

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

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| COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 19 NOVEMBER 2018 |
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 1400 HOURS,
IN COMMITTEE ROOM 6, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Ward in the Chair;

Councillors Debbie Clancy, Kerry Jenkins, Brigid Jones, Gareth Moore, Martin Straker Welds and Mike Ward.

NOTICE OF RECORDING

- 2803 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.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2804 Members were reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this meeting. If a pecuniary interest was declared a Member must not speak or take part in that agenda item. Any declarations would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

APOLOGIES

- 2805 Apologies were received from Councillors Robert Alden and Shabrana Hussain. It was noted that Councillor Debbie Clancy was in attendance on behalf of Councillor Robert Alden.

MINUTES

- 2806 That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 October 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.
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**DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHIEF OFFICERS
(CORPORATE DIRECTORS) – AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION IN
RELATION TO PROPERTY**

The Chair advised that following a decision made at Cabinet on 13 November this item was withdrawn.

REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICT AND PLACES

The following report of the Head of Electoral Services was submitted:-

(See document No 1)

Rob Connelly, Head of Electoral Services, made introductory comments relating to the report.

Whilst welcoming the report, Councillor Mike Ward commented on the use of the word 'vertically' when describing the split of the Sheldon Ward as he thought it was a North/South divide.

2807

RESOLVED:-

That the suggested alterations to Polling Districts within:

Allens Cross

Edgbaston

Newtown

Northfield

Sheldon

Soho and Jewellery Quarter

Yardley East

Wards be approved with effect from publication of the annual revised Register of Electors on 1 December 2018.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL WORKFORCE STRATEGY 2018-2022

The following report of the Service Director, Human Resources, was submitted:-

(See document No 2)

Dawn Hewins, Service Director, Human Resources, made introductory comments relating to the report.

Councillor Gareth Moore requested that staff changes within the council be communicated more effectively. He felt that the council should not still be referring to 'silos' as that had been talked about for a number of years and things should have changed in that time. Referring to page 32 he suggested that there was an error under the Managerial Leadership in the use of the word political.

In response to questions from Members, Dawn Hewins explained the response rate to the staff survey had doubled and was to be used as a baseline for future surveys. Staff meetings would be held in Directorates and staff one to ones to held to communicate the findings of the survey to staff. At a managerial level discussions were taking place on what was required to support change and how change was communicated.

Councillor Gareth Moore commented that he did not believe it was appropriate to just to rely on people reading about staff changes on the website and emails should be sent out.

2808

RESOLVED:-

That Council Business Management Committee:

- Notes the Birmingham City Council Workforce Strategy 2018-2022 and agrees the implementation plan;
- Supports the four key priorities of the strategy and agrees the actions contained within the implementation plan to deliver against these priorities.

THE LORD MAYORALTY FORMULA

The following report of the City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No 3)

Following a comment from Councillor Mike Ward, the Chair agreed that the calculations would have to be reworked if a by-election occurred following which they would be resubmitted to the Committee.

2809

RESOLVED:-

That it be noted that, in accordance with the formula set out in the Appendix to the report and subject any future by-elections, the Groups are entitled to put forward one of their members to be the Lord Mayor as follows:

Labour 2019/2020
Labour 2020/2021
Conservative 2021/2022
Labour 2022/2023

CITY COUNCIL AND CBM FORWARD PLAN

The following City Council and CBM Forward Plan was submitted:-

(See document No 4)

Members' attention was drawn to the number of reports scheduled for submission to the January 2019 meeting of City Council. The Chair believed that there would not be an issue in timing the meeting as some of the reports did not require the allocation of a lot of time.

2810

RESOLVED:-

That the City Council and CBM Forward Plan be noted.

COUNCIL AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The following draft agenda was submitted:-

(See document No 5)

The Committee Manager advised that agenda item 9 was no longer required and Members agreed that the 5 minutes be added to item 11 (Women and Democracy).

2811

RESOLVED:-

That, subject to the above amendments, the draft agenda be noted.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair was of the opinion that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency in order to expedite consideration thereof and instruct officers to act if necessary.

Dispensation for Non-attendance of a Councillor at Council Meetings

The following report of the City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No 6)

In response to comments from Members Emma Williamson , Head of Scrutiny, confirmed that the Committee could not approve more than one 6 month period dispensation at a time and another report would be submitted for further dispensation.

2812

RESOLVED:-

That Council Business Management Committee:

- Notes Councillor Safia Akhtar has been unable to attend meetings since 19/07/18 due to pregnancy related sickness.
- On behalf of the Council, this Committee wishes Councillor Safia Akhtar well in her pregnancy.

- Notes the non-attendance of Councillor Safia Akhtar at Council meetings from 19 July 2018 until 19 January 2019 due to illness during pregnancy, and thereafter maternity leave in accordance with the Members Allowance Scheme and pursuant to S85 Local Government Act 1072.
- Approves the Chief Executive writing to Councillor Safia Akhtar as soon as possible, confirming the approval of this committee.

AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS

2813

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 1424 hours.

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CHAIR