

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

Thursday, 21 May 2020

PRESENT: Councillor Choudary (Chair); Councillor Sargeant (Deputy Chair); Councillors Malpas, Ansell, Ashraf, Aziz, Beardsworth, Birch, Bottwood, Cali, Chunga, Davenport, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Eldred, Flavell, Golby, Graystone, Hadland, Hallam, Haque, Hibbert, J Hill, Joyce, Kilbride, King, Lane, Larratt, B Markham, M Markham, Marriott, McCutcheon, Meredith, Nunn, Oldham, Parekh, Patel, Russell, Smith, Stone and Walker

The Mayor announced that Councillor John Caswell had died recently and as a mark of respect invited all those present to join him in a minute's silence.

Councillor Golby then paid tribute Councillor Caswell, who had been both a friend and respected colleague to him. He had been both a Borough and Parish Councillor (for Duston Parish Council) and Mayor of Northampton for the year 2014-2015. Amongst many duties, Councillor Caswell had been a long serving Member of the Licensing Committee. Councillor Golby acknowledged that Councillor Caswell had been the driving force behind the Pendle Road Community Centre. He added, that in his opinion, the Pendle Road Community Centre should be renamed the John Caswell Centre. Councillor Golby concluded that Councillor Caswell had been both a family man and a Politician.

Councillor Stone paid tribute to Councillor Caswell. She referred to the photograph of him on both the Northampton Borough Council and Duston Parish Council websites commented how well these photos represented him. She concluded her tribute commenting that Councillor Caswell was a very able "people" person.

Councillor Beardsworth paid tribute to Councillor Caswell. She advised that she had known Councillor Caswell for many years and served with him on the Licensing Committee. Councillor Beardsworth recognised the support that Councillors' partners give to them and conveyed her condolences to Mrs Caswell, his children and grandchildren. Councillor Beardsworth concluded her tribute by agreeing that it should be considered that the Pendle Road Community Centre is renamed the Caswell Centre.

1. ELECTION OF NEW MAYOR

Councillor Lane proposed and Councillor Nunn seconded "That Councillor Brian W Sargeant be elected Mayor of the Borough of Northampton for the ensuing year".

The motion was carried and Councillor Brian W Sargeant was appointed Mayor and accepted office by making and delivering to the Chief Executive, the Declaration of Acceptance to Office.

The Mayor then took the Chair.

3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Stone proposed and Councillor Patel seconded “That Councillor Rufia Ashraf be appointed to the office of Deputy Mayor”.

The motion was carried and Councillor Ashraf was appointed Deputy Mayor and accepted office by making and delivering to the Chief Executive, the Declaration of Acceptance to Office.

2. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor Marriott proposed and Councillor Stone seconded; “That the thanks of the Council be given to Councillor Nazim Choudary and Maroof Iftikhar for the able and courteous manner in which they have discharged their duties as Mayor and Mayoress”.

The motion was carried.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

5. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Roberts.

6. LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP

Councillor Lane announced that Councillor Nunn be appointed Leader of the Conservative Group and that Councillor Larratt be appointed deputy Leader of the Conservative Group.

7. LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE LABOUR GROUP

Councillor Russell announced that Councillor Stone be appointed Leader of the Labour Group and that Councillor Birch be appointed deputy Leader of the Labour Group.

8. LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP

Councillor B Markham announced that Councillor Beardsworth be appointed Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group and that Councillor Meredith be appointed deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group.

9. COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Mayor announced that the meetings of the Council would take place on 15 June 2020, 20 July 2020, 14 September 2020, 2 November 2020, 18 January 2021, 22 February 2021 and 8 March 2021.

10. COMMITTEE PROPORTIONALITY

Councillor Nunn submitted a report which sought Council’s approval of the group proportionality of seats of each Committee.

Councillor Larratt seconded adoption of the report.

RESOLVED:

- . That the number of seats on each Committee as set out in the report be approved.
- . That the representation of the political groups be as set out in this report.

11. CABINET

Councillor Nunn announced the appointments made to Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet for 2020/2021 as set out in the report.

12. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES

Councillor Nunn proposed a report which sought approval for the appointment to Committees for the ensuing year.

Councillor Larratt seconded the report.

Councillor Russell proposed and Councillor Stone seconded that Councillor Cali is a member of the Planning Committee in place of Councillor Joyce.

RESOLVED:

That subject to the amendment of Councillor Cali being a member of the Planning Committee, the appointments to Committees for 2020/2021 as set out in the report be confirmed.

13. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Nunn proposed a report which sought approval for the appointment to Charities and Outside Bodies for 2020/2021.

Councillor Larratt seconded the report.

Councillor Russell proposed and Councillor Stone seconded that Councillor Duffy is a member of the Northamptonshire Police, Crime and Fire Panel in place of Councillor G Eales.

RESOLVED:

That, subject to Councillor Duffy being a member of the East Northamptonshire Police, Crime and Fire Panel in place of Councillor G Eales, the appointments to Charities and Outside Bodies be approved.

14. CONSULTATION APPOINTMENTS

Councillor Nunn proposed the Consultation Appointments as set out at item 14 of the agenda.

Councillor Larratt seconded the adoption of the Consultation Appointments.

Councillor Russell proposed, and Councillor Stone seconded, that Councillor Marriott is included in the membership of Civic Matters, in place of Councillor McCutcheon.

RESOLVED:

That subject to Councillor Marriott being included in the membership of Civic Matters, in place of Councillor McCutcheon, the Consultation Appointments, as set out in the report, be agreed.

The meeting concluded at 12:08 pm