

SALFORD CITY COUNCIL

18th July, 2018

Meeting commenced: 9.30 a.m.
“ adjourned: 11.00 a.m.
“ re-convened: 11.15 a.m.
“ ended: 12.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ronnie Wilson - Chair of the Council and
Ceremonial Mayor

Mr Paul Dennett - City Mayor

Councillors Derek Antrobus, Michele Barnes, Samantha Bellamy, Barbara Bentham, Adrian Brocklehurst, Christopher Clarkson, Stephen Coen, Jillian Collinson, Richard Critchley, Stuart Dickman, Laura Edwards, John Ferguson, Heather Fletcher, Karen Garrido, Robin Garrido, Stephen Hesling, Bill Hinds, David Jolley, Roger Jones, Tracy Kelly, Jim King, David Lancaster, Ari Leitner, Kate Lewis, Sophia Linden, Charlie McIntyre, Ray Mashiter, John Merry, John Mullen, Wilson Nkurunziza, Mike Pevitt, Gina Reynolds, Neil Reynolds, Brendan Ryan, Arnold Saunders, Robert Sharpe, Peter Taylor, Les Turner, Joan Walsh, John Walsh, John Warmisham, Peter Wheeler and Paul Wilson.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Paula Boshell, Tanya Burch, Bob Clarke, Peter Connor, Jim Dawson, Peter Dobbs, Jane Hamilton, Jimmy Hunt, Iain Lindley, Margaret Morris, Stephen Ord, Lisa Stone, Barry Warner, Colette Weir and Michael Wheeler.

2. SREBRENICA

Members stood in silence in remembrance of the victims of the Srebrenica Massacre which had occurred in July 1995 during the Bosnian War.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2018, subject to Councillor Arnold Saunders being added to those members who had expressed thanks and best wishes to former Councillor Ann-Marie Humphreys (Minute 94), were approved as correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Walkden Railway Station Step Free Access Improvements
(Previous Minute 97 Q2 - 16th May 2018)

In response to Councillor Brendan Ryan, Councillor Roger Jones, Executive Support for Transport, reported that following the last meeting, Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) had made Walkden Railway Station the first priority in terms of step free access improvements, Swinton Railway Station was second and Irlam Railway Station fourth, with bids for the necessary funding for each, now with the Department for Transport for consideration. He added that, unfortunately due to the criteria used in determining the priorities for this type of improvement work, Eccles Railway Station was not similarly highly ranked.

6. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

No petitions or communications were submitted.

7. NOTIFICATION/APPOINTMENT OF CABINET 2018/19
(Previous Minute 91 - 16th May 2018)

The City Mayor reported that Councillor Stephen Coen had been appointed to the vacant post of Executive Support Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport.

RESOLVED: THAT the above Mayoral Team appointment for 2018/19, be noted

8. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS
FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/19
(Previous Minute 92 - 16th May 2018)

The City Mayor submitted a report detailing the following amendments to the membership of committees and panels for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

	Committee/Panel	New Member(s)	Replacing
(a)	Children's Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Charlie McIntyre <i>arising vacancy</i>	Councillor Stephen Coen Councillor Margaret Morris
(b)	Community and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel	<i>arising vacancy</i>	Councillor Colette Weir
(c)	Growth and Prosperity Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Colette Weir	Councillor Stephen Coen

(d)	Planning and Transportation Regulatory Panel	Councillor John Warmisham	vacancy
(e)	Corporate Parenting and Regulatory 44 Panel	Councillor Tracy Kelly	Councillor Tanya Burch
(f)	Employer's Forum	<i>arising vacancy</i> <i>arising vacancy</i>	Councillor Roger Jones Councillor Neil Reynolds
(g)	Equal Opportunities Forum	Councillor Brendan Ryan	Councillor Joan Walsh
(h)	Council Agenda Setting Group	Councillor Mike Pevitt* Councillor David Jolley**	vacancy vacancy
(i)	Lowry Committee	Councillor Stephen Coen***	vacancy
(j)	Standards Committee	Councillor John Walsh	Councillor Samantha Bellamy
(k)	Standing Advisory Council for religious Education (SACRE)	-	Councillor Tanya Burch^ Councillor Charlie Mcintyre^ Councillor John Mullen^ Councillor Robert Sharpe^ Councillor John Warmisham^ Councillor Paul Wilson^ Councillor Colette Weir^

* *as Labour Chief Whip*

** *as Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board*

*** *as Executive Support for Culture, Leisure and Sport*

^ *SACRE has an establishment of 7 (5 Labour Group and 2 Conservative Group members). A total of 14 members were appointed in May 2018, as a result the services of the 7 members indicated are not required.*

RESOLVED: THAT the amendments to the membership of the committees and panels for the Municipal Year 2018/19, as detailed in the report now submitted and summarised above, be noted.

9. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2018/19
(Previous Minute 93 - 16th May 2018)

The City Mayor submitted a report containing details of the following amendments to 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 2018/19. Further amendments were reported at the meeting and are also included below.

	Body	New Member(s)	Replacing
(a)	GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Committees	Councillor Stuart Dickman Councillor Karen Garrido	vacancy vacancy
(b)	GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Committees (Pool Substitutes)	Councillor Ari Leitner Councillor Tanya Burch	Councillor Karen Garrido vacancy
(c)	Waste Disposal Committee	Councillor Robin Garrido	Councillor Samantha Bellamy
(d)	North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	<i>arising vacancy</i>	Councillor Derek Antrobus
(e)	Statutory Functions Committee	Councillor Stephen Coen	vacancy
(f)	City West Board	Councillor Jane Hamilton	vacancy
(g)	Groundwork Manchester, Salford, Stockport and Trafford	Councillor Neil Reynolds	vacancy
(h)	Inspiring Communities Together (ICT)	Councillor Arnold Saunders	vacancy
(i)	Manchester Port Health Authority	Councillor Wilson Nkurunziza	vacancy
(j)	S and W TLP (Salford and Wigan Transformational Learning Partnership) Education Partnership	Miranda Carruthers-Watt <i>(alternate attendance with Cathy Starbuck)</i>	vacancy

(k)	Territorial Army (TA) Volunteer Reserve	Councillor Arnold Saunders	vacancy
(l)	The Landing at MediaCityUK Limited	Debbie Brown	vacancy
(m)	Urban Vision Strategic Partnership	David Seager	vacancy

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the amendments to GMCA appointments and nominations of the City Council, as detailed in the report now submitted and respectively summarised in (a), (b), (c) and (d) above, be approved.

(2) THAT the amendment to the appointment made by AGMA, as detailed in the report now submitted and summarised in (e) above, be noted.

(3) THAT amendments to the non GMCA and non AGMA nominations and appointments of the City Council as detailed in the report now submitted and respectively summarised in (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l) and (m) above, be approved.

10. ANNUAL REPORT ON ETHICAL STANDARDS

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report providing an overview of her work and that of the Standards Committee during 2017/18.

Councillor Robin Garrido, as Chair of the Audit and Accounts Committee, welcomed the report.

RESOLVED: THAT the report be noted.

11. INTERIM LEADERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

(Jim Taylor, the Chief Executive, left the room during the consideration and determination of this item.)

The Chair of the Workforce Panel submitted a report setting out the interim arrangements for shared leadership of Salford City Council and Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council, through the Chief Executive role, for a period of six months.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the report be noted.

(2) THAT approval be given to the release of the Head of the Paid Service for a time limited period to take up a shared leadership role in respect of Salford City Council and Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council.

(3) THAT approval be given to the remuneration package in respect of the Chief Executive while he is undertaking shared leadership responsibilities, as set out in the report.

(4) THAT approval be given to the remuneration package in respect of the Strategic Director, Place while undertaking additional duties, as set out in the report.

(5) THAT the delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the City Mayor, to award an honorarium to such other officers who may be required to undertake additional duties, be noted.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

Protection for Terminally Ill Employees

Councillor John Ferguson moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Robert Sharpe.

That this Council aims to treat employees who receive a terminal ill health diagnosis with dignity and to make adjustments to ensure that they are able to stay in work as long as they are able to.

However, this Council notes that terminally ill employees are not currently protected under national disability legislation and inevitably can therefore be dismissed if they are no longer able to conduct their role with reasonable adjustments.

This can mean that terminally ill employees can be subject to stressful assessments, subsequent dismissal and the loss of death in service benefits - all following the diagnosis of a terminal illness.

This Council believes in the dignity of work and that those receiving a terminal diagnosis should not be forced out of work.

Salford City Council believes that there should be additional government protection for terminally ill employees, from the point of diagnosis and calls on H.M. Government to put the necessary legal protections in place.

In moving the motion Councillor John Ferguson proposed an addendum to it in that,

Salford City Council sign up to the TUC's (Trade Union Congress) Dying to Work Charter.

