

## SALFORD CITY COUNCIL

16 March 2022

Meeting commenced: 9.35 a.m.  
“ adjourned: 11.05 a.m.  
“ re-convened: 11.20 a.m.  
“ ended: 12:20 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ann-Marie Humphreys - Deputy Ceremonial Mayor and Chair

Mr Paul Dennett - City Mayor

Councillors Sharmina August, Michele Barnes, Paula Boshell, Maria Brabiner, Adrian Brocklehurst, Tanya Burch, Jim Cammell, Bob Clarke, Philip Cusack, Tony Davies, Jim Dawson, Stuart Dickman, Heather Fletcher, Jane Hamilton, Bill Hinds, Tracy Kelly, Jim King, David Lancaster, Ray Mashiter, Mike McCusker, Margaret Morris, Lewis Nelson, Wilson Nkurunziza, Mike Pevitt, Gina Reynolds, Jake Rowland, Arnold Saunders, Alexis Shama, Robert Sharpe, Phil Tresadern, Les Turner, Madeline Wade, Roseanna Wain, Andrew Walters, John Warmisham and Barry Warner,

### 73. 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.

### 74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Damien Bailey, Samantha Bellamy, Barbara Bentham, Joshua Brooks, Stephen Coen, Karen Garrido, Robin Garrido, Roger Jones, Ari Leitner, Kate Lewis, Sophia Linden, John Merry, John Mullen, Neil Reynolds, Hannah Robinson-Smith, Irfan Syed, Peter Taylor, Nathaniel Tetteh, Joan Walsh, John Walsh, Darren Ward, Colette Weir and Jack Youd.

Condolences were extended to Councillor John Mullen, Ceremonial Mayor, who was attending the funeral of a family member.

### 74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 76. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

The minutes of the meetings held on 19 January and 23 February 2022 were approved

as correct records.

76. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

No petitions or communications were submitted.

77. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22 - UPDATE  
(Previous Minute 77 - 19 January 2022)

No amendments to the membership of committees and panels and representatives on outside bodies for 2021/22 were submitted.

78. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The City Solicitor submitted a report indicating Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 stated if a member of a local authority failed throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, they ceased to be a member of the authority, unless their non-attendance had been approved by the authority before the expiry of that period. Section 85 of the Act allowed an authority to grant dispensation for such absence providing the dispensation was granted before the 6 month period of absence has expired.

Councillor Karen Garrido has been unable to attend meetings recently for medical reasons and Council was requested to approve an extension of the 6 month rule for her until 31 July 2022.

RESOLVED: THAT in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, approval be given to Councillor Karen Garrido's non-attendance at meetings until 31 July 2022 on medical grounds and the Council's best wishes be conveyed to her.

79. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2022/23

Councillor Bill Hinds, Lead Member for Finance and Support Services, submitted a report detailing the Pay Policy Statement which set out Salford City Council's approach to pay policy, in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. In addition, the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities' Regulations 2017) placed a requirement on public sector employers to publish information relating to the gender pay gap. The report also contained a Salford City Council specific analysis, including reduction of 3.7% in the mean gender pay gap and 6.1% in the median gender pay gap since reporting had started.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT Salford City Council Pay Policy Statement 2022/23 be approved.

(2) THAT gender pay gap information, including the publication requirements, be noted.

80. NOMINATION FOR THE OFFICE OF CEREMONIAL MAYOR 2022/23

Councillor Heather Fletcher proposed and Councillor Maria Brabiner seconded, that Councillor Ann-Marie Humphreys be appointed to the office of Ceremonial Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

RESOLVED: THAT the nomination for the office of Ceremonial Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022/23, as detailed above, be agreed.

81. NOMINATION FOR THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY CEREMONIAL MAYOR 2022/23

Councillor John Warmisham proposed and Councillor Bill Hinds seconded, that Councillor Gina Reynolds be appointed to the office of Deputy Ceremonial Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

RESOLVED: THAT the nomination for the office of Deputy Ceremonial Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022/23, as detailed above, be agreed.

82. PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT GIFTS

The Deputy Ceremonial Mayor reported Councillor Peter Taylor, Councillor Joan Walsh and Councillor Colette Weir were all retiring as elected members and not standing in the forthcoming May Local Elections. She said it had been intended to make a presentation to each of them, in recognition of their contribution to the City Council and the residents of Salford, however due to their absence, at what would be their last full Council meeting, alternative arrangements would now be made to do this.

