

# EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of East Staffordshire Borough Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall on Monday 23rd September 2024 at 6.30pm.

## Present:

Councillor S McKiernan (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors	A Afsar	P Krupski
	G Allen	Z Krupski
	A Bailey	Ms A J Legg
	L Beech	R Lock
	L Bullock	A Mansfield
	A Clarke	S Sankey
	D F Fletcher	M Shrive
	M T Fitzpatrick	M Slater
	S P Gaskin	S Slater
	Mrs V J Gould	C Smedley
	T Hadley	K Smith BEM
	R Hawkins	L Walker
	M Holton	P Walker
	P Hudson	C Whittaker
	S A Hussain	C Wileman
	Mrs J Jones	

## Officers Present:

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

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors A A Chaudhry, Mrs B George, M Huckerby and B G Peters.

At the commencement of the meeting all present observed a minutes' silence in memory of Alderman Michael J Bowering who had passed away recently.

### 124/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

### 125/24 PUBLIC MINUTES

**Resolved:**

That the Public Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough Council held on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor G Allen Councillor A Bailey Councillor L Beech Councillor L Bullock Councillor A Clarke Councillor M T Fitzpatrick Councillor S P Gaskin Councillor Mrs V J Gould Councillor T Hadley Councillor R Hawkins Councillor M Holton Councillor P Hudson Councillor S A Hussain Councillor Mrs J Jones Councillor Ms A J Legg Councillor R Lock Councillor A Mansfield Councillor S McKiernan Councillor S Sankey Councillor M Shrive Councillor M Slater Councillor S Slater Councillor C Smedley Councillor K Smith BEM Councillor L Walker Councillor P Walker Councillor C V Whittaker Councillor C D Wileman		Councillor A Afsar Councillor D F Fletcher Councillor P Krupski Councillor Z Krupski

126/24 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements from the Mayor, Leader of the Council or the Proper Officer.

127/24 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

128/24 **MOTION ON NOTICE**

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

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

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 decisions was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor A Afsar Councillor G Allen Councillor A Bailey Councillor L Beech Councillor L Bullock Councillor A Clarke Councillor M T Fitzpatrick Councillor D F Fletcher Councillor S P Gaskin Councillor Mrs V J Gould Councillor T Hadley Councillor R Hawkins Councillor M Holton Councillor P Hudson Councillor S A Hussain Councillor Mrs J Jones Councillor P Krupski		

Councillor Z Krupski		
Councillor Ms A J Legg		
Councillor R Lock		
Councillor A Mansfield		
Councillor S McKiernan		
Councillor S Sankey		
Councillor M Shrive		
Councillor M Slater		
Councillor S Slater		
Councillor C Smedley		
Councillor K Smith BEM		
Councillor L Walker		
Councillor P Walker		
Councillor C V Whittaker		
Councillor C D Wileman		

Linda McDonald (Shared Services Centre Manager (HR, OD and Payments)) was presented with a certificate and medal.

129/24 **PETITION**

Council noted that a petition had been received entitled “We, the residents of East Staffordshire demand East Staffordshire Borough Council drop their plans to implement a charge for the emptying of brown wheelie bins because we already pay for this service through our Council Tax. On the 18th March 2024, a majority of the the councillors of ESBC voted to make a charge to residents for the emptying of brown wheelie bins. This charge WILL begin in October. In the current Cost of Living Crisis In see so many local people struggling to make ends meet. This charge will cause extra fly tipping and will force many residents to put perfectly good recyclable biodegradable waste in their grey general waste wheelie bins. Please feel free to ask your councillor how they voted ON YOUR BEHALF:

<https://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/council-democracy/councillors>“. 2,166 valid signatures were contained on the petition.

In accordance with Part 4J of the Constitution (Petitions Scheme) the petition organiser, Mr John Anderson was invited to address the meeting for up to 5 minutes.

The Mayor invited Council to debate the motion under rule 16 (rules of debate) and ask questions of the petition organiser.

