

SALFORD CITY COUNCIL

21 July, 2021

Meeting commenced: 9.30 a.m.
“ adjourned: 11:30 a.m.
“ re-convened: 11.50 a.m.
“ ended: 12:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor John Mullen - Ceremonial Mayor and Chair

Mr Paul Dennett - City Mayor

Councillors Michele Barnes, Barbara Bentham, Maria Brabiner, Adrian Brocklehurst, Bob Clarke, Stephen Coen, Philip Cusack, Tony Davies, Jim Dawson, Stuart Dickman, Heather Fletcher, Karen Garrido, Robin Garrido, Jane Hamilton, Bill Hinds, Ann-Marie Humphreys, Tracy Kelly, Jim King, David Lancaster, Kate Lewis, Mike McCusker, John Merry, Lewis Nelson, Wilson Nkurunziza, Gina Reynolds, Neil Reynolds, Jake Rowland, Arnold Saunders, Alexis Shama, Irfan Syed, Peter Taylor, Nathaniel Tetteh, Phil Tresadern, Ray Walker, Joan Walsh, John Walsh, Andrew Walters, and Jack Youd.

18. SREBRENICA

Elected members joined the Ceremonial Mayor in a minute's silence for the more than 8,000 men and boys who were victims of the Srebrenica Massacre in July 1995 during the Bosnian War.

19. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

A motion was proposed and seconded to suspend Standing Orders, to enable proceedings to comply with current Covid-19 social distancing guidance.

RESOLVED: THAT in accordance with the Salford City Council Constitution Rule 2 in Part 4 Section A (Standing Orders), Council Procedure Rules be suspended, specifically Rule 18 I (Council: Rules of Debate - Respect for the Chair) to allow members to remain seated when speaking.

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Sharmina August, Damian Bailey, Samantha Bellamy, Paula Boshell, Joshua Brooks, Tanya Burch, Jim Cammell, Roger Jones, Ari Leitner, Sophia Linden, Ray Mashiter, Margaret Morris, Mike Pevitt, Hannah Robinson-Smith, Robert Sharpe, Les Turner, Madeline Wade, Darren Ward, John Warmisham, Barry Warner and Colette Weir.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no relevant declarations of interest.

22. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2021 were approved as a correct record.

23. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councillor Jim King submitted petition on behalf of residents of Broughton, requesting the introduction of traffic calming measures on Lower Broughton Road, Broughton, specifically between the Cliff Training Ground and The Polygon

Councillor Irfan Syed submitted petition on behalf of residents of Mayfield Avenue, Walkden, regarding street parking and other nuisance issues.

24. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND DEPUTY CHAIRS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22 - UPDATE
(Previous Minutes 9 and 10 - 19 May 2021)

The City Solicitor submitted a report detailing the following amendments to the membership of committees and panels and appointments to outside bodies both for the Municipal Year 2021/22:

(a) Membership of City Council Committees and Panels

Committee Panel	New Member/ Amendment	Replacing
Overview and Scrutiny Board	Vice Chair Councillor Samantha Bellamy+	<i>vacancy</i>
Children's Scrutiny Panel	Vice Chair Councillor Joan Walsh*	<i>vacancy</i>
Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel	Vice Chair Councillor Samantha Bellamy*	<i>vacancy</i>
Community and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Joan Walsh	<i>Councillor Tanya Burch</i>
Planning and Transportation Regulatory Panel	1 Labour vacancy	<i>Councillor Margaret Morris</i>

Equal Opportunities Forum	Councillor Heather Fletcher	<i>Councillor John Walsh</i>
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)	Councillor Jake Rowland	<i>Councillor Samantha Bellamy</i>

+ amendment reported at meeting

* as vice chairs of the respective scrutiny panels indicated, Councillors Bellamy and Joan Walsh by default are members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

(b) Outside Body Representatives

Body	New Member/ Amendment	Replacing
<i>GMCA Nominations/Appointments</i>		
GMCA Clean Air Charging Authorities Committee	Councillor Mike McCusker Substitute: Councillor Roger Jones	<i>new body/appointments</i>
GMCA Air Quality Administration Committee	Councillor Mike McCusker Substitute: Councillor Sophia Linden	<i>new body/appointments</i>
<i>AGMA Nominations/Appointments</i>		
Draft Joint Development Plan - Places for Everyone Committee	Paul Dennett City Mayor Substitute: Councillor Mike McCusker	<i>new body/appointments</i>
<i>Non AGMA Appointments</i>		
Booth Charities	Councillor Gina Reynolds Councillor Joan Walsh	<i>Councillor Tanya Burch</i> <i>Councillor Jim Dawson</i>
Manchester Port Health Authority	Councillor Jake Rowland Councillor John Warmisham	<i>Councillor Samantha Bellamy</i> <i>Councillor Tanya Burch</i>

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the amendments to the membership and appointment of deputy chairs of the committees and panels for the Municipal Year 2021/22, as detailed in the report and summarised above, be noted.