Councillor John Ferguson and Councillor Robert Sharpe both spoke in favour of the motion and the addendum to it.

Councillor Karen Garrido, Councillor Arnold Saunders and Councillor Gina Reynolds all added their own support for the motion and the addendum to it.

RESOLVED: THAT the motion and the addendum to it, as moved by Councillor John Ferguson and both detailed above, be approved and adopted.

13. STATEMENT OF CITY MAYOR

The City Mayor made a number of announcements, highlighted issues and made comments as follows:-

- (a) Along with Councillor Arnold Saunders, he welcomed pupils from the Bnos Yisroel School to the meeting.
- (b) The Mayoral Team were continuing to focus on work to deliver the 2019/20 budget, with an expectation Salford City Council would be required to make a further £16m in savings and meaning a total reduction of £214m in expenditure since 2010, all primarily the result of H.M. Government's austerity policy.
- (c) He welcomed H.M. Government's recent announcement to increase NHS (National Health Service) funding by 3.4% annually from 2019/20 to 2023/24, as well as providing an additional £1.25b each year to cover pension pressures.
- (d) The Office of Budget Responsibility (OBR), in their July 2018 Fiscal Sustainability Report, had commented they did not anticipate there would be a Brexit dividend for the UK (United Kingdom), as well as highlighting public finances were weakening following concerns raised about tax revenues. Against this economic forecast, it was vital it did not result in further financial restraints being placed on local authorities. Instead it was necessary to consider the need to properly fund local government, so it could deliver the services demanded by its respective citizens. With this in mind, he was seeking to initiate a joint campaign with other local authority leaders to raise awareness of the negative impact of H.M. Government's economic policies on local government.
- (e) Despite the budgetary restraints placed upon it, Salford City Council and its employees, continued to lead the way in terms of dedication, commitment and the public service ethos. This had recently been demonstrated in jointly winning Digital Council of the Year 2018 and being named as overall winner of the Digital Leaders 100 Awards 2018. The Council had also won, both the Delivering Best Outcomes Award and Senior Management Team of the Year, as well as finishing as runner up Council of the Year, all in the Municipal Journal Local Government Achievement Awards 2018.
- (f) Commuters continued to face delays, cancellations, over-crowding and disruption on the region's rail network. In conjunction with Salford's three MPs and Councillor Roger Jones, Executive Support for Transport, he had made representations to Chris Grayling, the Secretary of State for Transport, about this unacceptable situation and demanding reassurances that H.M. Government would do everything in its power to remedy the current problems in rail provision and inadequate services in Salford, Greater Manchester and the North of England.
- (g) In December 2017, all ten Greater Manchester local authority leaders had endorsed Chris Boardman's Made to Move initiative, which identified the need to invest £1.5b over the next ten years on promoting and building the necessary infrastructure to encourage walking and cycling as the natural choice for short journeys and linking that into the use of public transport for longer ones. As part of this there were "Dutch

Street” style plans for Chapel Street East, making pedestrian and cycling attractive alternatives to driving, which was one of three potential projects in Salford to be put forward for support from the Greater Manchester Mayor’s new Cycling and Walking Fund aimed at delivering the Beelines Strategy. This would build upon the significant investment which had already been made in Salford in restoring the former rail looplines for walking and cycling purposes.

- (h) Later in the day he would be attending the annual ceremony for graduating students of the University of Salford. As part of that event, he would have the privilege of presenting one of the Alumni Achievement Awards to the late Councillor Paul Longshaw’s daughter Ella, in recognition of his work, particularly in developing the partnership between Salford City Council and the University of Salford.
- (i) He expressed thanks to David Herne, who was leaving Salford to take up a new post at Public Health England, for his contribution to healthcare in the City, as well as best wishes for the future. Councillor Gina Reynolds echoed these comments.

14. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO THE CITY MAYOR

- Q1. Councillor Robin Garrido joined the City Mayor in welcoming H.M. Government’s recent announcement to increase NHS annual funding. He commented that, whilst, additional funding for public services was always welcomed, it had to be recognised this could only be met through taxation, which was a finite resource. He also agreed with the City Mayor, with regard to the recent failings of the region’s rail services, particularly Northern Rail’s complicity in this, but suggested there had been many improvements since the denationalisation of the UK’s railways, which had begun in 1994.

