



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the Council

Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Thursday, 27 January 2022 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor D W W Thomas (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)
C Anderson	B Hopkins	H M Morris
P M Black	D H Hopkins	C L Philpott
J E Burtonshaw	L James	S Pritchard
J P Curtice	O G James	A Pugh
A M Day	Y V Jardine	J A Raynor
P Downing	J W Jones	C Richards
C R Doyle	M Jones	K M Roberts
M Durke	P K Jones	B J Rowlands
V M Evans	S M Jones	P B Smith
W Evans	E J King	R V Smith
E W Fitzgerald	E T Kirchner	R C Stewart
R Francis-Davies	H Lawson	D G Sullivan
S J Gallagher	A S Lewis	G J Tanner
L S Gibbard	M B Lewis	M Thomas
K M Griffiths	W G Lewis	L G Thomas
J A Hale	P Lloyd	W G Thomas
D W Helliwell	I E Mann	G D Walker
C A Holley	P M Matthews	L V Walton
P R Hood-Williams	P N May	T M White

Officer(s)

Huw Evans	Head of Democratic Services
Tracey Meredith	Chief Legal Officer / Monitoring Officer
Phil Roberts	Chief Executive
Ben Smith	Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): M C Child, N J Davies, C R Evans, F M Gordon, M H Jones, L R Jones, M A Langstone, R D Lewis, D Phillips and A H Stevens

89. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

The Chief Legal Officer gave advice regarding the potential personal and prejudicial interests that Councillors and / Officers may have on the agenda.

The Head of Democratic Services reminded Councillors and Officers that the "Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests" sheet should only be completed if the Councillor / Officer actually had an interest to declare. Nil returns were not required. Councillors and Officers were also informed that any declarable interest must be made orally and in writing on the sheet.

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea no interests were declared.

90. Exclusion of the Public.

Council were requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the item(s) of business identified in the recommendations to the report(s) on the grounds that it / they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the exclusion paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 relevant to the items of business set out in the report(s).

Council considered the Public Interest Test in deciding whether to exclude the public from the meeting for the item of business where the Public Interest Test was relevant as set out in the report.

Resolved that the public be excluded for the following item(s) of business.

(Closed Session)

91. Appointment of Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer.

The Presiding Member stated that only one candidate had been recommended to Council by the Appointments Committee for the post of Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer. He stated that the Political Group Leaders and he proposed that Council Procedure Rule 44 "Suspension of Procedure Rules" be enacted to dispense with the requirement:

- i) For the Candidate to give a presentation and be interviewed by Council.
- ii) To hold a written ballot.

The Chief Executive, Phil Roberts provided feedback from the Appointments Process relating to the appointment of a Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer.

Resolved that:

- 1) Council Procedure Rule 44 "Suspension of Procedure Rules" be enacted to dispense with the requirement:
 - i) For the Candidate to give a presentation and be interviewed by Council.
 - ii) To hold a written ballot.
- 2) The verbal update on the assessment process be noted.

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Cont'd

3) Ben Smith be appointed as Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer.

Note: Following this decision, Ben Smith was invited into the Meeting and offered the post. Ben Smith accepted the post.

The meeting ended at 4.11 pm

Chair