RESOLVED: (2) THAT the GMCA appointments and nominations of the City Council, as detailed in the report and summarised above, be approved.

(3) THAT appointments made by AGMA, as detailed in the report and summarised above, be noted.

(4) THAT the non GMCA and non-AGMA nominations and appointments of the City Council, as detailed in the report and summarised above, be approved.

25. SENIOR MANAGER REMUNERATION

The Lead Member for Finance and Support Services submitted a report seeking approval to the remuneration levels of three posts which had recently been agreed by the Workforce Panel.

RESOLVED: THAT approval be given to the remuneration level for the posts of Strategic Director Place, City Solicitor and Chief Finance Officer, all as agreed by the Workforce Panel on 25th May 2021.

26. PLACES FOR EVERYONE PUBLICATION PLAN 2021 (Previous Minute 93 - 17 March 2021)

The Lead Member for Planning and Sustainable Development submitted a report indicating the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) was a joint development plan document (DPD) which would provide a city region plan for homes, jobs and the environment, and be a blueprint for a sustainable Greater Manchester. Following Stockport MBC's withdrawal from the GMSF in December 2020, it was not possible to proceed with publication in its original form, as result, the remaining nine districts had continued to prepare a joint DPD called 'Places for Everyone'. Salford City Council's Cabinet had approved the establishment of a joint committee to oversee the preparation of Places for Everyone on 9 March 2021, and similar approval had been received from the other eight Greater Manchester districts.

Section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and regulation 32 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012, enabled the joint DPD to continue irrespective of the withdrawal of one of the districts, subject to the new joint DPD, Places for Everyone, having substantially the same effect as the original joint DPD (GMSF) on the remaining authorities. This allowed for Places for Everyone to continue to Publication stage (Regulation 19) consultation.

In accordance with legislation and the Salford City Council's constitution, the decision to approve the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 and supporting documents for a period for representations was a decision to be taken by the City Mayor in consultation with his Cabinet. Separately, Council was required to approve submission of Places for Everyone and its supporting documents to the Secretary of State for

Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination following the period for representations.

Councillors Lewis Nelson, Karen Garrido, Robin Garrido and Bob Clarke, all voiced concerns regarding the DPD on the basis they did not feel it provided adequate protection of green space within Salford and on that basis said they could not give it their support. The potential negative impact of future major developments on local infrastructures and services, were also highlighted.

The City Mayor, Councillor John Merry and Councillor Mike Mccusker all gave their support to the DPD, which they said met the needs of both Salford and Greater Manchester and gave the local authorities concerned the autonomy to determine and control the development which took place in their respective areas.

RESOLVED: THAT agreement be given to the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 and the supporting background documents being submitted to the Secretary of State Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination, pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 following the period for representations.

27. STATEMENT OF THE CITY MAYOR

The City Mayor made announcements, highlighted issues and made comments as follows:

- (a) Condolences were extended to the family and friends of a 19-year-old man who had recently tragically died in an incident at Salford Quays. This sadly demonstrated the inherent dangers which were associated with unsupervised open water swimming.
- (b) Recent flooding in Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Belgium had resulted in both loss of life and property, highlighting the growing impact of climate change.
- (c) Salford City Council had recently received the Ministry of Defence's Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award in recognition of the support its housing tenancy team provided to ex members of the armed services and their families.
- (d) 97-year-old Vera Green had recently successfully completed a personal challenge to walk 100 metres on each of 100 consecutive days, to raise money for the Salford Survivor Project, which supported victims of physical and mental abuse. Her efforts epitomised the spirit of Salford
- (e) 2021 marked the 260th anniversary of the opening Bridgewater Canal and from that time Salford had been at the heart of the industrial production. In more recent times its traditional industrial and manufacturing base had been lost, along with the jobs it had provided, with the economic strategies of successive governments failing to create replacement large scale long-term and sustainable sources of employment for the local population. It had been hoped that the recently announced H.M. Government Levelling Up Fund would go some way to redressing the balance, and revitalise post-industrial areas across the country, but this had not been the case. Similarly, the promised commitment to greater devolution of power and financial resources to local

authorities had not been fulfilled. Current H.M. Government local government funding policies were flawed and failed to truly reflect actual needs and levels of deprivation of individual areas.