The City Mayor reiterated his earlier comments in that he welcomed the additional NHS funding, but questioned the lack of consistency H.M. Government adopted in the way it supported different public services. In terms of the issues currently affecting rail services, he suggested the cause of this was due in no small part due to the ethos of the existing franchise system, which favoured the financial interests of operators, rather than those of passengers.

- Q2. Councillor Bill Hinds, Lead Member for Finance and Support Services, commented that this was the eighth year of H.M. Government’s damaging austerity focused economic policies. All public services had felt the impact of these, especially local government, with funding reduced each year during this period, with an expectation Salford City Council would have to make a further £16m of savings in 2019/20.
- Q3. Councillor John Merry, Deputy City Mayor, endorsed the City Mayor’s earlier comments about the unlikelihood of a financial dividend arising from the UK leaving the European Union. In terms of the additional funding for NHS services, he said, although this was welcomed, it did not cover the provision of social care, which should receive comparable financial support from H.M. Government. Similarly local government generally, was inadequately funded and local authorities, of all political hues, faced difficulties in delivering services.

Councillor Gina Reynolds, Lead Member for Adult Services, Health and Wellbeing,

endorsed the comments of Councillor John Merry, in terms of the need for an integrated health and social care system and for this to be adequately funded by H.M. Government.

Councillor David Jolley expressed similar views on this matter and the need for social care to be funded centrally, rather than through local taxation. He went on to outline the principles of Keynesian economics and suggested the current economic policies of the Labour Party provided a viable, sustainable and more beneficial alternative to the Monetarist ones of H.M. Government.

The City Mayor agreed with all the comments made and said the under investment in social care provision had to be addressed at a national level, as funding it from Council Tax was not sustainable.

Q4. Councillor Arnold Saunders, in response to the earlier comments of Councillor David Jolley, referred to the economic views of the late Anthony Crosland and former Labour Party government minister. He also made reference the decision of Graham Stringer, the MP for Blackley and Broughton, to support an amendment to the Taxation (Cross Border Trade) Bill 2017/19 in a recent vote in the House of Commons.

Q5. Councillor Jillian Collinson referred to waste and inefficient use of resources in the NHS and commented, having effective management to minimise this, was central to its success.

The City Mayor agreed that good management was vital to any organisation, but this also needed to be backed by the necessary financial resources. He concluded by commenting that, at the time when the NHS was celebrating the 70th Anniversary of its creation, it was disheartening to see it faced with the challenge of dealing with its current funding pressures.

15. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CABINET MEMBERS

Q1. Councillor Karen Garrido asked what was the Labour Party's position on the UK leaving the European Union and the impact they believed Brexit would have on Salford.

Councillor John Merry, Deputy City Mayor, said he supported the Labour Party's current policy of retaining the benefits of the single market and the customs union, which were essential for maintaining industries, jobs and businesses in Britain and Salford. He added that, he did not agree with the stance taken by the MP for Blackley and Broughton in the recent House of Commons vote.

Councillor Bill Hinds said in the 2016 referendum on the issue, he had voted leave and would do so again. Councillor Robin Garrido said the result of the referendum was a democratic decision which had to be honoured, although he personally had voted remain.

Q2. Councillor Karen Garrido asked what progress had been made on removing and replacing cladding on high rise tower blocks in Salford.

Councillor John Merry, Deputy City Mayor, replied that the necessary remedial work was underway. He added he would be happy to brief Councillor Garrido in more detail on this and the associated funding issues, if she wished.

Councillor Kate Lewis, as Chair, added this was an issue which the Growth and Prosperity Scrutiny Panel received regular updates on.

- Q3. Councillor Ari Leitner referred to the problem of fly-tipping and whether the switch to three weekly waste bin collection was a factor in this.

Councillor David Lancaster, Lead Member for Environment and Community Safety, replied that it was recognised that fly-tipping was a problem and the City Council undertook extensive enforcement action, though they did not always receive the full support of the police and courts in this, as well as the need for members of the public to report incidents. He, however, said there was no evidence to suggest the changes to the frequency of household waste collections was a contributing factor.

Councillor John Mullen, as Chair, said that this issue was something the Community and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel were currently examining and it was not possible at this stage to say whether there was a link with incidents of fly-tipping and changes to household waste collections. He also extended an invite to any interested members to join the Panel on a visit to the Greater Manchester Waste recycling facility at Longley Lane at Gatley, Manchester on 9th August 2018, to gain an understanding of the practicalities of separating co-mingled waste.

