

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL, SWANSEA ON
TUESDAY, 18 MARCH 2014 AT 5.00 PM

PRESENT: D W W Thomas (Chair) presided

Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)
J C Bayliss	T J Hennegan	B G Owen
N S Bradley	C A Holley	G Owens
J E Burtonshaw	P R Hood-Williams	D Phillips
M C Child	B Hopkins	J A Raynor
A C S Colburn	D H Hopkins	T H Rees
D W Cole	L James	I M Richard
A M Cook	A J Jones	J C Richards
S E Crouch	S M Jones	P B Smith
J P Curtice	J W Jones	R V Smith
N J Davies	R D Lewis	R J Stanton
P Downing	D J Lewis	G J Tanner
C R Doyle	A S Lewis	M Theaker
V A Evans	C E Lloyd	C Thomas
W Evans	P Lloyd	L G Thomas
E W Fitzgerald	P M Matthews	M Thomas
R Francis-Davies	P M Meara	L J Tyler-Lloyd
F M Gordon	H M Morris	T M White
J A Hale	J Newbury	

196. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P M Black, R A Clay, U C Clay, W J F Davies, A M Day, J E C Harris, Y V Jardine, M H Jones, E T Kirchner, K E March, C L Philpott, N M Ronconi-Woollard, P Sangha, R C Stewart, D G Sullivan, C M R W D Thomas, G D Walker and L V Walton.

197. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.**

The Head of Legal, Democratic Services and Procurement 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 the following interests were declared:

Councillors:

- 1) Councillors J C Bayliss, N S Bradley, J E Burtonshaw, M C Child, A C S Colburn, D W Cole, A M Cook, S E Crouch, J P Curtice, N J Davies, P Downing, C R Doyle, V M Evans, W Evans, R Francis-Davies, F M Gordon, J A Hale, T J Hennegan, C A Holley, P R Hood-Williams, B Hopkins, D H Hopkins, L James, A J Jones, J W Jones, S M Jones, A S Lewis, D J Lewis, R D Lewis, C E Lloyd, P M Matthews, P M Meara, H M Morris, J Newbury, B G Owen, G Owens, J A Raynor, J C Richards, P B Smith, R V Smith, G J Tanner, M Theaker, C Thomas, D W W Thomas, M Thomas, L G Thomas, L J Tyler-Lloyd and T M White declared a personal interest in Minute 205 "Admissions Arrangements 2015-2016".
- 2) Councillor J A Hale declared a personal interest in Minute 206 "Application for Designation of Swansea within the World Health Organisation (WHO) European Healthy Cities, Network Phase VI.
- 3) Councillors J P Curtice, J A Hale and C A Holley declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015".
- 4) Councillor P Downing declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay, speak and vote on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters affecting Corporate Building Services other than matters that directly affect his brother by specific reference to his post.
- 5) Councillor F M Gordon declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that she had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay and speak on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters that directly affect Education other than matters that directly affect her son by specific reference to his post.
- 6) Councillor A J Jones declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay and speak on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters affecting IT Training in Social Services and Adult Education other than matters that directly affect his wife by specific reference to his post.
- 7) Councillor S M Jones declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that she had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay, speak on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters affecting Education, Teachers and

Minutes of the Council (Tuesday, 18 March 2014)
Cont'd

Schools other than matters that directly affect her son by specific reference to his post.

- 8) Councillor B G Owen declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay, speak but not vote on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters other than matters that directly affect his son and daughter by specific reference to their posts.
- 9) Councillor J C Richards declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that she had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay, speak and vote on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters affecting other than matters that directly affect her sister-in-law and husband's cousin by specific reference to their posts.
- 10) Councillor C Thomas declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that she had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay and speak on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters affecting Education, Teachers and Corporate Building Services other than matters that directly affect her daughter-in-law and grandson by specific reference to their posts.
- 11) Councillor G Tanner declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated she had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay, speak but not vote on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters and any other matters other than matters that directly affect her son by specific reference to her post.
- 12) Councillor M Thomas declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay, speak but not vote on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters other than matters that directly affect his wife by specific reference to her post.
- 13) Councillor T M White declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and stated that he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to stay and speak on any item relating to general staff employment, on budget matters other than matters that directly affect his daughter by specific reference to her post.
- 14) Councillors J Newbury and C Thomas declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute 209 "Nomination of Lord Mayor Elect and Deputy Lord Mayor Elect 2014-2015" and left the meeting prior to its discussion.

Officers:

- 1) J Straw declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015" and left the meeting prior to its discussion.

- 2) P Arran, G Borsden, H Evans, M Hawes, R Owen, S Rees, P Roberts, C Sivers, D Taylor and D Yeates declared a personal interest in Minute 207 "Pay Policy 2014-2015".

198. **MINUTES.**

RESOLVED that the following Minutes be approved and signed as a correct record:

- 1) Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 18 February 2014.

199. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL.**

1) Condolences

a) Honorary Alderman and Former Councillor Derek H Cox

The Chair of Council referred with sadness to the recent death of Honorary Alderman and former Councillor Derek H Cox. Honorary Alderman Cox was first elected in 1965 to represent Landore on the former Swansea Borough Council.

He then served on the West Glamorgan County Council, where he was elected Chair of Council in 1987-1988, before becoming a City and County of Swansea Councillor following Local Government Reorganisation in 1996. He stood down in 2004 having spent 39 years as a Councillor.

In 2005, former Councillor Cox had the title Honorary Alderman bestowed on him.

All present stood in silence as a mark of sympathy and respect.

2) Parc Williams, Loughor – UK Fields in Trust Awards

The Chair of Council was pleased to announce that Parc Williams in Lower Loughor cleaned-up at the UK Fields in Trust Awards, thanks to a community which goes the extra mile to keep their local park spic and span.

Parc Williams beat off opposition from over 100 entries in England and Scotland to collect the 'Getting Active on a Fields in Trust Site' award following a range of activities and campaigns to spruce up the park in partnership with Swansea Council's Parks service who own and manage the site.

Fields in Trust is a UK organisation which safeguards, protects and promotes more than 2,000 green spaces across the country. It was established in 1925 and aims to ensure that everyone has access to free, local outdoor space for sport, play and recreation.

Fields in Trust protects outdoor recreational spaces by Deeds of Dedication. This ensures that before any field protected by the trust can be disposed for development by the landowner, the owner will require the permission of Fields in Trust.

Parc Williams was successful in the 'Getting Active' category because it offers all ages in the local community the opportunity to take part in active recreation.

Eileen Bartlett, Vernon Bartlett, Marilyn Brayley, Jen Sanger, Jane Adkin and Dewi Bowen were present to receive the award.

3) Eileen Bartlett – UK Fields in Trust Awards

The Chair of Council was also pleased to congratulate Eileen Bartlett, secretary of Friends of Parc Williams for receiving an 'Honourable Mention' in the Community Champion category of the UK Fields in Trust Awards for her leadership, enthusiasm and commitment.

Eileen received her commendation for her commitment to the cause which attracted the attention of Fields in Trust patron Prince William, who said she was a worthy contender in the UK Community Champion category.

Since 2009, the Friends of Parc Williams volunteer group has worked closely with Swansea Council staff to make improvements to the park and organise events and activities for the local community. The park became a QE2 protected field in celebration of the 2012 Diamond Jubilee.

Cllr Christine Richards, Swansea Council's Cabinet Member for Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy, is a founder member and Chair of Friends of Parc Williams.

4) Reena Owen – Corporate Director of Environment

The Chair of Council stated that Reena Owen, Corporate Director of Environment would be retiring from the Authority on 4 April 2014. He thanked Reena Owen for her hard work and dedicated service to the City and County of Swansea.

He stated that she commenced employment with the City and County of Swansea on 18 March 1996 which was 18 years ago to the day. He wished her a happy and healthy retirement.

The Leader of the Council echoed the sentiments of the Chair of Council by also wishing Reena Owen a happy and healthy retirement. The Leader of the Council stated that Reena Owen had served the Council diligently over the past 18 years and outlined her as a model Officer for all Officers to follow and aspire towards.

The Leader of the Largest Opposition Political Group and the other Opposition Political Group Leaders also paid tribute to Reena Owen

Reena Owen thanked all for their kind words.

200. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.**

1) **Council Summons and Cabinet Agenda to be Circulated 7 Clear Working Days in advance of the Meetings**

The Leader of the Council stated that current legislation required a minimum period for agendas to be circulated prior to the meetings being held. That period was 3 clear working days prior to the date of the meeting.

He stated that as of the Annual Meeting in May 2014, he would be ensuring that all Council Summonses and Cabinet Agendas would be published 7 clear working days prior to the date of the meeting.

This action was being taken as a further commitment to the Authority's desire to be more open and transparent.

2) **Mark James (son of the late, former Councillor Dennis H James) - London Marathon**

The Leader of the Council stated that Mark James, son of the late, former Councillor Dennis H James) was in training to run the London Marathon 2014 in memory of his dad. All monies raised will be given to Pancreatic Cancer UK, a charity dedicated to carrying out research into and raising awareness of pancreatic cancer which took the life of his father.

The Leader of the Council urged all Councillors to contribute by using the following link www.justgiving.com/mark-james30

201. **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 Head of Democratic Services questions in relation to Minute 208 "Councillor Learning and Development Strategy".
 - a) "Page 152, Paragraph 9.15 states that 'Councillor Development events will be placed in individual Councillors electronic calendars' and Paragraph 9.16 states that "At each session the attendance will be recorded and circulated to the Member Support Unit for recording purposes".
 - 1) How many such development events have taken place to date?

2) What is the attendance record at each event?

The Head of Democratic Services stated that a written response would be provided.