- (f) Failure to address social inequality was also demonstrated in H.M. Government's recent decision to withdraw, from September 2021, the £20 uplift Universal Credit, which had been introduced to support lower income families during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (g) Tribute was paid to the many and varied volunteers throughout Salford, particularly those who were involved with local food banks. Their work and commitment were both welcomed and valued, but it was regretful so many people relied on such charitable support to put food on the table and feed their families.
- (h) The Salford Way, a programme to deliver a fairer, greener and healthier Salford, through the development of a more inclusive and green local economy and ultimately a fairer city, was another example of support provided by the City Council to residents, showing direction and leadership in an area where H.M. Government failed to do.
- (i) Salford City Council's arm's length housing management company Derive was a new and exciting opportunity, which would allow but the building of council houses for local residents on a large scale
- (j) An update was provided in relation to the City Council's, its partners and other agencies, in tackling the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. It was stressed that while social distancing regulations have been relaxed there remained a need to remain vigilant and act cautiously to minimise the spread of the virus.

28. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO THE CITY MAYOR

- Q1. Councillor Bill Hinds added his own support to City Mayor's comments about the failings of H.M. Government's Levelling Up Fund. (*see Minute 27(e)*) He said social and class issues were at the heart of this matter and ones which successive Conservative governments had failed to address. He added that, the problems created by inequality were widespread and needed to be addressed and eradicated wherever they were found.

Councillor John Merry endorsed these sentiments and said there was a growing disenchantment with H.M. Government's funding of local government by local authority leaders from varied political backgrounds.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments.

- Q2. Councillor Karen Garrido commented that the Conservative Party both, locally and nationally were equally committed to improving Salford in terms of the area itself and the lives of its residents. (*see Minute 27(e)*) She added that the Conservative Group would have been happy to support any representations Salford City Council had made in this regard to H.M. Government, but had not been approached.

The City Mayor noted these comments and welcomed the willingness of the Conservative group to work with their Labour counterparts and said he said there was many issues where they could do this particularly regarding H.M. Government funding. He added that while H.M. Government were often intransigent and unwilling to enter into dialogue, this did not prevent greater co-operation between the Labour Conservative groups at a local level

- Q3. Councillor Heather Fletcher welcomed the City Mayor's recent visit to the food bank which was run by members of Salford's Jewish community and had been greatly appreciated (see *Minute 27(g)*). She also referred to the earlier minute's silence for the victims of the Srebrenica Massacre and commented there was a need to challenge hatred and tolerance in all its forms. (see *Minute 18*)

The City Mayor welcomed these comments, saying the charitable work of Salford's large Jewish community was greatly valued, as well as supporting her call to challenge hatred however and wherever it occurred.

- Q4. Councillor Karen Garrido suggested if Salford City Council had taken a stronger approach on planning grounds with private developers, it would now be in a better position in terms of the provision of affordable social housing. (see *Minute 27(h)*)

The City Mayor noted these comments but, said the City Council was often thwarted by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which unfairly favoured the interests of private developers above those of local authorities.

- Q5. Councillor Robin Garrido suggested that the City Mayor's statement had been overtly political and he should refrain from commenting on national issues and instead focus on ones which were relevant to Salford.

Councillor Ray Walker said he believed the City Mayor's comments were balanced and reasoned, as well as being on subjects he had a legitimate reason to express an opinion.

The City Mayor welcomed the comments of Councillor Walker. In response to Councillor Robin Garrido, he said the national policies and actions of H.M. Government were intrinsically linked and directly impacted on Salford City Council, the City and its residents, consequently these were matters on which he should be free to comment and which he believed both at this meeting and previously, had been warranted and measured.

- Q6. Councillor Adrian Brocklehurst echoed the comments of the City Mayor regarding the recent tragic death at Salford Quays, as well as reiterating the dangers of open water swimming and the preventative work that was being done in this regard by the Manchester Water Safety Partnership. (see *Minute 27(a)*)

Councillor Robin Garrido also extended condolences to the family and friends of the young man who had died.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments.

- Q7. Councillor Robin Garrido said the growing impact of climate change was acknowledged and H.M. Government was pursuing a comprehensive strategy to address this. (see *Minute 27(b)*)

The City Mayor noted these comments and H.M. Government's declared strategy, but said much more needed to be done.

- Q8. Councillor Ray Walker expressed concerns at the number of people not wearing face masks when travelling on public transport. He said he recognised that while social distancing regulations have been relaxed the Covid-19 infection rates were rising and asked whether the City Mayor could raise this issue with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM).

The City Mayor said this issue had already been raised at a GMCA (Greater Manchester Combined Authority) level, but would make further representations.