The Mayor confirmed that the petition had been noted and advised the petition organiser that the subject matter would be discussed at the Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee to be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

**NOTED.**

130/24 **MOTION ON NOTICE**

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

“We recognise the strength of feeling over the introduction of a new subscription for garden waste and that the consultation exercise on the cost of the fee has not given residents the opportunity to express their thoughts on whether they agree with a fee or not. We will pause the introduction of the fee until a full and open consultation has been completed before the new year”

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 defeated.

Voting concerning the above decisions was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor G Allen	Councillor A Afsar	Councillor C V Whittaker
Councillor L Beech	Councillor A Bailey	
Councillor L Bullock	Councillor M T Fitzpatrick	
Councillor A Clarke	Councillor D F Fletcher	
Councillor S P Gaskin	Councillor T Hadley	
Councillor Mrs V J Gould	Councillor R Hawkins	
Councillor P Hudson	Councillor M Holton	
Councillor Mrs J Jones	Councillor S A Hussain	
Councillor R Lock	Councillor P Krupski	
Councillor S Sankey	Councillor Z Krupski	
Councillor C Smedley	Councillor Ms A J Legg	
Councillor C D Wileman	Councillor A Mansfield	
	Councillor S McKiernan	
	Councillor M Shrive	
	Councillor M Slater	
	Councillor S Slater	
	Councillor K Smith BEM	
	Councillor L Walker	
	Councillor P Walker	

131/24 **UPDATED CABINET MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Leader advised that he had appointed Councillor L Walker as Cabinet Member for Planning Policy, with Councillor R Hawkins as Cabinet Member for Regeneration.

Part 3cA of the Constitution (Leader and Cabinet Member responsibilities) would be updated accordingly.

**NOTED.**

132/24 **ANNUAL PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2024**

The report of the Chief Executive on the Annual Pay Policy Statement was considered. Appendix 1: Pay Policy Statement 2024 including paygrades had been circulated with the report.

Council noted there had been no major changes to the statement for 2024 and that the main Statement amendments were as follows:

- Updated pay rate figures and ratios for the lowest paid employees;
- Updated pay rate figures for those covered by the NJC pay award;
- Updated pay rate figures for Chief Officers, following national pay award;
- The recommended ratios continue to fall when comparing both Chief Officer and Chief Executive pay with the lowest paid and the median average paid employees.

**Resolved:**

That the Pay Policy Statement 2024 as presented be agreed.

Voting concerning the above decisions was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor A Afsar Councillor G Allen Councillor A Bailey Councillor L Beech Councillor L Bullock Councillor A Clarke Councillor M T Fitzpatrick Councillor D F Fletcher Councillor S P Gaskin Councillor Mrs V J Gould		

Councillor T Hadley		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor M Holton		
Councillor P Hudson		
Councillor S A Hussain		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor P Krupski		
Councillor Z Krupski		
Councillor Ms A J Legg		
Councillor R Lock		
Councillor A Mansfield		
Councillor S McKiernan		
Councillor S Sankey		
Councillor M Shrive		
Councillor M Slater		
Councillor S Slater		
Councillor C Smedley		
Councillor K Smith BEM		
Councillor L Walker		
Councillor P Walker		
Councillor C V Whittaker		
Councillor C D Wileman		

133/24 **ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2023/24**

The report of the Chief Financial Officer on the review of treasury activities during the year against the approved Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) was considered. Annual Treasury Management Report – Appendix A had been circulated with the report.

Council noted that the report covered: the strategy for 2023/24 - a summary; The Council's treasury position as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024; borrowing and Investments outturn; the economy and interest rates; compliance with treasury limits and other treasury matters.

**NOTED.**

134/24 **AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION – PART 3HA DEVELOPMENT PLAN COMMITTEE**

The report of the Monitoring Officer on the amendments made to the Councils Constitution, in particular Part 3Ha, Development Plan Committee was considered. Appendix 1 – Part 3Ha, Development Plan Committee had been circulated with the report.

