



Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council held on 24 July 2024 when there were present:-

Mayor: Cllr L McCarthy Calvert

Cllr S Ainsley	Cllr J Knott
Cllr D Blackwell	Cllr K Knott
Cllr K Bowker	Cllr R Lillis
Cllr L Breading	Cllr D Macpherson
Cllr S Brooke	Cllr P May
Cllr T Copsey	Cllr S Mountford
Cllr M Cortes	Cllr N Pachy
Cllr M Dearson	Cllr B Palmer
Cllr L Dixon	Cllr J Payne
Cllr M Fuller	Cllr C Sach
Cllr T Gibson	Cllr R Savage
Cllr A Harbinson	Cllr D Silk
Cllr N Harvey	Cllr D Thomas
Cllr G Howlett	Cllr G Watson
Cllr J Huntman	Cllr G Withers
Cllr D Jones	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs N Benson, B Campagna, A Edwards, W Gibson and P Greig.

OFFICERS PRESENT

A Hutchings	- Chief Executive
C Adlem	- Director, Corporate & Customer
I Butt	- Director, Place & Communities
M Harwood-White	- Director, Commercial & Assets
A Law	- Assistant Director, Legal & Democratic Services

102 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

103 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Special meeting of Council held on 17 July 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

104 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, LEADER AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Mayor made the following announcement:

“I’m aware that I’ve not made any announcements about my Mayoral charities for this year, 2024/25. Rather than fundraising for specific charities this year I would very much like to help any local charities that would benefit from my fundraising efforts during the course of this municipal year in office. I would therefore like to invite any of our small local charities to contact me to apply for funding for their charitable activities and we will be taking this on an ad hoc basis through the year. My thoughts are that we can maybe help more charities throughout the year with smaller amounts going to more charities. I know that smaller amounts can really help small charities locally rather than larger amounts going to one or two charities for the whole year. I really hope that people can spread the word and if anyone thinks they could benefit from this, please get in touch with the Mayor’s office.

Since taking office in May I have been honoured to lead two flag raising ceremonies outside our Council offices commemorating the 80th anniversary of the D Day landings on 6th June and Armed Forces Day on 28th June. I’ve also been privileged to attend a number of events representing the Council as Mayor including the Kings Awards for Voluntary Service Reception on 12 June which recognised voluntary services providing excellent services to communities across Essex, including Southend-on-Sea, Thurrock and here in Castle Point. I attended the Junior Music Festival at the Cliffs Pavilion, which is a wonderful celebration that happens every year and all of the schools across the region are invited to take part in that. I opened an exhibition of the 80th anniversary of a B17 crash at Canvey Point and attended a memorial service for the same event. I was also honoured to take part in lots of local sports days at the end of this school year; one of them was a sponsored sitting sports day to raise funds to purchase a powered wheelchair for a pupil at Thundersley Primary School and I’m delighted to say that that fundraising target has been met and she now has enough funds for her specialised wheelchair.

I was also honoured to attend and present medals at the BATIC and Canvey Swimming Galas in July at Runnymede Leisure Centre.

In November 2023 the One Love Project, based in Southend-on-Sea, was awarded the Kings Award for Voluntary Service. On 12 July I attended an event to celebrate the presentation of the award to the Project by His Majesty’s Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Mrs Jennifer Tolhurst.

I’ve also visited CISCA House on 18 July to meet their volunteers and patrons and see the brilliant services that they offer there; it’s a wonderful community service for the Over 55’s that offers connections, friendships and activities and they also offer hot lunches. I encourage you to spread the word if this would be of benefit to any of our friends and neighbours within the borough.

Last week I attended the centenary celebration for William Read Primary School which was personally delightful as it was my own primary school so I was thrilled to be there and revisit as I hadn't been there since around 1989. I also attended the Junior Duke Celebration Assembly at Montgomerie Primary School; I presented certificates and congratulated the pupils for having completed the Junior Duke award and learning new life skills to help create independence, self motivation and empowerment – noble endeavours, I'm sure you'll agree."

There were no other announcements.

105 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

106 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

There were none.

107 BUSINESS FROM THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

There was none.

108 URGENT DECISIONS

There were none.

109 REPORTS FROM THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES

There were none.