- Q9. Councillor Robin Garrido referred to the establishment of Dérive and suggested this merely duplicated the exiting work being undertaken in Salford by Salix and ForViva in the provision of social housing. (see *Minute 27(i)*)

The City Mayor said the valuable contribution to the provision of social housing both Salix and ForViva made in Salford was fully recognised and which Dérive aimed to compliment. He added that Dérive operated on a different housing provider model basis and this would see the creation of new housing stock which will be available to the City Council in perpetuity and replace that which had been lost since 1980 due to right to buy policies.

- Q10. Councillor Robin Garrido extended thanks to Vera Green for her efforts in raising money for the Salford Survivor Project (see *Minute 27(d)*).

The City Mayor welcomed and echoed these comments.

29. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CABINET MEMBERS

- Q1. Councillor Maria Brabiner asked what the future aims and ambitions of Dérive were, Salford City Council's arms length housing management company. (see also *Minutes 27(i) and 28 Q9*)

Councillor John Merry, Deputy City Mayor, said it was hoped to create 200 new properties by the end of 2023, with the long-term aim of Dérive to create 1,000 new homes, as well as securing registered provider status.

Councillor Robin Garrido commented the provision and creation of social housing was vital, but no longer a primary local authority function and there were other registered providers in Salford to fulfil this role. Councillor Bill Hinds said the common perception amongst the general population was this was a local authority responsibility and added many of the registered housing providers had not fulfilled the promises they had made.

Councillor Tracy Kelly, Statutory Deputy City Mayor, said Dérive had been established to complement and work in partnership with existing housing providers in the City,

rather acting in direct competition to them and duplicating activities. Councillor John Merry endorsed these comments.

- Q2. Councillor Heather Fletcher said the insourcing of services was a stated key priority for the City Mayor and asked what was being done to achieve this in terms of social care.

Councillor Jack Youd, Executive Support for Procurement and Social Value, said there was a commitment to return, or provide, as many of the City Council's services in house as possible, not only social care ones. There were many barriers which made this difficult, but an Insourcing Commission had been established to look at how best to achieve this.

- Q3. Councillor Karen Garrido asked whether Harrop Fold School was opting out of local authority control and converting to academy status.

Councillor John Walsh, Executive Support for Education and Learning, said this was case and something they were currently pursuing with their partners United Learning. He indicated he would be happy to provide Councillor Garrido with a more detailed briefing outside of the meeting. Councillor Kate Lewis similarly said she would be willing to provide update in her capacity as a member of the Harrop Fold Improvement Board.

- Q4. Councillor Ann-Marie Humphreys referred to the gradual withdrawal by H.M. Government, of the various forms of financial assistance they had provided during the Covid-19 pandemic and asked what the likely impact of this would be.

Councillor Bill Hinds, Lead Member for Finance and Support Services, said it was inevitable this would have a negative impact, most likely in terms of increased levels of unemployment and personal debt. He would continue to keep elected members fully briefed on these matters as well as the impacts on Salford City Council own financial situation.

- Q5. Councillor Michelle Barnes asked for details of the performance of recycling centres in Salford, which Councillor David Lancaster, Lead Member for Environment Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, duly provided.

- Q6. Councillor Robin Garrido asked what efforts could be made to encourage the wearing of face coverings in public places now social distancing regulations had been relaxed. (see also Minute 28 Q8)

Councillor David Lancaster, Lead Member for Environment, Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, replied the wearing of face coverings was purely voluntary, but the City Council's relevant enforcement teams would continue to provide advice encouraging their use in public spaces wherever possible.

- Q7. Councillor Karen Garrido asked what bearing the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) would have on the Places for Everyone DPD. (see also Minutes 26 and 28 Q4)

Councillor Mike McCusker, Lead Member for Planning and Sustainable Development, replied that the NPPF inevitably had a bearing on development schemes brought forward through the DPD and would be taken into account as part of the normal planning process.

Q8. Councillor Tony Davies asked what was being done to improve facilities to encourage walking and cycling in Salford, which Councillor Jake Rowland, the City Council's Walking and Cycling Champion, duly provided.

30. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY PANELS

RESOLVED: THAT this item be provisionally deferred until the next meeting to be held on 15 September 2021.

31. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS ON THE DISCHARGE OF FUNCTIONS OF JOINT AUTHORITIES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED: THAT this item be provisionally deferred until the next meeting to be held on 15 September 2021.

32. SCHEDULED REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODY MEMBERS

Submitted a report detailing the recent activities of the Stadium Joint Venture Company.

RESOLVED: THAT the report be noted:

A full audio/visual recording of these proceedings can be found on the Salford City Council website [Council 21 July 2021 Webcast](#)