- Q4. Councillor Arnold Saunders referred to the recent success of the England football team in the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) World Cup 2018 held in Russia, but expressed concerns that the St. George's Cross flag had not been flown at Salford Civic Centre during the tournament.

Councillor David Lancaster, Lead Member for Environment and Community Safety, congratulated the England team on their achievement in reaching the semi final and finishing fourth overall, together with the manner in which the manager and players had conducted themselves. He added that, contrary to Councillor Saunders' recollection, the St. George's Cross flag had been flown at Salford Civic Centre throughout England's participation in the tournament.

- Q5. Councillor Karen Garrido referred to the second public inquiry into the planning application to build houses on green field land at Broadoak, located between Monton and Worsley. The Inquiry had concluded and its findings were now with the Secretary for State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for determination. She thanked Salford City Council for the strong case they had put forward in opposing the proposals.

Councillor Derek Antrobus, Lead Member for Planning and Sustainable Development, welcomed Councillor Karen Garrido's comments and joined with her in hoping the Secretary for State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, having heard Salford City Council's case, would rule in their favour.

- Q6. Councillor Karen Garrido referred to the 7.6m people in the UK who acted as the primary carer for family members and asked how many of Salford City Council's employees undertook such a role.

Councillor Robert Sharpe, Executive Support for Social Care and Mental Health, said he would ensure Councillor Garrido was provided with the information she had requested.

Councillor John Merry, commented that an associated issue was the number of young people living in Salford who acted as carers and the need to ensure accurate information on these was collated to enable the appropriate support could be provided to them.

16. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY PANELS

Councillor Karen Garrido referred to promotional and guidance information on recycling, which had been provided to members by representatives from the waste and Resources Team of Greater Manchester Combined Authority prior to the meeting and asked whether more on this could be provided at a future Community and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel.

Councillor John Mullen, as Chair, said this was something which could be investigated.

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

Updates were provided in relation to the recent activities of the following bodies:-

- Salford Council for Voluntary Service
- Bridgewater Canal Trust
- Stadium Joint Venture Company
- Working Class Movement Library

Councillor Arnold Saunders referred to a recent media report on low attendances for Salford Red Devils RLFC home matches, which were played at the AJ Bell Stadium.

Councillor Mike Pevitt commented that public transport links to the AJ Bell Stadium were a contributing factor to low attendances for Salford Red Devils RLFC matches.

Councillor Robert Sharpe suggested the possible need for Salford Red Devils RLFC to enhance its grassroots community activities in an attempt to encourage local support.

Councillor David Lancaster, replied that there were many factors which influenced match day attendances, perhaps chief amongst these being the correlation with the success of the team on the pitch, however this was something outside the remit of the Stadium Joint Venture Company. He added that transport problems at had eased with the opening of the new bridge across the Manchester Ship Canal and the new road network around the stadium. Finally, as a Salford Red Devils RLFC supporter

himself, he encouraged all fans, past and present, or those still to declare their allegiance, to get behind the team and join with them in their challenge to retain their Super League status.

RESOLVED: THAT the reports, information, comments and replies, as detailed above, be noted.

18. MISCELANEOUS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (a) Councillor Arnold Saunders expressed thanks for the decision to move the date of the September meeting of Council, due to the original one falling on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur. (Previous Minute 101(2) - 16 May 2018)
- (b) Councillor Robin Garrido expressed concerns at the date of the extraordinary meeting of Council to consider the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) review of Salford City Council, was to be 29th August, 2018, when many members would be on holiday.

Councillor John Merry agreed, but said the timing of the meeting was dependent on the timetable for the review set by the LGBCE, over which the City Council did not have any control.

- (c) Councillor Heather Fletcher referred to the forthcoming Heritage Open Days weekends on 6th to 9th and 13th to 16th September, 2018 and encouraged support of the various events being held as part of this, both in Swinton and across Salford.
- (d) Councillor Heather Fletcher said she had spoken with pupils from Bnos Yisroel School, who had attended today's meeting, encouraging them to take an interest in national and local politics. She said this was something all members should do in general, with any individuals, or communities, they came into contact with. This in turn could possibly in the long term, lead to the elected member representation on the Council being more reflective of Salford's diverse ethnic composition, as well as it having a more balanced number of male and female councillors.

A full audio/visual recording of these proceedings can be found on the Salford City Council website [Council 18 July 2018 Webcast](#)