

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of East Staffordshire Borough Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Monday 25th September 2023.

Present:

Councillor S A Hussain (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors	M Ackroyd	P Hudson
	A Afsar	Mrs J Jones
	G Allen	P Krupski
	Mrs B Ashcroft	Z Krupski
	A Bailey	Ms A J Legg
	L Beech	R Lock
	L Bullock	A Mansfield
	A A Chaudhry	S McKiernan (Deputy Mayor)
	A Clarke	S Sankey
	M T Fitzpatrick	M Shrive
	D F Fletcher	M Slater
	S P Gaskin	S Slater
	Mrs V J Gould	C Smedley
	T Hadley	K Smith BEM
	R Hawkins	C V Whittaker
	M Holton	C D Wileman
	M Huckerby	

Officers Present:

The Chief Executive, the Head of Corporate and Environment Services, the Interim Head of Regeneration and Development, the Interim Chief Financial Officer, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer, the Corporate and Commercial Manager, the Digital Communications Officer, the Democratic Services Officer and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B G Peters, L Walker and P Walker.

36/23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

37/23 **MINUTES**

The public minutes of the meeting of the Borough Council held on 3rd July 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST Councillor	THOSE ABSTAINING Councillor
M Ackroyd		G Allen
A Afsar		Mrs B Ashcroft
A Bailey		L Beech
L Bullock		Mrs V J Gould
A A Chaudhry		T Hadley
A Clarke		C V Whittaker
M T Fitzpatrick		
D F Fletcher		
S P Gaskin		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith BEM		
C D Wileman		

38/23 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor requested all present to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of Quig-Diop Hussein who was involved in a cycling accident in Burton upon Trent on 13th September 2023 and also of the individuals who had lost their lives in the Ukraine war.

39/23 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

40/23 **MOTION ON NOTICE**

Councillor M T Fitzpatrick had put forward the following motion, in accordance with Rule 14, which had been duly seconded:

“That the Mayor present a medal to long serving officers in recognition of their service to the Council of 35 years and above”.

Upon a vote being taken the Mayor declared the motion was carried.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST Councillor	THOSE ABSTAINING Councillor
M Ackroyd		
A Afsar		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
D F Fletcher		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith BEM		
C V Whittaker		
C D Wileman		

The following officers were presented with a certificate and medal:

Name	Position
Helen Brooks	Land Charges Clerk
Lorraine Collier	Shared Service Senior Officer – RBCC
Nicola Needham	Shared Service Senior Officer – RBCC

41/23 **STAFFORDSHIRE HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CODE OF JOINT WORKING PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE CONSTITUTION**

The report of the Head of Corporate and Environment Services on the proposed code of Health Scrutiny joint working arrangements between Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire District and Borough Councils was considered. Appendix 1: Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee Code of Joint Working had been circulated with the report.

Resolved:

- 1) That the Code of Joint Working as provided at Appendix 1 of the report be adopted;
- 2) That the Monitoring Officer make the necessary amendments to the Constitution as referred to in Paragraph 4.3 of the report.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST Councillor	THOSE ABSTAINING Councillor
M Ackroyd		
A Afsar		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
D F Fletcher		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith BEM		
C V Whittaker		
C D Wileman		

42/23 **APPOINTMENT OF S151 OFFICER**

The report of the Chief Executive on the appointment of Chief Financial Officer/S151 officer and confirmation of senior management arrangements was considered.

Council noted that during July, August and September, the Council carried out a public recruitment and selection process to recruit to the vacancy of Chief Financial Officer/S151 officer. A panel interview comprised the Leader of the Council (Councillor M T Fitzpatrick); The Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury Management (Councillor A A Chaudhry); the Leader of the Opposition (Councillor G Allen) and the Chief Executive and was supported by the Shared Service Centre Manager (HR,OD and Payments). Following the Panel interview, the Panel

members assessed the information gained from the whole selection process and Lloyd Haynes CPFA was found to be the successful candidate. Lisa Turner CPFA (interim Chief Financial Officer/S151 Officer) had since resigned from the Council's employment and was willing and able to continue as Chief Financial Officer/S151 Officer until 25th October 2023. During week beginning 18th September 2023, a member panel convened, consisting of the Leader of the Council (Councillor M T Fitzpatrick); Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury Management (Councillor A A Chaudhry) and Councillor S Sankey, to reach a unanimous decision to recommend to Council to appoint Stephen Fitzgerald CPFA, to act as interim Chief Financial Officer/S151 officer from 26th October 2023 until 1st January 2024.

Councillors wished to place on record their thanks to Lisa Turner CPFA for all her hard work and wished her well for the future.

Resolved:

- 1) That Lloyd Haynes CPFA be appointed as Chief Financial Officer/S151 officer of the Council pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 as recommended by the Member Panel, with effect from 2nd January 2024;
- 2) That Lisa Turner's reappointment as Interim Chief Financial Officer/S151 Officer be extended until 25th October 2023 (One month from 25th September 2023);
- 3) That Stephen Fitzgerald CPFA be appointed as interim Chief Financial Officer/S151 Officer from 26th October 2023 until 1st January 2024;
- 4) That the new senior management arrangements be noted.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST Councillor	THOSE ABSTAINING Councillor
M Ackroyd		
A Afsar		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
D F Fletcher		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith BEM		
C V Whittaker		
C D Wileman		

43/23 **BURTON HIGH STREET PROJECT CONCEPT PROPOSAL**

The report of the Head of Regeneration and Development on the concept for the regeneration of Old Bass House in Burton upon Trent and the recommendations from the feasibility study was considered. Appendix 1 Burton Brewing Heritage Centre Interim Report July 2023 would be considered in the private part of the meeting.