110 APPOINTMENT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIR 2024/25

Council considered the report of the Assistant Director, Legal & Democratic Services asking Council to appoint a new Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2024/25. It was noted that, due to work commitments, Cllr Thomas had not been able to take up appointment as Chair but was able to continue to serve as a Committee Member. Cllr Watson had been nominated as Chair and was already serving as a member of the committee. As such, there was no change to the number of Members sitting on the committee or its political balance.

Cllr D Blackwell moved a Motion, seconded by Cllr S Mountford, that Cllr G Watson be appointed as Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2024/25 and this was approved unanimously on a show of hands.

Resolved

That Cllr G Watson be appointed as Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the 2023/2025 Municipal Year.

111 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE MID AND SOUTH ESSEX INTEGRATED CARE PARTNERSHIP 2024/25

Council considered the report of the Assistant Director, Legal & Democratic Services inviting Council to appoint one representative and one substitute to the Integrated Care Partnership for 2024/2025.

It was noted that the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) was a statutory committee of the Integrated Care Service and was responsible for producing a strategy to meet the health and wellbeing needs of residents. As a key partner to the ICP, the Council was able to appoint a representative, plus their substitute, to attend meetings.

Cllr D Blackwell moved a Motion, seconded by Cllr S Mountford, that Cllr L McCarthy-Calvert be appointed to the ICP and that Cllr R Lillis be appointed as substitute and this was agreed unanimously on a show of hands.

Resolved

That Cllr L McCarthy-Calvert be appointed to the Integrated Care Partnership for 2024/2025 and that Cllr R Lillis be appointed as a named Substitute to the Integrated Care Partnership for 2024/2025.

112 REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Leader provided the following update on the work of the Cabinet:

“At its meeting on 20 March Cabinet asked officers to provide a full report to Cabinet setting out the details for the Community Safety Partnership, Community Safety Plan and budget implications. I would like to thank Cllr Russ Savage for all his hard work on the Community Safety Partnership. Community Safety is one of the key priorities for the borough, to make people feel safe. Cllr Savage has worked extremely hard with the officers and the Police and we’re lucky to have received funding of over £1 million for new CCTV cameras all around the borough which will be monitored by Southend City Council’s monitoring system, which should make our community feel a lot safer.

The Cabinet celebrated the Council’s recent success in securing external funding to deliver health and wellbeing projects for the benefit of the local community. This included securing £227,000 from the Public Health Accelerator Bid to be delivered over two years to launch the ‘Find Your Active Referral Campaign’. The Council will evolve the Council’s’ recreational facilities, including leisure centres, community halls and open spaces into Active Wellbeing hubs that aim to address the specific health and wellbeing needs of our diverse communities. The project will prioritise outreach to those with the greatest health needs and those not currently taking advantage of the Council’s recreational facilities. The project will focus on understanding community needs, addressing health inequalities and provide tailored activities to improve the mental and physical health of our communities.

The Council has invested £444,000 to renovate the 3G football pitch at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre with completion expected imminently. The Council has secured a Football Association small grant of £4,800 to contribute to the purchase of new football goals. Thank you to Cllr Tom Gibson for all his hard work on this; this will be good for our local community.

The Council has secured £98,800 in match funding from Sport England Swimming Pool Support Fund. This will contribute towards the £197,600 investment required to install solar panels on the swimming pool roof at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre. This will reduce energy consumption and is estimated to result in annual utility savings of £30,00 per year.

At its meeting on 17 July, Cabinet approved a Castle Point Borough Council draft Waste and Recycling Strategy for 2024-2028 for public consultation and agreed that the results of the extensive public consultation exercise should be reported back to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for review. Waste is a service used by all residents within our borough and any changes in our waste collection service will impact on all of them. It is of key importance to this administration that we engage with our local community and listen to our residents' views on our proposed strategy.

Cabinet also approved the heads of terms and granted a lease for part of the Council offices to the USP College next door. The Council is operating a hybrid working environment with staff working from home, as well as at the Council offices. This has provided us with the opportunity for the Council to make more efficient use of the building, bringing in additional income to the Council, while at the same time ensuring that the college can continue to flourish and provide services to an increased number of students.

Thank you, Members – that concludes my update.”

113 NOTICES OF MOTION

There were none.

114 PETITIONS

There were none.

Council – 24 July 2024

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm.

Chair

Date

If you would like these minutes in large print, Braille or another language please contact 0207 520 1431 or email translations@languageline.co.uk .