202. **PUBLIC PRESENTATION - GOWER POWER COMMUNITY CO-OPERATIVE.**

Ant Flanagan and Alex Bird gave a presentation to Council on the work of the Gower Power Community Co-operative. The Gower Power Community Co-operative is a democratically run social enterprise that supports community members to take ownership of their local resources. Further information may be found at www.GowerPower.coop

The Sustainability Cabinet Member (Councillor S E Crouch) thanked them for their presentation.

203. **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES.**

The Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member stated that she had one verbal amendment to the report which had been circulated.

She referred to the report stating that the Leader of the Council had not made any changes to the Authority's Outside Bodies.

RESOLVED that the membership of the Council Bodies listed below be amended as follows:

- 1) **Scrutiny Programme Committee**
Remove Councillor C E Lloyd.
Add Councillor R V Smith.

204. **CORPORATE HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY.**

The Citizen, Community Engagement and Democracy Cabinet Member submitted a report which outlined the Authority's revised Corporate Health and Safety Policy.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) The revised Corporate Health and Safety Policy be approved and adopted;
- 2) The Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive sign the Policy.

205. **ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2015/2016.**

The Learning and Skills Cabinet Member submitted a report which sought to determine the Admission Arrangements for maintained schools for the academic year 2015-2016.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) The proposed Admission Arrangements for 2015-2016 for Nursery Classes as set out in Appendix A of the report be approved;
- 2) The proposed Admission Arrangements for 2015-2016 for Infant, Junior, and Primary Schools as set out in Appendix B of the report be approved;
- 3) The proposed Admission Arrangements for 2015-2016 for Secondary Schools as set out in Appendix B of the report be approved;
- 4) The proposed Admission Arrangements / Criteria for Entry for 2015-2016 for Sixth Forms set in Appendix B of the report be approved;
- 5) The Schedule of Events set out in Appendix C of the report be approved;
- 6) The Admission Numbers for Primary and Secondary Schools as set out in Appendix D of the report be noted.

206. **APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF SWANSEA WITHIN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO) EUROPEAN HEALTHY CITIES NETWORK PHASE VI.**

The Wellbeing Cabinet Member submitted a report which sought to inform the Council about the opportunity to apply for designation within Phase VI of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, the goals and benefits of the programme and the application requirements.

RESOLVED that Council supports the application of Swansea to be designated as a member of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network under Phase VI.

Note: Councillor E W Fitzgerald asked the Wellbeing Cabinet Member the following question:

- 1) "Page 78, Paragraph E states 'City Statement. Cities will make a statement on how they will benefit from being a member of the WHO European Healthy Cities network'.

Can that statement please be shared with all Councillors?

The Wellbeing Cabinet Member stated that he would ensure that the City Statement was shared with all Councillors.

207. **PAY POLICY 2014/2015.**

The Head of Human Resources submitted a report which sought approval of the Pay Policy 2014-2015.

RESOLVED that the Pay Policy 2014-2015 be adopted.

Note: The Chief Executive withdrew from the meeting prior to consideration of this item.

208. **AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION.**

The Chair of Council, Monitoring Officer and Head of Democratic Services jointly submitted a report which sought to make amendments in order to simplify, improve and / or add to the Council Constitution in relation to the following areas:

- 1) Parts 3 and 4 – Relating to Licensing Committee and Licensing Sub Committee;
- 2) Part 4 – Contract Procedure Rules;
- 3) Part 4 – Scrutiny Procedure Rules;
- 4) Part 4 – Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) Officer Appointment Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED that the changes to the Council Constitution as outlined in Paragraph 3 of the report be adopted.

209. **NOMINATION OF LORD MAYOR ELECT AND DEPUTY LORD MAYOR ELECT 2014-2015.**

The Chair of Council, Monitoring Officer and Head of Democratic Services jointly submitted a report which sought to nominate the Lord Mayor Elect and Deputy Lord Mayor Elect for 2014-2015.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) Councillor Ceinwen Thomas be nominated as Lord Mayor Elect 2014-2015;
- 2) Councillor John Newbury be nominated as Deputy Lord Mayor Elect 2014-2015;
- 3) The proposed amendments to the Election of Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor Protocol as outlined in paragraph 3 of the report be adopted.

210. **COUNCILLOR LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.**

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report which set out the Councillors Learning and Development Strategy. The Strategy sought to provide a framework for the development of key skills and knowledge for all Councillors and assist in the achievement of the Corporate Priorities.

RESOLVED that the Councillors Learning and Development Strategy be adopted.

211. **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 in the Council Summons.

No supplementary questions required a written response:

2) **Part B 'Questions not requiring Supplementary Questions'**

No Part B 'Questions not requiring Supplementary Questions' were submitted.

212. **SCRUTINY DISPATCHES.**

The Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee submitted an information report which provided Council with a progress report on various scrutiny activities.

213. **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.

214. **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 6.12 pm

CHAIR