Council noted that as part of the development of the Towns Fund programme and proposal to incorporate the brewing collection into the High Street project, in Spring 2023 ESBC commissioned Amion Consulting's Visitor and Leisure Team to

undertake a feasibility study to explore options for a modern and immersive brewing experience based within Bass House. The vision outlined within the report was for a Reimagined Brewery Centre – a new destination, based around Bass House, that would offer Burton residents, visitors to the town, brewing professionals and those with an interest in brewing, a unique opportunity to experience, enjoy and learn about brewing in the very best place in the world to do it. Council noted the concept had four key elements:

- 1) Burton Beer Hall;
- 2) Brewing Enterprise Centre (BEC);
- 3) The National Brewery Collection;
- 4) Beer Garden (Public Realm).

It was proposed by Councillor R Hawkins and seconded by Councillor M T Fitzpatrick that:

“the Burton Brewing Heritage Centre concept, as described in Appendix 1 of the report, be further developed into a business case for potential external funding, including possible LUF3 funding and Heritage Lottery Fund (HL) bid”

An amendment was proposed by Councillor A Clarke and seconded by Councillor G Allen. The amendment read as follows:

“To replace recommendation 13.2 with the below amendment:

13.2 To fully consult and approval from the Heritage Working Group and the National Brewery Heritage Trust on the proposed Burton Brewing Heritage Centre, before progressing any further into the development of a full business case;

13.3 To consult the public for a period of no less than 8 weeks on the proposed burton Brewing Heritage Centre concept and ensure that a statistically relevant sample size of residents is obtained, prior to progressing further development into a full business case;

13.4 To approve the Burton Brewing Heritage Centre concept, as described in Appendix 1, to be further developed into a business case for potential external funding, including possible LUF3 funding and Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid, following the completion of recommendations 13.2 & 13.3”

The amendment was debated.

Upon a vote being taken, the Mayor declared the amendment was defeated.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST Councillor	THOSE ABSTAINING Councillor
M Ackroyd	A Afsar	C V Whittaker
G Allen	A Bailey	
Mrs B Ashcroft	A A Chaudhry	
L Beech	M T Fitzpatrick	
L Bullock	D F Fletcher	
A Clarke	T Hadley	
S P Gaskin	R Hawkins	
Mrs V J Gould	M Holton	
P Hudson	M Huckerby	
Mrs J Jones	S A Hussain	
R Lock	P Krupski	
S Sankey	Z Krupski	
C Smedley	Ms A J Legg	
C D Wileman	A Mansfield	
	S McKiernan	
	M Shrive	
	M Slater	
	S Slater	
	K Smith BEM	

The original motion therefore became the substantive motion. In accordance with the voting the Mayor declared the substantive motion as carried.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST Councillor	THOSE ABSTAINING Councillor
M Ackroyd		
A Afsar		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
D F Fletcher		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith BEM		
C V Whittaker		
C D Wileman		

44/23 **NOTICE OF MOTION**

Councillor A Clarke had put forward the following motion, in accordance with Rule 14, which had been duly seconded:

“This Council notes the recent announcements that Wilko Limited has entered administration and will cease trading, and commits to supporting individuals employed by Wilko Limited, as the company draws its operations to a close. This support will be offered to people employed in both stores in Burton and Uttoxeter as well as any East Staffordshire resident who works at other sites outside the Borough. Specifically, the Council will;

- hold a jobs fair before the end of October, inviting all impacted employees to attend and providing specialist support to seek new employment.
- Communicate vacancies within the Council to workers impacted by the announcement, through its Human Resources department, and support offering retraining opportunities for such vacancies, subject to successful interview process.
- contact owners of retail units and any other commercial premises currently being used by Wilko Limited, to offer help and advice to ensure these spaces can be used in other ways and not left vacant.”

The Mayor invited Council to debate the motion under Rule 16 (Rules of debate).

Upon a vote being taken the Mayor declared the motion was carried.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST Councillor	THOSE ABSTAINING Councillor
M Ackroyd		
A Afsar		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
A Bailey		
L Beech		
L Bullock		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
M T Fitzpatrick		
D F Fletcher		
S P Gaskin		
Mrs V J Gould		
T Hadley		
R Hawkins		
M Holton		
M Huckerby		
P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
P Krupski		
Z Krupski		
Ms A J Legg		
R Lock		
A Mansfield		
S McKiernan		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
M Slater		
S Slater		
C Smedley		
K Smith BEM		
C V Whittaker		
C D Wileman		

45/23 **QUESTIONS**

One question had been received in advance of the meeting and has been appended to the minutes.

46/23 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:-

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the Press and public be excluded from the following item on the agenda for the Meeting

as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

