

SALFORD CITY COUNCIL

18 May, 2022

Meeting commenced: 9.35 a.m.
“ adjourned: 11:30 a.m.
“ re-convened: 11.45 a.m.
“ ended: 12:10 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor John Mullen - Ceremonial Mayor and Chair

Mr Paul Dennett - City Mayor

Councillors Yolande Amana-Ghola, Sharmina August, Damian Bailey, Michele Barnes, Samantha Bellamy, Barbara Bentham, Maria Brabiner, Adrian Brocklehurst, Tanya Burch, Jim Cammell, Bob Clarke, Stephen Coen, Philip Cusack, Jim Dawson, Stuart Dickman, Heather Fletcher, Robin Garrido, Jane Hamilton, Bill Hinds, Roger Jones, Adam Kealey, Tracy Kelly, Jim King, Ari Leitner, Kate Lewis, Sophia Linden, John Merry, Margaret Morris, Lewis Nelson, Wilson Nkurunziza, Teresa Pepper, Mike Pevitt, Gina Reynolds, Neil Reynolds, Hannah Robinson-Smith, Jake Rowland, Mishal Saeed, Arnold Saunders, Alexis Shama, Irfan Syed, Nathaniel Tetteh, Chris Twells, Madeline Wade, Andrew Walters, John Warmisham and Barry Warner.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Paula Boshell, Joshua Brooks, Karen Garrido, Ann-Marie Humphreys, David Lancaster, Ray Mashiter, Mike McCusker, Robert Sharpe, Les Turner, Roseanna Wain, Darren Ward, Alex Warren and Jack Youd.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2022 were approved as a correct record.

4. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councillor Robin Garrido submitted petition on behalf of local residents opposing any current, or future, proposals to build houses on land known as Nevitts Field in Swinton.

5. NOTIFICATION/APPOINTMENT OF CABINET 2022/23

The City Mayor submitted a report detailing recent changes to his Cabinet and paid tribute to Councillors Damien Bailey, Sophia Linden, Roger Jones and former Councillor John Walsh for their past service.

RESOLVED: THAT the following membership of the Cabinet and wider Mayoral Team for 2022/23, be noted

Deputy City Mayors

Councillor Tracy Kelly

Responsibility

Statutory Deputy City Mayor and Lead Member for Housing, Property and Regeneration

Councillor John Merry

Deputy City Mayor and Lead Member for Adult Social Care

Lead Members

Councillor Sharmina August

Responsibility

Inclusive Economy, Anti-Poverty and Equalities

Councillor Jim Cammell

Children's and Young People's Services

Councillor Bill Hinds

Finance and Support Services

Councillor Barbara Bentham+

Environment, Neighbourhoods and Community Safety

Councillor Mike McCusker

Planning and Sustainable Development

Executive Support Members

Councillor Hannah Robinson-Smith+

Responsibility

Social Care and Mental Health

Councillor Stephen Coen

Culture, Leisure and Sport

Councillor Philip Cusack

Skills, Work and Business

Councillor Jane Hamilton+

Climate Change, Low Carbon and Green Agenda

Councillor Teresa Pepper+

Education and Learning

Councillor Jack Youd

Finance, Procurement Workforce and Industrial Relations*

Councillor David Lancaster+

Environment. Neighbourhoods and Community Safety*

Councillor Samantha Bellamy+

Anti-poverty and Equalities*

+ *new lead member/executive support member*

* *new or revised portfolio*

6. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND DEPUTY CHAIRS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/23

The City Mayor submitted a report containing details of the membership of committees for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

The following amendment to the report was announced at the meeting:

- Council Agenda Group (CAG) - Labour Group vacancy (*Councillor John Mullen nominated twice in error*)

RESOLVED: THAT the membership of the committees and panels and the appointments of chairs and deputy chairs for the Municipal Year 2022/23, as detailed in the report now submitted, including those reported at the meeting and listed above, be noted.

7. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2022/23

The City Mayor submitted a report containing details of appointments to outside bodies, together with nominations and appointments to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)/Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

The following amendment to the report was announced at the meeting:

- Greater Manchester Health Scrutiny Committee - Councillor Margaret Morris (*replacing Councillor Tanya Burch*)

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the GMCA appointments and nominations of the City Council, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved.

(2) THAT appointments made by AGMA, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted.

(3) THAT the non GMCA and non-AGMA nominations and appointments of the City Council, as detailed in report now submitted, including those reported at the meeting and listed above, be approved.

8. LOCAL ELECTIONS RESULTS 2022

The City Solicitor submitted a report detailing the results of the Local Elections, which had been held on Thursday, 5 May, 2022.

The Ceremonial Mayor and the City Mayor extended congratulations and welcomed to the six newly elected members and all other returning councillors.

Thanks were extended to all staff who had been involved with organising and assisting with the election.

RESOLVED: THAT the report be noted.

9. COUNCILLOR ROBIN GARRIDO - LONG SERVICE AWARD

The ceremonial mayor made a presentation to Councillor Robin Garrido in recognition of his 20 year contribution to the City Council and the residents of Salford.

10. CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS 2022/23

Submitted, the proposed schedule of City Council meetings for 2022/23.

RESOLVED: THAT approval be given to the following schedule of dates for City Council meetings during the Municipal Year 2022/23:

Wednesday, 20 July, 2022
Wednesday, 21 September, 2022
Wednesday, 16 November, 2022
Wednesday, 18 January, 2023
Wednesday, 22 February, 2023 (Budget)
Wednesday, 15 March, 2023
Wednesday, 17 May, 2023 (AGM)
(all commencing at 9.30 am)

11. STATEMENT OF THE CITY MAYOR

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

- (a) Tribute was paid to Mary Monson who has recently passed away and was recognised as one of the north-west of England's most experienced defence lawyers for young people.
- (b) Best wishes for a speedy recovery were extended to Councillor Karen Garrido who was currently convalescing.
- (c) A welcome was extended to all present to what was the first full Council meeting held at Salford Civic Centre since February 2019 and prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (d) The situation in Ukraine, following the invasion by the Russian Federation in February, remained a serious concern on both a humanitarian and political level.
- (e) Nationally, the recent local election results had demonstrated the unpopularity of the Conservative Party, H.M Government and particularly the Prime Minister. This disapproval had been reflected in the results in Salford, where the failings of H.M Government, in not delivering on its pledges of levelling up and creating a strong economy, following the United Kingdom leaving the European Union, were now being felt.

Specific reference was made to the election campaigns conducted in the Worsley and Westwood Park, Kersal, Eccles and Little Hulton wards.

The results in the Ordsall and Quays wards had been disappointing for the Labour Party and consequently there were issues which needed to be addressed, particularly in terms of ensuring there was accurate messaging around the social and economic challenges the City Council Salford residents faced, many of which could be traced back to the reduction in local authority funding and the associated policies of austerity, which commenced in 2010 with the Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition of

that time. Nevertheless, they remained committed to delivering on behalf of the people of Salford and had the ability to do so.

The growth of extreme right wing political parties was a challenge, which had been successfully met this time, but there remained a need to be vigilant in this regard.

- (f) The recent Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill, while having many positive elements, equally lacked detail and had many failings. It did not deal with current London centric thinking in terms of development, as well as tackle the issue of inflated land prices caused by speculation. The advice, expertise and knowledge which was to be found in local government was often ignored.
- (g) The major refurbishment of Buile Hill Mansion was due to commence before the end of the year, with it anticipated it being brought back into use in 2023.
- (h) New council houses in Brassington Avenue, Ordsall had been formerly handed over to the City Council.
- (i) Within 12 months the new solar farm in Little Hulton and the hydro-electric dam in Charlestown would be in operation, both significant contributions to the City Councils zero carbon commitment.
- (j) 11 June 2022 would see the official opening of the Swinton Greenway, a major off-road walking and cycling facility in Salford, with similar projects planned.
- (k) It was the first anniversary of the opening of RHS Garden Bridgewater. In its first year it had already enjoyed success, both in term of visitors and creating new jobs.

It was successful projects such as this and those mentioned earlier (see Minutes 11 (g),(h),(i) and (j)) which demonstrated the ambition and commitment of Salford City Council, as well as its ability to deliver and which it would build upon and continue to do so in 2022/23.

12. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO THE CITY MAYOR

- Q1. Councillors Kate Lewis, Heather Fletcher and Jim King all echoed the City Mayor's tribute to Mary Monson (see Minute 11(a)).

The City Mayor welcomed these comments.

- Q2. Councillor Kate Lewis welcomed the increased number of female appointments to the City Mayor's Cabinet (see Minute 5).

- Q3. Councillor Kate Lewis referred to the rising cost of living and specifically asked whether this would impact on the school meals service in Salford and provided by Citywide.

The City Mayor said this was an issue which was recognised and would be considered as part of the City Councils wider budgetary process.

- Q4. Councillor Jim King endorsed the City Mayor's comments regarding the failings of H.M. Government (see Minute 11(e)).

The City Mayor welcomed these comments which he echoed.

Councillor Robin Garrido provided an alternative view of local election results in Salford and challenged the City Mayor's negative assessment of H.M. Government, referring to their handling of the Covid-19 pandemic and saying they had a commitment to levelling up and were providing the necessary financial support to the north of England. Councillor Ari Leitner also commented on the election results.

The City Mayor reiterated his earlier comments on the level of financial support local government received from H.M. Government and said current proposals failed to restore the funding Salford City Council had lost since 2010.

- Q5. Councillor Robin Garrido thanked the City Mayor for the best wishes he had extended to his wife Councillor Karen Garrido and provided his own tribute to her and the support she had provided to him in his own political career.
- Q6. Councillor Robin Garrido asked in 2022/23 the City Mayor could give a commitment to encourage residents to take pride in their local areas, by tackling problems such as litter and potholes as well as protecting green belt land.

The City Mayor said already had such a commitment and these were all issues it was already tackling and would continue to do so.