83. COUNCILLOR ROBIN GARRIDO - 20 YEARS LONG SERVICE AWARD

In the absence of Councillor Robin Garrido, this item was deferred.

84. NOTICE OF MOTION

In Support of Ukraine and its People Against the Unprovoked Attack by the Russian Federation

Paul Dennett, City Mayor moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Tanya Burch.

***This City Council:***

- i. condemns in the strongest possible terms the unprovoked armed invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, an illegal act, which constitutes a blatant breach of international law and again sees the spectre of war cast a harrowing shadow over Europe and across all the peaceful, democratic and free nations of the world;***
- ii. urges the Russian Federation to immediately and unconditionally cease its military operations in Ukraine and withdraw its troops, whilst also committing to finding an urgent peaceful way forward to resolving the conflict;***

- iii. deplors the loss of life, human suffering and destruction caused by the Russian aggression;**
- iv. expresses our recognition of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders;**
- v. stresses that the armed attack on Ukraine by the Russian Federation constitutes an attack on the principles and values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law;**
- vi. notes that this war makes it impossible for our fellow local authorities in Ukraine to operate and inflicts serious suffering on the Ukrainian people;**
- vii. expresses its sympathy, support, and solidarity for Ukraine and its people in their desire to remain a free and democratic country, and notes with concern the countless thousands of Ukrainian citizens who are now fleeing westwards into Poland, Romania, Hungary, and Moldova to escape the escalating conflict.**

**This City Council recognises:**

- viii. that the countries and peoples of eastern Europe have opened their borders and offered sanctuary to the people of Ukraine in their hour of need, as over 1.5 million refugees have already left the Ukraine, with the humanitarian emergency likely to see 7 million people displaced as a result of the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine;**
- ix. the £120 million of humanitarian aid made by the UK government to Ukraine so far to save lives, protect vulnerable people inside the country and wider region and to assist in supporting the growing humanitarian crisis;**
- x. that the City of Salford and Greater Manchester has an active Ukrainian community who face the shocking and distressing reality that their family and friends in Ukraine are in the midst of conflict;**
- xi. that the City of Salford and Greater Manchester has a long-standing and proud history of providing sanctuary and helping those fleeing persecution, recognising that Greater Manchester has accommodated more asylum seekers and refugees over many years than other parts of the country;**
- xii. the unwavering dedication and commitment of the peoples of Salford and Greater Manchester in supporting the humanitarian effort in this international crisis, especially people's support of the efforts of national charities, Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Manchester and the Polish Integration Support Centre working across the country;**

**Therefore, this City Council calls on Her Majesty's Government to:**

- xiii. reassess the current offer of assistance for those forced to leave Ukraine, which currently restricts access only to those with close family at this stage and risks separating wider families and causing further distress during this international humanitarian crisis.**
- xiv. urge the Immigration Minister to mandate the widening of dispersal to ensure every local authority plays their part in supporting those**

**fleeing Ukraine and all those seeking sanctuary. This is an international humanitarian crisis requiring a national medium-to-long-term response.**

**This City Council therefore requests the Mayor and political Group Leaders jointly write to the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary setting out the terms of this motion and calling for the UK to match its words with actions reflecting the severity of the crisis and offer sanctuary to Ukrainians in their hour of need.**

Councillor Jim King then moved the following amendments to the motion, which were seconded by Councillor John Warmisham. (For ease of reference the amendments are underlined)

**The invasion of Ukraine continues to shock the nation and the world as we find ourselves in the midst of an international humanitarian crisis.**

**Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the people of Ukraine, families and friends here in Salford, the UK and indeed around the world at this time. Many of whom are living through what can be described as a shocking spectre of an un-provoked invasion by the Russian Federation with harrowing consequences for the people of Ukraine, who have been forced to flee their country.**

**This City Council:**

- i. condemns in the strongest possible terms the unprovoked armed invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, an illegal act, which constitutes a blatant breach of international law and again sees the spectre of war cast a harrowing shadow over Europe and across all the peaceful, democratic and free nations of the world;**
- ii. urges the Russian Federation to immediately and unconditionally cease its military operations in Ukraine and withdraw its troops, whilst also committing to finding an urgent peaceful way forward to resolving the conflict;**
- iii. deplores the loss of life, human suffering and destruction caused by the Russian Federation's aggression;**
- iv. expresses our recognition of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders;**
- v. stresses that the armed attack on Ukraine by the Russian Federation constitutes an attack on the principles and values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law;**
- vi. notes that the International Criminal Court prosecutor has taken the decision to launch an investigation into war crimes, crimes against**

