

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

HELD AT CIVIC CENTRE, SWANSEA ON THURSDAY, 14 JUNE 2012 AT  
4.00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Councillor D W W Thomas (Chair of Council) presided

**Councillor(s):**

J C Bayliss  
P M Black  
J E Burtonshaw  
M C Child  
U C Clay  
A C S Colburn  
D W Cole  
A M Cook  
S E Crouch  
J P Curtice  
N J Davies  
W J F Davies  
A M Day  
P Downing  
C R Doyle  
V M Evans  
R Francis-Davies  
F M Gordon  
J A Hale  
A S Harrington  
J E C Harris

**Councillor(s):**

T J Hennegan  
C A Holley  
P R Hood-Williams  
B Hopkins  
D H Hopkins  
D H James  
L James  
A J Jones  
J W Jones  
M H Jones  
S M Jones  
E T Kirchner  
D J Lewis  
R D Lewis  
P Lloyd  
P M Matthews  
P M Meara  
H M Morris  
J Newbury  
B G Owen  
D Phillips

**Councillor(s):**

J A Raynor  
T H Rees  
I M Richard  
J C Richards  
N M Ronconi-Woollard  
P Sangha  
P B Smith  
R V Smith  
R J Stanton  
R C Stewart  
D G Sullivan  
G J Tanner  
C Thomas  
C M R W D Thomas  
M Thomas  
L G Thomas  
L J Tyler-Lloyd  
G D Walker  
L V Walton  
T M White

27. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N S Bradley, W Evans, E W Fitzgerald, Y V Jardine, C E Lloyd, K E Marsh, C L Philpott, R J Stanton and M Theaker.

28. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST**

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea the following interests were declared:

- 1) Councillors C A Holley and J Newbury declared a personal interest in Minute 35 "Extension of Term of Office for Independent Member Of the Standards Committee".

29. **MINUTES OF COUNCIL**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the First Annual Meeting of Council held on 24 May 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record.

30. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL**

1) **Amendments / Corrections to the Council Summons**

The Chair of Council stated that an "Amendments / Corrections to the Council Summons" sheet had been circulated at the meeting. The amendments / corrections being as follows:

a) **Minute 34 "Membership of Committees"**

- i) An addendum report had been circulated at the meeting.

b) **Minute 38 "Councillors Questions"**

- i) Page 54. Question 6. The first sentence of the question should actually form the first sentence of the response. Please move the sentence as appropriate:

"I congratulate the questioners for having read the manifesto and trust they were suitably impressed by the depth and breadth of the vision it lays out".

2) **Condolences – Former Councillor John Allison**

The Chair of Council referred with sadness to the recent death of former Councillor and Alderman John Allison. Councillor Allison served Morriston as a Councillor on Swansea Borough Council, Swansea City Council and West Glamorgan County Council. He was also a former Leader of West Glamorgan County Council.

All present stood for a minute's silence as a mark of sympathy and respect.

31. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

The Leader of Council announced with regret the announcement by Unilever to shut its sites in Swansea, Bridgend and Flintshire cutting approximately 450 jobs.

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He stated that he would be contacting the First Minister of the Welsh Government in order to discuss the issue and to seek ways of assisting the staff at those sites.

32. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

A number of questions were asked by members of the public. The relevant Cabinet Member responded accordingly. Those questions requiring a written response are listed below:

- 1) Lis Davies asked the following question(s) in relation to Minute 36 "Council and Council Bodies Diary 2012-2013"
  - "a) Will the Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member provide the list of names of those Councillors that did not respond to the "Timing of Meetings" Councillor Survey?

The Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member stated that she would seek advice whether or not she was permitted to release that information. If permitted, she would do so and provide a written response.

33. **PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

No Public Presentations were received.