- Q7. Councillor Adam Kealey thanked the voters of the Worsley and Westwood Park ward for electing him and referred to issues which they had raised during his campaign. He made specific reference to Place for Everyone, which he suggested was not appropriate for determining developments in all areas of Salford, citing large scale plans to build houses on Hazelhurst Farm, Worsley and the impact this would have on the local area and infrastructures, as an example. He also expressed reservations about the proposed Greater Manchester Clean Air Zone (GMCAZ).

The City Mayor replied that the Place for Everyone provided the City Council with the ability to determine planning projects in Salford and went some way to redress the National Planning Policy Framework, which favoured developers over local authorities.

Councillor John Merry commented that the GMCAZ was something which had been instigated by H.M. Government, and on which Councillor Roger Jones provided further background to. The City Mayor welcomed the comments of Councillors Merry and Jones, which he echoed.

- Q8. Councillor Madeline Wade made reference to HMOs (Houses in Multiple Occupation) which often encouraged transient populations and in turn threatened the ability to create stable local communities with a strong sense of identity, who took pride and interest in their local areas. She suggested local authorities and residents, including those in her own Weaste and Seedley ward, needed to have a greater autonomy over local planning matters.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments which he echoed. He added that the increase in the number of HMOs was another effect of H. M Government's housing policies, which had failed to create sufficient truly affordable homes.

- Q9. Councillor Nathaniel Tetteh extended thanks to all those had contributed to his election success in the Eccles ward. He and Councillor Bill Hinds, referred to suggestions that it was not appropriate for national political issues to be discussed at full Council meetings and said such matters often had a direct impact on Salford and local residents and therefore discussion on them was relevant and reasonable.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments which he echoed.

- Q10. Councillor Heather Fletcher echoed the comments of the City Mayor with regard to RHS Garden Bridgewater (see Minute 11(k)) which she said had positively raised the profile of Salford.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments which he echoed.

- Q11. Councillor Ari Leitner suggested there was a need for the City Council to review the structure and frequency of its waste and recycling collection regimes.

Councillor Barbara Bentham, Lead Member for Environment, Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, commented, Salford City Council was the only local authority in Greater Manchester who had provided a full and uninterrupted waste and recycling collection service throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

The City Mayor added that Salford City Council's ability to increase the frequency of the waste and recycling collection service was directly linked to the reduction in the funding Salford City Council received from H.M. Government.

- Q12. Councillor Robin Garrido and Councillor Nathaniel Tetteh, both paid tribute to Councillor Samantha Bellamy's volunteer and community efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments which he echoed.

13. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CABINET MEMBERS

- Q1. The City Mayor referred to Salford City Council being highly commended in the recent Northern Housing Awards for its work on affordable housing and rents.

Councillor Tracy Kelly, Deputy City Mayor and Lead Member for Housing, Property and Regeneration welcomed this comment and extended thanks to all who had been involved with this achievement.

- Q2. In response to Councillor Robin Garrido, Councillor Tracy Kelly said she would look into employment vacancies at RHS Garden Bridgewater.

- Q3. In response to Councillor Adam Kealey, Councillor Jim Cammell, Lead Member for

Children's and Young People's Services, said he would be happy to discuss the City Council's youth provision plans for 2022/23, particularly in the Worsley and Westwood Park ward.

- Q4. Councillor Bill Hinds, Lead Member for Finance and Support Services, extended thanks to all Salford city Council officers for their dedication and efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Q5. In response to Councillor robin Garrido, Councillor Bill Hinds, Lead Member for Finance and Support Services, said he would be happy, as it became available, to share in the appropriate forums, details of levelling up funding received by Salford City Council.
- Q6. Councillor Lewis Nelson paid tribute to the work of the City Council's Environmental Services Team in removing litter and tackling fly-tipping. Councillor Robin Garrido echoed these comments but suggested there was a need to give a greater priority and budgetary resources for such activities .

Councillor Barbara Bentham, Lead Member for Environment, Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, welcomed these comments and said there was a commitment to ensure the service provided was the best possible within existing budgets.

- Q7. In response to Councillor Adam Kealey, Councillor Barbara Bentham, Lead Member for Environment, Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, said he would be happy to discuss anti-social behaviour issues (ASB) in the Worsley and Westwood Park ward.

14. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY PANELS

- Q1. Councillor Damian Bailey asked for the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel to treat as a priority, consideration of the findings and recommendations of the Insourcing Commission's investigation of the provision of adult health care services.

Councillor Margaret Morris, Chair of Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel, gave an assurance this would be the case.

- Q2. In response to Councillor Robin Garrido, the City Mayor confirmed the issue of service charges for residents of Pendleton Together properties, would be considered by Cabinet on 24 May 2002, as had been requested by the Growth and Prosperity Scrutiny Panel.

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

There were no questions or comments.

16. SCHEDULED REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODY MEMBERS

Submitted a report detailing the recent activities of The Windsor and Albion Co-operative.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the report be noted.

(2) THAT Councillor Sharmina August circulate to all elected members the report detailing the activities of the Salford Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) Executive Committee.

A full audio/visual recording of these proceedings can be found on the Salford City Council website [Council 18 May 2022 Webcast](#)