**humanity or acts of genocide dating back to 2013, in light of a rising civilian death toll join the Russian Federations invasion of Ukraine;**

- vii. notes that this war makes it impossible for our fellow Local Authorities in Ukraine to operate and inflicts serious suffering on Ukrainian people;**
- viii. expresses its sympathy, support, and solidarity for Ukraine and its people in their desire to remain a free and democratic country, and notes with concern the countless thousands of Ukrainian citizens who are now fleeing westwards into Poland, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia and Moldova to escape the escalating conflict.**

**This City Council recognises:**

- x. that the countries and peoples of eastern Europe have opened their borders and offered sanctuary to the people of Ukraine in their hour of need, with 3 million refugees already having left Ukraine, and the humanitarian emergency likely to see 7 million people displaced as a result of the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine;**
- x. the £120 million of humanitarian aid made by the UK Government to Ukraine so far to save lives, protect vulnerable people inside the country and wider region and to assist in supporting the growing humanitarian crisis;**
- xi. that the City of Salford and Greater Manchester has an active Ukrainian community who face the shocking and distressing reality that their family and friends in Ukraine are in the midst of conflict;**
- xii. that the City of Salford and Greater Manchester has a long-standing and proud history of providing sanctuary and helping those fleeing persecution, recognising that Greater Manchester has accommodated more asylum seekers and refugees over many years than other parts of the country;**
- xiii. the unwavering dedication and commitment of the peoples of Salford and Greater Manchester in supporting the humanitarian effort in this international crisis, especially people's support of the efforts of national charities, Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Manchester and the Polish Integration Support Centre working across the country;**
- xiv. The UK government Nationality and Borders Bill does not address the fundamental issues in our broken immigration system, penalising those seeking sanctuary, including Ukrainians, based on the journeys they make;**

**Therefore, this City Council calls on Her Majesty's Government to:**

**xv. to work with the international community and institutions in ensuring the Russian Federation makes a significant payment(s) for the reparation and rebuilding of Ukraine (using the £660 billion of seized reserves held in Western institutions) in light of the human suffering and destruction caused by the Russian Federation's aggression;**

**xvi. urge the Immigration Minister to mandate the widening of dispersal to ensure every local authority plays their part in supporting those fleeing Ukraine and all those seeking sanctuary. This is an international humanitarian crisis requiring a national medium-to-long-term response;**

**xvii. urgently review the Nationality and Borders Bill and work with local authorities to build a fairer more effective immigration system that can be responsive to provide sanctuary in times of international humanitarian crisis and which does not penalise those seeking sanctuary based on the journeys they make;**

***This City Council therefore requests:***

***xviii. the Directly Elected Mayor of the City of Salford and political Group Leaders to jointly write to the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary setting out the terms of this motion and calling for the UK to match its words with actions reflecting the severity of the crisis and offer sanctuary to Ukrainians in their hour of need.***

Councillors Jim King and John Warmisham, both spoke in favour of the proposed amendments.

Paul Dennett, City Mayor, Councillors Tanya Burch, Jake Rowland, Sharmina August, David Lancaster, Andrew Walters and Wilson Nkurunziza all added their own support to the amendments.

Councillor Les Turner said while, the original motion had the support of the Conservative Group they could not do the same for the amended one. Councillor Arnold Saunders echoed these comments.

Following a show of hands, it was:

RESOLVED: THAT the amendments, as moved by Councillor Jim King and detailed above, be approved and this now become the substantive motion.

A debate then took place on the substantive motion.

Paul Dennett, City Mayor and Councillor Tanya Burch, both spoke in favour of the motion.

Councillors Heather Fletcher, John Warmisham, Philip Cusack, Margaret Morris, Jake Rowland, and Stuart Dickman all added their own support for the motion.

RESOLVED: THAT the motion, originally moved by Paul Dennett, City Mayor and as amended by Councillor Jim King, and detailed above, be approved and adopted.