34. **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

The Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member submitted a report which outlined for information the changes which the Leader had made to the Authority's nominations on Outside Bodies. The changes being as follows:

- a) Arts Council of Wales – Mid & West Wales Area Committee  
Remove Councillor J A Hale. Add N M Ronconi-Woollard.
- b) City Centre Partnership  
Add Leader of the Council and Councillors N S Bradley and F M Gordon.
- c) Gower College Swansea  
Remove Councillors J P Curtice and D J Lewis. Add Leader of the Council and M Theaker.

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- d) Mid and West Wales Fire Authority  
Remove Councillors R Francis-Davies, C L Philpott and G D Walker. Add Councillor J C Bayliss.
- e) National Waterfront Museum (Swansea) Ltd  
Remove J A Hale. Add N S Bradley.
- f) South Wales Police Authority  
Add Councillors P Sangha and D G Sullivan.
- g) Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)  
Remove Councillor J A Hale. Add Councillor B Hopkins.
- h) Swansea Children's Relief in Need  
Remove Councillors U C Clay, J A Hale and M H Jones. Add Councillors N J Davies, J C Richards and M P Meara.
- i) West Glamorgan Council for Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
Remove Councillor J A Hale. Add Councillor E T Kirchner.

She also reminded Councillors that an addendum report had been tabled at the meeting. Councillor M H Jones asked that a verbal amendment from the Liberal Democrat Political Group be included.

She concluded her report by proposing the following changes to the membership of the Council Bodies listed in the report.

**Note:** Councillor P M Meara asked the Monitoring Officer for a legal view on whether the Constitution of a Political Group Notice by various Political Groups meant that their substantive Political Group would not be recognised.

The Monitoring Officer stated that he would provide a written response.

**RESOLVED** that:

- 1) Appeals and Awards Committee  
Remove Councillor J C Bayliss. Add Councillor J A Hale.
- 2) Area 1 Development Control Committee

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Remove Councillors J E Burtonshaw, U C Clay, A M Cook, S E Crouch, F M Gordon, J A Raynor and M Thomas. Add Councillors P Downing, J A Hale, A S Harrington, J E C Harris, D H Hopkins, P M Matthews and H M Morris.

3) Area 2 Development Control Committee

Remove Councillors P Downing, J A Hale, A S Harrington, J E C Harris, D H Hopkins, H M Morris, N M Ronconi-Woollard, P Sangha and P B Smith. Add Councillors J E Burtonshaw, A M Cook, S E Crouch, F M Gordon, J A Raynor, R C Stewart, G J Tanner, D W W Thomas and M Theaker.

4) Audit Committee

Remove Councillors A M Day and R C Stewart. Add Councillors P M Meara and D W W Thomas.

5) Chief Officers Disciplinary Committee

Remove Councillor S E Crouch. Add Councillor D W W Thomas.

6) Chief Officers Disciplinary Appeals Committee

Remove Councillor D W W Thomas. Add Councillor S E Crouch.

7) Democratic Services Committee

Remove Councillor J C Richards. Add Councillor E T Kirchner.

8) Equalities Committee

Remove Councillor N S Bradley. Add Councillor D W Cole.

9) Licensing Committee and Licensing Sub Committee

Remove Councillor M Theaker. Add Councillor A S Harrington.

10) Performance and Delivery Committee

Remove Councillor M Theaker. Add Councillor E T Kirchner.

11) People Overview and Scrutiny Board

Remove Councillor M H Jones. Add Councillor P M Meara.

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- 12) Place Overview and Scrutiny Board  
Remove Councillor P M Meara. Add Councillor M H Jones.
- 13) Stronger and Safer Communities Overview and Scrutiny Board  
Remove Councillor N M Ronconi-Woollard. Add Councillor R Francis-Davies.
- 14) Challenge Panel  
Remove Councillors H M Morris, G Owens and T M White. Add Councillors R Francis-Davies, N M Ronconi-Woollard and P B Smith.
- 15) Standards Committee Vacancy Panel  
Remove Councillor R C Stewart. Add Councillor J A Raynor.
- 16) Corporate Parenting Forum  
Remove Councillor M H Jones. Add Councillor P M Meara.
- 17) Gypsy Traveller Liaison Forum  
Add Councillors Y V Jardine, J W Jones and P M Matthews.
- 18) Student Liaison Forum  
Remove Mayals Electoral Division Member. Add Oystermouth Electoral Division Member.
- 19) Local Development Plan (LDP) Advisory Group  
Remove Councillor D H Hopkins. Add Councillor J E Burtonshaw.

