new members on the panel, it was felt appropriate to continue with the current Membership until February 2017 when changes to the membership would begin. She noted that the need to advertise for panel Members (every two years) and the associated costs had been taken in to account in the proposals.

During the ensuing discussion, the benefits of having former Councillors on the Panel were highlighted. It was emphasised that the Council appointed positions should be used to appoint trade union and business representatives.

2531

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the Constitution (Part B8 – Independent Remuneration Panel set out in Appendix 1) is amended to reflect the following:
 - a) That the balance of appointed and citizen representative members be two appointed representatives and four citizen representatives;
 - b) That the two co-opted members who are former councillors are non-voting members, appointed for four years in line with the election cycle.
 - c) That the references to councillor pensions are removed.
- (ii) that the proposed schedule of terms of office set out below is adopted:

	Current term expires	Length of Next Term	Term Expires	Length of subsequent terms	Expiry in subsequent years
2 x citizen reps	28th Feb 2017	2.5 years	31 Aug 2019	4 years	2023, 2027 ...
2 x appointed	31st Aug 2017	3 years	31 Aug 2020	4 years	2024, 2028 ...
2 x citizen reps	28th Feb 2017	4.5 years	31 Aug 2021	4 years	2025, 2029 ...

- (iii) that the draft Role Description document, set out in Appendix 2, is approved; and
 - (iv) that CBM ask officers to initiate the recruitment process to lead to appointments in February 2017; and that members of CBM are nominated to sit on a recruitment panel.
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PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

The following report of the City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No 2)

Councillor Ian Ward proposed that on page 37 of 202 part 8.0 Group of Executive Committee should read as follows:

“8.0 Cabinet Committee Group Governance

This Cabinet Committee will be established by the Cabinet with the following membership.

- The Deputy Leader
- Another Cabinet Member as deemed appropriate by the Deputy Leader
- The Membership of the Committee shall be based on cross party representation.
- To include non-executive directors from the Wider Business Community (none voting)

The quorum for the Committee shall be determined by the Committee and must include a Cabinet Member and a member of the Opposition.

The role of the Committee is to ensure that the Council's strategic objectives are met across the group and to support the development of the group in line with the Council's regulations and ambitions.”

Councillor Robert Alden indicated that he had noted that the word objectives had been omitted from the last paragraph in 8.0 as indicated in the above amendment. In addition he suggested that on page 38 of 202 part 8.1 in the first bullet point the word “board” should have a capital b. In the ninth bullet point words should be added to reflect Brexit. In the ensuing discussion it was agreed to add the words ‘or other such legislative’ after the word ‘procurement’

Following further comments from Councillor Mike Ward relating to the Member /Officer Relations Protocol, during discussion it was agreed that in paragraph 2.1 the last bullet point be deleted, in paragraph 2.2 second bullet point the words ‘that have followed due process’ be added and in paragraph 3.2 the word ‘approach’ be added before the word ‘working’.

2532

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the Committee notes the proposed changes to the City Council's Constitution set out in paragraph 3 and in the appendix, as revised by the amendments proposed in the forgoing preamble, to this report; and
- (ii) that the Committee notes and approves inclusion of this report and appendix, as revised by the amendments proposed in the forgoing preamble, in the full agenda for the full Council meeting on 13 September 2016.

YOUNG ACTIVE TRAVEL CHARITABLE TRUST

The following report of the Interim City Solicitor and Acting strategic director – Place was submitted:-

(See document No 3)

Jacqui Kennedy, Acting Strategic Director – Place, made introductory comments on the report and responded appropriately to comments from Members. Following a further comment from Councillor Ian Ward, she undertook to amend the last bullet point on page 2 of the report to City Council to reflect that the £750 investment was for the 2017/2018 financial year.

2533

RESOLVED:-

That, subject to the amendment referred to in the foregoing preamble, the submission of the Motion and Draft Trust Deed for approval to, respectively, Council as Trustee on 13 September and the Lord Mayor thereafter be approved.

REQUEST FOR THE USE OF THE COAT OF ARMS – HS2 LTD

The following report of the City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No 4)

Following a suggestion from Councillor Robert Alden on whether the Coat of Arms could be displayed on the trains, it was agreed that this was not appropriate. The use as requested was agreed.

2534

RESOLVED:-

That this Committee advises the HS2 Ltd that it does not object to the proposed use of the Coat of Arms as set out in the report.

LENGTH OF BREAKS AT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Following a short discussion on the need to extend breaks at meetings of full Council to allow people with medical needs such as diabetes to have sustenance it was-

2535

RESOLVED:-

That breaks at City Council Meetings be extended to 30 minutes and consequently meetings of the City Council conclude at 1915 hours; further the Council's Constitution be amended accordingly.

COUNCIL AS TRUSTEE AND COUNCIL AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The following draft agendas were submitted:-

(See document No 5)

Following discussion it was agreed that Council as Trustee should meet after the meeting of full Council.

2536

RESOLVED:-

That the draft agendas be noted.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was not Other Urgent Business.

AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS

2537

RESOLVED:-

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 1248 hours.

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CHAIR