#### 85. STATEMENT OF THE CITY MAYOR

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

- (a) The invasion of Ukraine was a time for sombre reflection and its people had the full support of Salford City Council. While the City Council wished to make practical demonstrations of this support, through the cancelling of contracts and services which were provided by organisations based in, or with direct links to, the Russian Federation, for legal and procurement reasons this was not always possible, but such options would continue to be pursued.
- (b) The invasion of Ukraine had highlighted the problem of the UK's energy supply being unduly reliant on foreign countries and suppliers based overseas. This was similarly the case with other vital elements of the nation's infrastructure. A return to these being placed into domestic ownership was an issue which urgently needed to be reviewed. In Salford there had been a demonstration of an alternative approach through the establishment of several new green energy schemes, which had been the subject of a visit by Ed Miliband M.P, the Labour Shadow Secretary of State for Climate Change and Net Zero,
- (c) The current situation in terms of the nation's energy supply was another example of H.M. Government's lack of coherent and comprehensive planning, which was now compounded by the ever rising cost of living and the negative economic impact this had on the ordinary people of the United Kingdom, which Salford City Council would do everything in its power to mitigate.
- (d) Best wishes were extended to those celebrating St Patrick's Day and the Jewish holiday of Purim, both of which fell on 17 March 2022. Councillor Arnold Saunders added similar best wishes to those marking the Iranian New Year on 20 March 2022.

#### 86. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO THE CITY MAYOR

- Q1. Councillor Bill Hinds endorsed the comments of the City Mayor on the growing dependency of elements of United Kingdom's infrastructure on other countries (see *Minutes 85(b) and (c)*). He said this was indicative of the failings of the policies of globalisation and neo-liberalism, for which an urgent rethink was now required.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments which he echoed. He said although good financial management was essential, local government should be more than this and about providing the best services for local people. Since 2011 H.M. Government had continued to reduce local government funding, it was now time to devise a new model and give local authorities real autonomy and the financial resources to meet the specific needs and aspirations of their respective residents.

- Q2. Councillor Adrian Brocklehurst suggested the invasion of Ukraine could be used by energy suppliers to further increase prices (see *Minutes 85(b) and (c)*). He particularly

expressed concerns at the possible negative impact this could have on the already stretched financial resources of schools in Salford.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments which he echoed. Rising energy costs were a serious concern particularly those faced by schools, who were not subject to the domestic cap on prices. H.M. Government needed to immediately address the impending budgetary difficulties this seemed certain to create for schools. Pending that, the City Council would continue to provide advice and support to those in Salford, which Councillor Jim Cammell, Lead Member for Children and Young Peoples Services, provided details of.

- Q3. Councillor Jim King echoed the City Mayor's frustrations on the inability of Salford City Council to take practical steps to support the people of the Ukraine by ending any contracts they had with businesses based in the Russian Federation (*see Minute 85(a)*). He suggested they join with other local authorities to make representations to H.M. Government seeking changes to legislation which would allow them to terminate current contracts with such suppliers. Councillor Arnold Saunders endorsed this suggestion.

The City Mayor welcomed these comments and said such representations had already been made to H.M. Government. In the long term, a move to alternative renewable energy systems would end the dependency on other countries and the impact of volatile global financial markets, but H.M. Government had to hasten this process.

- Q4. Councillor Arnold Saunders asked what progress had been made regarding service charges for residents of Pendleton Together properties which had recently been considered by the Growth and Prosperity Scrutiny Panel. Councillor Tracy Kelly, Deputy City Mayor and Lead Member for Housing, Property and Regeneration commented this was not the appropriate forum to raise this matter. Councillor Robert Sharpe, Chair of Growth and Prosperity Scrutiny Panel, advised the recommendations of the Panel had been referred to Cabinet.
- Q5. Councillor Lewis Nelson asked what message the City Mayor would give to voters in Salford ahead of the local elections on 5 May 2022.

The City Mayor replied that the Labour Party offered voters a Salford where its residents' interests and aspirations were at the heart of the City Council's plans.

87. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CABINET MEMBERS

There were no questions or comments.

88. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY PANELS

There were no questions or comments.

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

There were no questions or comments.

90. SCHEDULED REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODY MEMBERS

Submitted a report detailing the recent activities of Booths charities

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the report be noted.

(2) THAT the report detailing the activities of the Salford Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) Executive Committee be deferred to a future meeting.

*A full audio/visual recording of these proceedings can be found on the Salford City Council website [Council 16 March 2022](#)*