35. **EXTENSION OF TERM OF OFFICE FOR INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member submitted a report which sought authority to reappoint Meirion Howells as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a further 4 year term.

**RESOLVED** that:

- 1) Meirion Howells be reappointed as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for one further consecutive 4 year term;
- 2) His Term of Office expire on 31 July 2016.

36. **COUNCIL AND COUNCIL BODIES DIARY 2012-2013**

The Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member submitted a report which proposed a Council and Council Bodies Diary for the 2012-2013 Municipal Year.

She stated that in preparing the diary a "Timing of Meetings" Councillors Survey had been carried out in accordance with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

She also stated that as a general principle the majority of Committees where the Chair commands a Senior Salary were proposed to meet at 5.00 p.m. The rationale being that this time would assist those Councillors that work and those with caring responsibilities.

**RESOLVED** that:

- 1) The Council and Council Bodies Diary for 2012-2013 be adopted;
- 2) Any necessary amendments to the Council Constitution in light of the report be authorised.

37. **PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Leader of the Council submitted a report which sought to make a permanent appointment of a Chief Executive as a precursor to a restructure of the Corporate Management Team.

**RESOLVED** that Jack Straw be appointed as Chief Executive on a permanent basis.

38. **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS**

- 1) Part A "Supplementary Questions"

Four (4) Part A "Supplementary Questions" were submitted. The relevant Cabinet Member(s) responded by way of written answers contained within the Council Summons.

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Further supplementary questions were asked and the relevant Cabinet Member responded. Those questions requiring a written response are listed below.

- a) Question 1. Councillor A M Day asked the following question(s):
- i) Does the Learning and Skills Cabinet Member agree with the Estyn report?
  - ii) How much of a priority is tackling surplus places?

The Leader of the Council stated that the Learning and Skills Cabinet Member would provide a written response.

- b) Question 2. Councillor A M Day asked the following question(s):
- i) Can the Learning and Skills Cabinet Member tell Council what are the other "highest priorities"?
  - ii) Can he confirm that his answer to this question means that he welcomes the figures on "Not in Education, Employment or Training" (NEET) in question 5 and that NEETs will continue to be a priority?
  - iii) Will the Learning and Skills Cabinet Member confirm that the Labour Manifesto constitutes a promise of delivery to the people of Swansea?
  - iv) Can the Learning and Skills Cabinet Member confirm that the QEd 2020 programme will continue?

The Leader of the Council stated that the Learning and Skills Cabinet Member would provide a written response.

- c) Question 3. The Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member stated that she had withdrawn the first sentence of her written response.

2) Part B "Questions Not Requiring Supplementary" Questions

Four (4) Part B "Questions Not Requiring Supplementary" Questions were submitted.



39. **WRITTEN RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ASKED AT THE LAST ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The Head of Legal, Democratic Services and Procurement submitted an information report setting out the written responses to questions asked at the last Ordinary Meeting of Council.

40. **COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 17 "DISORDERLY CONDUCT"**

The Chair of Council outlined his view on Councillors conduct at Council meetings. He stated that as Chair of Council he would not tolerate disorderly conduct. He also reminded all Councillors that when the Chair of Council was on his feet, all Councillors should immediately sit and be quiet. He asked that all Councillors carefully consider his message in readiness for future Council meetings.

41. **COMMON SEAL**

**RESOLVED** that the Common Seal be affixed to any document necessary to bring into effect any decisions passed or confirmed at the meeting.

The meeting ended at 5.03 p.m.

**CHAIR OF COUNCIL**