Council noted that relevant Officers had considered Part 3Ha of the Constitution, Development Plan Committee and it was proposed that broadening the membership of the committee in light of the forthcoming changes to the Local Plan process would be useful.

**Resolved:**

- 1) That the amended Part 3Ha of the Constitution (Appendix 1) be adopted;
- 2) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any necessary further changes to the draft document in relation to formatting, numbering or such other changes consequential to or incidental to the intentions of Full Council;
- 3) Subsequent to the above, that the revised Constitution becomes effective following any such changes being implemented by the Monitoring Officer.

Voting concerning the above decisions was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor A Afsar Councillor G Allen Councillor A Bailey Councillor L Beech Councillor L Bullock Councillor A Clarke Councillor M T Fitzpatrick Councillor D F Fletcher Councillor S P Gaskin Councillor Mrs V J Gould Councillor T Hadley Councillor R Hawkins Councillor M Holton Councillor P Hudson Councillor S A Hussain Councillor Mrs J Jones Councillor P Krupski		



Councillor Z Krupski		
Councillor Ms A J Legg		
Councillor R Lock		
Councillor A Mansfield		
Councillor S McKiernan		
Councillor S Sankey		
Councillor M Shrive		
Councillor M Slater		
Councillor S Slater		
Councillor C Smedley		
Councillor K Smith BEM		
Councillor L Walker		
Councillor P Walker		
Councillor C V Whittaker		
Councillor C D Wileman		

At this juncture the Mayor proposed a short adjournment, this motion had been duly seconded.

Voting concerning the above decisions was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor A Afsar		
Councillor G Allen		
Councillor A Bailey		
Councillor L Beech		
Councillor L Bullock		
Councillor A Clarke		
Councillor M T Fitzpatrick		
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor S P Gaskin		
Councillor Mrs V J Gould		
Councillor T Hadley		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor M Holton		
Councillor P Hudson		

Councillor S A Hussain		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor P Krupski		
Councillor Z Krupski		
Councillor Ms A J Legg		
Councillor R Lock		
Councillor A Mansfield		
Councillor S McKiernan		
Councillor S Sankey		
Councillor M Shrive		
Councillor M Slater		
Councillor S Slater		
Councillor C Smedley		
Councillor K Smith BEM		
Councillor L Walker		
Councillor P Walker		
Councillor C V Whittaker		
Councillor C D Wileman		

135/24 **APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES**

The report of the Head of Corporate and Environment Services on the number and allocation of Councillors to serve on Committees, to receive nominations to those committees from the political groups and to appoint to those committees was considered.

Appendix 1: List of Member nominated to serve on Committees and Panels (September 2024) (a copy of which is appended to these minutes) had been circulated at the meeting.

Council noted the number of seats to be allocated following the application of the political balance calculations, as follows:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Ungrouped</b>	<b>Total</b>
Licensing Committee*	6	4	1*	<b>11</b>
Planning Committee*	6	4	1*	<b>11</b>
Audit (Statement of Accounts) Committee	5	3	-	<b>8</b>
Audit Committee	5	3	-	<b>8</b>

Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee	5	3	-	<b>8</b>
Scrutiny (Health and Well Being) Committee	5	3	-	<b>8</b>
Scrutiny (Regeneration, Development and Market Hall) Committee	5	3	-	<b>8</b>
Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee	5	3	-	<b>8</b>
Chief Officer Standards Committee	3	2	-	<b>5</b>
Development Plan Committee	3	2	-	<b>5</b>
Standards Committee	3	2	-	<b>5</b>
Appeals Panel	2	1	-	<b>3</b>
Complaints Panel	2	1	-	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>91</b>

\*Residual seats allocated to ungrouped Member.

It was proposed and duly seconded:

“

1. That the Council agree to the number and allocation of Councillors serving on each Committee and Panel as set out in Paragraph 5.4 of the report;
2. That, subject to the above, the Council approve the appointment of Councillors to serve on each Committee and Panel, including appointing the ungrouped Independent Member to the residual seats on Planning Committee and the Licensing Committee”.

