

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of East Staffordshire Borough Council held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Tuesday 19th March 2019.

Present:

Councillor C Smith (Mayor) in the Chair

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| Councillors | Mrs P L Ackroyd | S A Hussain |
| | S Andjelkovic | Mrs J A Killoran |
| | E W R Barker | Mrs J F Jessel |
| | M J Bowering | A Johnson |
| | K J Bulth | R Johnston |
| | R J Clarke | C B Jones |
| | R A Faulkner | D C Leese |
| | M Fitzpatrick | Ms A J Legg |
| | D F Fletcher | G E Marjoram |
| | D Florence-Jukes | L G Milner |
| | S P Gaskin | S McGarry |
| | D Goodfellow | S McKiernan |
| | Mrs V Gould | B G Peters |
| | R G W Grosvenor | Mrs B Toon |
| | G Hall | P Walker |
| | P Hudson | C V Whittaker |
| | | C Wileman (Deputy Mayor) |

Officers Present:

The Chief Executive, the Heads of Service (Sal Khan and Mark Rizk), the Monitoring Officer, the Deputy Monitoring Officer, and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A A Chaudhry, H Hall, Mrs J Jones, and Mrs L Shelton.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Mayor read out a statement which is appended to these minutes.

299/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

300/19 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

301/19 **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 remainder of the Meeting as it was 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 the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Statement from Councillor Chris Smith, the Mayor of East Staffordshire

“I am very proud to have served the Council as Mayor for the last 10 months, I have carried out the role with dignity and honour and have tried to carry this forward without using politics. On this occasion I allegedly liked a repost of what I believe was satire about the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan. My personal feelings regarding the way the Mayor of London conducts his affairs are my own and do not reflect the office of Mayor of East Staffordshire or the Borough Council but I do not think Mr Khan is doing a good job as London’s Executive Mayor. That is a comment on his political approach to the role and although Mayors have to be apolitical on this occasion my judgement slipped. Other Mayors have themselves found issues in retaining political impartiality and I now fully appreciate that difficulty. I am sorry if I have offended any one by liking this particular post. There must be thousands of satirical posts out there that could offend many people and I want to distance myself from this, and to this end I have removed myself from any form of social media whilst I am Mayor.”