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

An amendment had been put forward by Councillor G Allen, which had been duly seconded by Councillor A Clarke.

The amendment read as follows:

“In addition to 13.1 Councillor L Walker is removed from the Health Scrutiny Committee and that seat remain vacant, subject to a future decision.”

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

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor G Allen Councillor B Ashcroft Councillor A Bailey Councillor L Bullock Councillor A Chaudhry Councillor A Clarke Councillor M Fitzpatrick Councillor S Gaskin Councillor V Gould Councillor T Hadley Councillor R Hawkins Councillor M Holton Councillor M Huckerby Councillor P Hudson Councillor S Hussain Councillor J Jones Councillor A Legg Councillor R Lock Councillor A Mansfield Councillor S McKiernan Councillor S Sankey Councillor M Shrive Councillor M Slater Councillor S Slater Councillor C Smedley Councillor K Smith Councillor L Walker Councillor P Walker Councillor C Whittaker Councillor C Wileman		

The Mayor confirmed that the amendment had become the substantive motion.

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

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor G Allen Councillor B Ashcroft Councillor A Bailey Councillor L Bullock Councillor A Chaudhry Councillor A Clarke Councillor M Fitzpatrick Councillor S Gaskin Councillor V Gould Councillor T Hadley Councillor R Hawkins Councillor M Holton Councillor M Huckerby Councillor P Hudson Councillor S Hussain Councillor J Jones Councillor A Legg Councillor R Lock Councillor A Mansfield Councillor S McKiernan Councillor S Sankey Councillor M Shrive Councillor M Slater Councillor S Slater Councillor C Smedley Councillor K Smith Councillor L Walker Councillor P Walker Councillor C Whittaker		

136/24 **QUESTIONS**

One question had been received in advance of the meeting from Councillor S Sankey and the question is appended to these minutes.

The Mayor indicated that 2 urgent questions had also been received and it had been explained to the relevant Councillors that the questions were not considered urgent by the Mayor. The Mayor indicated that the relevant Councillors could submit the questions to a future meeting if they wished to do so.

137/24 **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 Meeting during discussion of the following items as it would 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 indicated in brackets before each item number on the Agenda.

Voting concerning the above decision is as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor G Allen		
Councillor B Ashcroft		
Councillor A Bailey		
Councillor L Bullock		
Councillor A Chaudhry		
Councillor A Clarke		
Councillor M Fitzpatrick		
Councillor S Gaskin		
Councillor V Gould		
Councillor T Hadley		
Councillor R Hawkins		
Councillor M Holton		
Councillor M Huckerby		
Councillor P Hudson		
Councillor S Hussain		

Councillor J Jones		
Councillor A Legg		
Councillor R Lock		
Councillor A Mansfield		
Councillor S McKiernan		
Councillor S Sankey		
Councillor M Shrive		
Councillor M Slater		
Councillor S Slater		
Councillor C Smedley		
Councillor K Smith		
Councillor L Walker		
Councillor P Walker		
Councillor C Whittaker		
Councillor C Wileman		

## **EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024**

### **Question received from Councillor S Sankey**

Uttoxeter and surrounding area is short of high quality sports facilities. So it is excellent news that the sports hub on the quarry land near Uttoxeter is progressing. This is an initiative that is supported by all parties. So it was surprising that the cabinet member for regeneration indicated at a public meeting on the 10 September that he didn't want the sports hub in the proposed location. What is the administrations preferred site?

### **Response by the Cabinet Member for Tourism and Cultural Development Councillor P Walker**

Cabinet approved “the development of the Sports Hub in partnership with SFA (the quarry site), formally allocating the proposed £1.7 million funds into the project” and subsequently delegated “authority to the Cabinet Member for Tourism and Cultural Development in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Leader of the Opposition and the Chief Executive for allocating these funds”.